

SOUTH AFRICAN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES
CONSTITUTION AMENDMENT COMMITTEE REPORT
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
DATE: 14th OCTOBER 2024 (15-17TH OCTOBER 2024)
VENUE: VISTA ORT

I greet you as the National Executive Committee Member of the SACC in the name of the crucified and the risen Lord Jesus Christ.

1. **Introduction:**

The SACC Constitution (signed on 6-8/6/2017) in Section Twelve give clear guidance on how the Constitution may be amended. In summary the Constitution may be amended as follows:

- (i) By the vote of two thirds of the delegates present at a meeting of the National Conference.
- (ii) The propose amendments must be included in the Notice of Meeting.
- (iii) The Notice of Meeting of the National Conference should be given not less than 28 days before the commencement of the meeting.
- (iv) Only a National Conference has the power to amend the Constitution.
- (v) The Central Committee is empowered to amend the constitution in order to make its articles consistent with South Africa Law.
- (vi) Any amendments by the Central Committee must be ratified by a two-third majority vote of the delegates present at the next National Conference.

2. **Special Resolution #1** This resolution has been agreed upon by the Central Committee Meeting of the SACC. The abovemnetioned Committee proposes the constitutional amendments namely:

- a) Be pleased to take notice that the submission is hereby made to the National Conference of the South African Council of Churches for the following amendments to be affected in the SACC Constitution.
- b) Take further notice that the SACC Constitution Amendment Committee is hereby mandated to draft resolutions advancing the SACC as a unitary organisation with the provincial councils.
- c) Be pleased to take note that clause 5.2.4 of the Constitution of the South African Council of Churches be deleted in its entirety.
- d) Take further notice that clause 5.2.4 is hereby proposed for amendment by insertion of the following clause and subsections.

5.2.4 **Provincial Council**

- 5.2.4.1 That the National Conference of the South African Council of Churches incorporates into the SACC the various Provincial Councils of the South African Council of Churches, which

Provincial Councils shall be located within the demarcated borders of the Republic of South Africa as these borders are defined in the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996.

5.2.4.2 The Provincial Council administers, has general oversight over, recognizes and governs any district, regional or municipal councils of churches established by that Provincial Council or incorporated by that Provincial Council within its bounds.

5.2.4.3 The Provincial Council adopts the name "South African Council of Churches" followed by the name of the Province.

5.2.4.4 **Legal Status**

The Provincial Council in its organisational aspect and form is a corporate body having perpetual succession and power to own and hold property (immovable, movable and incorporeal) in its own name as well as the power to sue and to be sued in its own name. Provincial Councils function within the framework of the South African Council of Churches Constitution as a self-governing body with limited powers and functions.

5.2.4.5 Membership

The Provincial Council is composed of:

5.2.4.5.1 The Elected Officers of the Provincial Council.

5.2.4.5.2 Two elected and nominated representatives from Christian denominations that have a national character.

5.2.4.5.3 Two elected and nominated representatives from Associations of Churches that have a national character and comprised primarily of churches or denominations that are not members of the provincial council in their own right.

5.2.4.5.4 Two elected officers from all districts, regional or municipal council of churches established by that Provincial Council or incorporated by that Provincial Council within its bounds.

5.2.4.5.5 Christian denominations and Associations of Churches may be observer members of a Provincial Council.

5.2.4.5.6 One representative of The Provincial Church Leaders forum

5.2.4.5.7 The Leader of the Provincial Committee Women's Forum

5.2.4.5.8 The Leader of the Provincial Youth Forum

5.2.4.5.9 Uses the same basis of membership as that set out in the Constitution of the South African Council of Churches and requires that Provincial Councils adhere to any other rules governing membership adopted by the Central Committee of the South African Council of Churches;

5.2.4.6 Officers

5.2.4.6.1 The Officers of the Provincial Council are the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson and the Provincial Ecumenical Secretary. The Officers of the Provincial Council are ex-officio members of all Committees. The General Secretary or the Praesidium or the 1st Vice-President or the 2nd Vice-President of the SACC inducts the newly elected Officers of the Provincial Council into their elected and appointed positions.

5.2.4.6.2 The Chairperson

The Chairperson presides over the Provincial Council and Provincial Executive Committee meetings. With the Secretary, the Chairperson is responsible for ecumenical relations and represents the Provincial Council on the National Conference, SACC Central Committee, provincial ecumenical bodies and other relevant committees. In consultation with the Secretary, the Chairperson makes statements on behalf of the Province. The Chairperson holds office for a period of three years after which the office is occupied by the Vice-Chairperson. The Chairperson performs such other duties as the Provincial Council may from time to time determine. In the absence of the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson acts as Chairperson at his/her request or in the event that the Chairperson is unable to carry out his/her duties.

5.2.4.6.3 The Vice-Chairperson:

The Vice-Chairperson holds office for a period of three years and assumes the office of the Chairperson when the term of office of the Chairperson expires. The Vice-Chairperson shall deputise for the Chairperson if the Chairperson is absent or incapacitated. The Chairperson and/or Provincial Committee shall, from time to time, allocate certain responsibilities to the Vice Chairperson.

5.2.4.6.4 The Provincial Ecumenical Secretary:

The Provincial Ecumenical Secretary upon attaining the office shall become a member of the Secretariat of the SACC, along with all other Provincial Secretaries. The Secretariat falls under the direction of the General Secretary and performs such functions as are determined to be necessary from time to time. The Provincial Ecumenical Secretary has general oversight of the Province. The Secretary is responsible for the general administration of the Province, maintaining the official records, data and documentation

of the Province. With the Chairperson, the Secretary is responsible for ecumenical relations and represents the provincial council on the SACC National Conference or SACC Central Committee, provincial ecumenical bodies and other relevant committees. In consultation with the Chairperson, the Provincial Ecumenical Secretary makes statements on behalf of the Provincial Council. The Provincial Ecumenical Secretary acts as Convenor of the Provincial Executive Committee, the Provincial Council and such other committees as the Province may determine. The Provincial Ecumenical Secretary may visit any district, regional or municipal council of churches established by that Provincial Council or incorporated by that Provincial Council within its bounds. The Provincial Ecumenical Secretary is a member ex-officio of all the Committees of the Provincial Council. In the event that the office of the Provincial Ecumenical Secretary is a full-time salaried one, the Secretary shall serve for a period of five years and is eligible for re-appointment for another term of five years. The Secretary shall not serve more than two consecutive terms.

5.2.4.6.5 The Finance Officer:

The Finance Officer is responsible for the general supervision of the finances of the Provincial Council. Upon attaining the office, the Finance Officer shall become a member of the Treasureriat of the SACC, along with all other provincial Finance Officers. The Treasureriat falls under the direction of the SACC General Secretary and the head of the Council's financial department and performs such functions as are to be necessary from time to time. The Finance Officer holds office for a period of three years and is eligible for re-election. Thereafter the Finance Officer is not eligible for immediate re-election. The Finance Officer is elected by a two-thirds majority of those eligible to vote at a Provincial Council. The Finance Officer presents an Audited Balance Sheet, Income, and Expenditure Account to the Provincial Council and its Provincial Executive Committee. The Finance Officer is a member ex-officio of all the Committees of the Provincial Council.

5.2.4.6.6 The Provincial Council has the right at any time to suspend or depose an officer of the Provincial Council when such officer brings the Provincial Council and/or the South African Council of Churches in disrepute, in terms of the accepted procedures of the Provincial Council or South African Council of Churches. Deposition is the removal from office and reporting the Officer to his/her Denomination of origin for possible disciplinary action against such an officer by his/her Denomination of origin.

5.2.4.7 Staff

The Provincial Council may appoint such salaried personnel as its work requires.

5.2.4.8 **Functions, Powers and Responsibilities**

Among the duties and powers of the Provincial Council are the following:

- 5.2.4.8.1 To take such action as it deems conducive to the propagation of the gospel, and coordination of the work of the district, regional or municipal councils of churches established by that Provincial Council or incorporated by that Provincial Council within its bounds.
- 5.2.4.8.2 To coordinate the work of the mission within its bounds.
- 5.2.4.8.3 To initiate and exercise oversight of Provincial-related educational, medical, welfare and other work within its bounds.
- 5.2.4.8.4 To receive and decide upon recommendations from any district, regional or municipal Councils on all matters regarding the groupings, amalgamation or dissolution of district, regional or municipal Councils and the erection and alteration of buildings or disposal of properties.
- 5.2.4.8.5 To act upon instructions remitted to it by the National Executive Committee and/or Central Committee and/or National Conference.
- 5.2.4.8.6 To make proposals to and raise concerns for consideration by the National Executive Committee and/or Central Committee and/or the National Conference.
- 5.2.4.8.7 To receive and decide upon every matter brought before it by the overture, appeal, complaint, petition or reference from or through the district, regional or municipal councils, subject to the right of appeal to the National Executive Committee and /or National Conference in cases involving deposition of an officer or a specialised worker.
- 5.2.4.8.8 To appoint a Provincial Committee entrusted with and authorised to exercise all the powers and functions of the Provincial Council in the interim between meetings of the Provincial Council.
- 5.2.4.8.9 To issue directives/instructions to districts, regional or municipal councils within its bounds.
- 5.2.4.8.10 To foster ecumenical relations within the bounds of the Province.
- 5.2.4.8.11 To raise funds from within its bounds and by appeal to outside bodies and administer such funds as may be required for the general administration of the Provincial Council and the South African Council of Churches, the support for the mission and the promotion and extension of the Provincial Council's and SACC's total witness.

- 5.2.4.8.12 To represent the Provincial Council in the Central Committee and National Conference in accordance with the basis of representation enacted from time to time by the South African Council of Churches.
- 5.2.4.8.13 To appoint a Membership Committee, a Finance Committee and a Constitutional Amendment Committee and such other committees as may be necessary.
- 5.2.4.8.14 To perform such other functions as may be necessary for the pursuance of its responsibility for the common life of the Provincial Council.
- 5.2.4.8.15 To elect Officers of the Provincial Council

5. 2.4.9 **Meetings**

- 5.2.4.9.1 The Provincial Council shall meet at least twice in a calendar year. The Annual General Meeting is held within three months after the end of the financial year. The following items shall be included in the Agenda of the Annual General Meeting: Annual Report by the Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer (who submits financial statements, audited by suitable qualified person/persons), Elections and such other business as may be approved by the Provincial Committee and/or the Officers of the Provincial Council.
- 5.2.4.9.2 A quorum shall be one-third of the members of the Provincial Council.

5.2.4.10 **Voting**

- 5.2.4.10.1 Unless otherwise specified in this constitution, every motion before a structure of the Provincial Council shall be decided by a simple majority (50% plus one of those present).
- 5.2.4.10.2 Voting shall be conducted by a show of hands unless the Chairperson rules that there shall be a ballot.
- 5.2.4.10.3 In the case of a tie, the Chairperson shall have a deciding vote.

5.2.4.11 **The Provincial Executive Committee**

- 5.2.4.11.1 The Provincial Executive Committee consists of as many members as the Provincial Council determines from time to time together with the officers of the Province who are members ex-officio.
- 5.2.4.11.2 The Provincial Executive Committee may further be composed of the Officers of each district, regional or municipal councils of churches established by or incorporated by that Provincial Council within its bounds.
- 5.2.4.11.3 The Provincial Executive Committee also acts as a Court of Appeal for its subordinate structure. An Officer or specialist worker or any member who considers that its

Provincial Council has unconstitutionally disciplined him/her has the right to appeal in writing to the National Executive Committee or Central Committee for a review of its case. The decision of the Provincial Executive Committee is final and binding.

- 5.2.4.11.4 The Provincial Executive Committee transacts the business of the Provincial Council and fulfils the objectives and functions of the Provincial Council when the Provincial Council is not in session. It further fulfils other objectives and functions as allocated to it by the Provincial Council.
- 5.2.4.11.5 The quorum for a Provincial Executive Committee meeting is one-third of its members.
- 5.2.4.11.6 In the event of a quorum not being attained the meeting is postponed for fourteen calendar days and the members present at the postponed meeting are competent to administer the business before it.
- 5.2.4.11.7 The Provincial Executive Committee shall meet at least twice a year in each calendar year and the chairperson of the provincial council presides over its meetings.
- 5.2.4.11.8 The Provincial Executive Committee shall develop and enforce procedures governing staff employment, appraisal, discipline, training and development.
- 5.2.4.11.9 The Provincial Executive Committee shall assess the performance of all salaried staff and salaried Officers of the Provincial Council and if necessary, discipline and/or remove any member of staff or Officer of the Provincial Council.
- 5.2.4.11.10 The Provincial Executive Committee shall build the image of the South African Council of Churches and foster good community relations.
- 5.2.4.11.11 The Provincial Executive Committee shall continually assess the overall performance of the of the Provincial Council
- 5.2.4.12 **Sub-Committees**
- 5.2.4.12.1 The Provincial Council appoints Sub-Committees, which report to the Provincial Council and/or its Provincial Executive Committee.
- 5.2.4.12.2 The Provincial Committee and/or Provincial Executive Committee delegate responsibilities and powers to its sub-committees and receive reports from them.
- 5.2.4.12.3 **Provincial Finance Committee**
- 5.2.4.12.3 (a) The Provincial Finance Committee consists of the Officers of the Provincial Council, the head of the Council's Finance Committee and members elected at the Annual General Meeting of the Provincial Council. The Provincial Council elects a Chairperson from among its members present at the Annual General Meeting.

- 5.2.4.12.3 (b) Among the duties of the Finance Committee are:
- 5.2.4.12.3 (b) (i) to adopt an annual budget for the Provincial Council and to assist the Provincial Council in raising and administering funds for the work of the Provincial Council and the South African Council of Churches.
- 5.2.4.12.3 (b) (ii) reviewing the salary packages of members of staff from time to time.
- 5.2.4.12.3 (b) (iii) preparing long-range goals for the Provincial Council's consideration and approval.
- 5.2.4.12.3 (b) (iv) ensuring that the financial records of the Provincial Council are in good order and in accordance with the financial measures set by the South African Council of Churches.
- 5.2.4.12.3 (b) (v) submitting financial records of the Provincial Council for audit by a registered Accountant or Auditor and presenting the report with recommendations to the Provincial Council and its Provincial Executive Committee.
- 5.2.4.12.3 (b) (vi) to assist the Provincial Council or Provincial Executive Committee in the authorization of all Council grants, loans, investments and bank accounts and ensure that these are managed in accordance with sound financial principles.
- 5.2.4.12.3 (b) (vii) to assist the Provincial Council or the Provincial Executive in the appointment of Auditors of the Council's accounts.
- 5.2.4.12.4 **Provincial Constitutional Amendment Committee:**
- 5.2.4.12.4 (a) The Provincial Constitutional Amendment Committee consists of the Officers of the Provincial Council, the Chairperson of the Council's Constitutional Amendment Committee and members elected at the Annual General Meeting of the Provincial Council. The Provincial Council elects a Chairperson from among its members present at the Annual General Meeting.
- 5.2.4.12.4 (b) among the duties of the Constitutional Amendment Committee are:
- 5.2.4.12.4 (b) (i) A Provincial Council may insert in its constitution additional provisions as may be necessary in the light of local conditions. All such provisions are subject to the approval of the Provincial Executive Committee and the SACC Central Committee.
- 5.2.4.12.4 (b) (ii) a notice of motion to amend the Constitution of the Provincial Council may be submitted by the Provincial Committee or the Provincial Council to the SACC National Executive Committee and/or the SACC Central Committee.

- 5.2.4.12.4 (b) (iii) such notice must reach the General Secretary of the South African Council of Churches, in writing, at least six (6) months before the date of the SACC Central Committee Meeting.
- 5.2.4.12.4 (b) (iv) a two-thirds majority vote of members at the Provincial Council or Provincial Executive Committee is required to amend its Constitution. All amendments to the Constitution of the Provincial Council are subject to the approval of the SACC Central Committee.
- 5.2.4.12.5 **Provincial Membership Committee**
- 5.2.4.12.5 (a) The Provincial Membership Committee consists of the Officers of the Provincial Council, the Chairperson of the Council's Membership Committee and members elected at the Annual General Meeting of the Provincial Council. The Provincial Council elects a Chairperson from among its members present at the Annual General Meeting.
- 5.2.4.12.5 (b) Members of the Provincial Council must affirm the following statement of faith: "We confess the Lord Jesus Christ as God and Saviour, according to the Scriptures, and therefore seek to enter into fellowship with other Christians, through the South African Council of Churches, as a witness to our commitment to a common ministry to the glory of the one God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- 5.2.4.12.5 (c) The Provincial Membership Committee shall use the same basis of membership as set out in the Constitution of the South African Council of Churches and it therefore requires that the Provincial Council shall adhere to any rules governing membership as adopted by the SACC Central Committee.
- 5.2.4.12.5 (d) Applications for membership submitted to the Provincial Secretary by Christian denominations, associations of churches or organisations; the suspension of membership; the termination of membership and an appeal against the refusal or suspension of membership must be consistent with the provisions of the South African Council of Churches as set out in Section 5.3, Section 5.5, Section 5.6 and Section 5.7 of this Constitution.
- 5.2.4.13 **Other Committees**
- The Provincial Council appoints such other Committees as may be necessary to fulfil its objects and functions.
- 5.2.4.14 **Property**
- 5.2.4.14.1 The Provincial Council by resolution of a duly constituted Meeting or Special Meeting of the Provincial Council may acquire by way of purchase, donation, exchange, lease or any other manner, any property movable or immovable and may sell, donate, exchange,

lease, mortgage or otherwise dispose of any of its properties. All such resolutions regarding the selling, donation, mortgaging and disposal of immovable properties are subject to the approval of the SACC National Executive Committee or SACC Central Committee or SACC National Conference.

5.2.4.14.2 The Provincial Council by resolution of a duly constituted Provincial Council Meeting may at any time permit such premises as it acquires to be repaired, altered or enlarged, taken down and wholly or partially rebuilt, or sanction the erection of any other building so as to render the premises more suitable for the fulfilment of the objects and functions of the Provincial Council.

5.2.4.14.3 All immovable property acquired by the Provincial Council is vested in the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Provincial Ecumenical Secretary of the Provincial Council for the time being, who hold it in trust, for the Provincial Council.

3. a) **Special Resolution #2 Be pleased to take notice** that the submission is hereby made to the National Conference of the South African Council of Churches for the following amendments to be affected in the SACC Constitution.
- b) **Take further notice** that the SACC Constitutional Amendment Committee is hereby mandated to review and appraise the election laws and the election system of the SACC in order to address the challenges that has been identified by the National Conference in the election of the National Executive Committee.
- c) Amendment of Section 8 of the SACC Constitution
1. Section 8 of the Constitution of the South African Council of Churches, hereinafter referred to as "the Constitution", is hereby proposed for amendment.
2. **Amendment of Section 8**
Amendment of Section 8 of the Constitution of the SACC is hereby proposed for amendment –
- (a) By insertion by the following clause / article 8.2.3 "Duly elected members by the National Conference"
3. **Amendment of Section 8**
Amendment of Section 8 of the Constitution of the SACC is hereby proposed for amendment –
- (b) By the insertion of the following heading namely,
"Election of the National Executive Committee"
- Amendment of Section 8**
4. Amendment of Section 8 of the Constitution of the SACC is hereby proposed for amendment –

- (c) By the insertion of the following clause / article 8.3.1.

The management of the elections of the National Executive Committee shall be the responsibility of the SACC Elections Management Committee. The SACC Elections Management Committee shall include balanced representation of the full members of council. No person serving on the SACC Elections Management Committee shall be eligible for nomination as a member of the National Executive Committee. The SACC Elections Management Committee members must be nominated by full members of the Council and a Nominee must be a member in good standing of his or her Denomination and must consent to serve for a period of four years, if elected.

Amendment of Section 8

5. Amendment of Section 8 of the Constitution of the SACC is hereby proposed for amendment –

- (d) By the insertion of the following subsections of clause / article 8.3.2 and 8.3.2.1 and 8.3.2.2

South African Council of Churches Elections Management Committee

- 8.3.2.1 The SACC Elections Management Committee shall consist of five members. The five members shall be a balanced representation of Council.

- 8.3.2.2 In submitting the nomination slate to the National Conference, the SACC Elections Management Committee shall have regard for the following principles:

- (a) The personal qualifications or skills of the individual for the task for which he or she is to be nominated;
- (b) Fair and adequate diversity of age and gender;
- (c) Fair and adequate representation of theological traditions among Council members.
- (d) A nominee must be a member in good standing of his or her Denomination.
- (e) The SACC Elections Management Committee shall secure adequate representation of lay persons – men, women and young people - so far as the composition of the National Executive Committee makes it possible.

6. **Amendment of Section 8**

Amendment of Section 8 of the Constitution of the SACC is hereby proposed for amendment –

- (e) by the insertion of the following clause / article 8.3.2.3

“Four persons, elected by the National Conference to represent full members of the Council, taking into account the diversity of age, gender and theological traditions represented among the Council`s members”

Amendment of Section 8

7. Amendment of Section 8 of the Constitution of the SACC is hereby proposed for amendment –
 - (f) by the insertion of the following clause / article 8.3.2.4 with the following wording, “Four persons, elected by the National Conference to provide skills in finance, law, management or other areas of expertise vital to the efficient administration of Council”
- Amendment of Section 8**
8. Amendment of Section 8 of the Constitution of the SACC is hereby proposed for amendment –
 - (g) by the insertion of the following clause / article 8.3.2.5 with the following wording, “Not more than four additional persons elected by the National Conference”
- Amendment of Section 8**
9. Amendment of Section 8 of the Constitution of the SACC is hereby proposed for amendment –
 - (h) By the insertion of the following clause / article 8.4
“The National Executive Committee may fill any unfilled seats by election or co-option in between meetings of the National Conference with the advice of the SACC Elections Management Committee”
- Amendment of Section 8**
10. Amendment of Section 8 of the Constitution of the SACC is hereby proposed for amendment –
 - (i) By the insertion of the following new clause /article 8.5
“Not more than one person from any one-member Church shall be nominated as a member of the National Executive Committee”
- Amendment of Section 8**
11. Amendment of Section 8 of the Constitution of the SACC is hereby proposed for amendment –
 - (j) By the insertion of the following new clause /article 8.6
“The SACC Elections Management Committee shall present the nominations to the National Conference”
- Amendment of Section 8**
12. Amendment of Section 8 of the Constitution of the SACC is hereby proposed for amendment –
 - (k) By the insertion of the following new clause /article 8.7
“Elections shall be by ballot unless the National Conference shall otherwise determine”
- Amendment of Section 8**
13. Amendment of Section 8 of the Constitution of the SACC is hereby proposed for amendment –
 - (l) By the insertion of the following new clause /article 8.8
“A member of the National Executive Committee elected by the National Conference shall serve for a period of three years and is eligible for re-election and appointment for

a further three years. A member shall not serve for more than two consecutive terms at a time”

Amendment of Section 8

14. Amendment of Section 8 of the Constitution of the SACC is hereby proposed for amendment –

(m) By the insertion of the following new clause /article 8.9

“A member of the National Executive Committee is nominated and is elected by a simple majority of those eligible to vote at a National Conference”

Amendment of Section 8

15. Amendment of Section 8 of the Constitution of the SACC is hereby proposed for amendment –

(n) By the insertion of the following new clause /article 8.10

“The General Secretary or the Deputy General Secretary of Council acts as the Convenor of the first meeting of the SACC Elections Management Committee”

Amendment of Section 8

14. Amendment of Section 8 of the Constitution of the SACC is hereby proposed for amendment –

(o) By the deletion of the following clauses / articles.

(i) Article 8.2.4

(ii) Article 8.2.5

8.2.3 Duly elected members by the National Conference

8.3 Election of the National Executive Committee

8.3.1 The management of the elections of the National Executive Committee shall be the responsibility of the SACC Elections Management Committee. The SACC Elections Management Committee shall include balanced representation of the full members of council. No person serving on the SACC Elections Management Committee shall be eligible for nomination as a member of the National Executive Committee. The SACC Elections Management Committee members must be nominated by full members of the Council and a Nominee must be a member in good standing of his or her Denomination and must consent to serve for a period of four years, if elected.

8.3.2 South African Council of Churches Elections Management Committee

8.3.2.1 The SACC Elections Management Committee shall consist of five members. The five members shall be a balanced representation of Council.

8.3.2.2 In submitting the nomination slate to the National Conference, the SACC Elections

Management Committee shall have regard for the following principles:

- (f) The personal qualifications or skills of the individual for the task for which he or she is to be nominated;
- (g) Fair and adequate diversity of age and gender;
- (h) Fair and adequate representation of theological traditions among Council members.
- (i) A nominee must be a member in good standing of his or her Denomination.
- (j) The SACC Elections Management Committee shall secure adequate representation of lay persons – men, women and young people - so far as the composition of the National Executive Committee makes it possible.

8.3.2.3 Four persons, elected by the National Conference to represent full members of the Council, taking into account the diversity of age, gender and theological traditions represented among the Council`s members.

8.3.2.4 Four persons, elected by the National Conference to provide skills in finance, law, management or other areas of expertise vital to the efficient administration of Council

8.3.2.5 Not more than four additional persons elected by the National Conference.

8.4 The National Executive Committee may fill any unfilled seats by election or co-option in between meetings of the National Conference with the advice of the SACC Elections Management Committee

8.5 Not more than one person from any one-member Church shall be nominated as a member of the National Executive Committee.

8.6 The SACC Elections Management Committee shall present the nominations to the National Conference.

8.7 Elections shall be by ballot unless the National Conference shall otherwise determine.

8.8 A member of the National Executive Committee elected by the National Conference shall serve for a period of three years and is eligible for re-election and appointment for a further three years. A member shall not serve for more than two consecutive terms at a time.

8.9 A member of the National Executive Committee is nominated and is elected by a simple majority of those eligible to vote at a National Conference.

8.10 The General Secretary or the Deputy General Secretary of Council acts as the Convenor of the first meeting of the SACC Elections Management Committee.

4. **Special Resolution #3: Section 9 of the Constitution of the South African Council of Churches, hereinafter referred to as "the Constitution", is hereby proposed for amendment.**

a) **Amendment of Section 9**

Amendment of Section 9 of the Constitution of the SACC is hereby proposed for amendment –

b) By the insertion of the following wording of clause / article

9.1.1 A President, who shall be the leader of a member Church, a Senior Vice President and a Vice President of the Council shall be elected by the National Conference in separate successive ballots.

5. **Resolution # 4:**

Take notice that the following submission is hereby made in terms of clause 11.3.1 as an proposed procedure to the authorised by the National Conference of the SACC

Proposed Procedure 1 to be authorised by the National Conference of the SACC

1. Procedure: Election and Appointment of National Executive Committee Members

- 1.1. The position to serve on the National Executive Committee will not be applied for.
- 1.2. It is a call to ministry initiated by colleagues serving in the National Conference and it is initiated by members of the Council who are full member churches of Council.
- 1.3. Particular gifts in an individual are identified and the individual's name is then nominated by his or her Denomination to be considered for election and appointment to serve as a member of the National Executive Committee.
- 1.4. A nomination must be in writing and signed by the nominee.
- 1.5. The nomination of the identified person must be submitted to the General Secretary of the SACC not less than four clear weeks before the commencement of the National Conference.
- 1.6. The process of the election and the appointing of members to serve on the National Executive Committee shall be considered prayerfully and shall involve the following steps:
 - 1.6.a. The Chairperson of the The SACC Elections Management Committee calls for nominations from member churches.
 - 1.6.b. Any Nomination must receive support from the member Church.
 - 1.6.c. Only a name that has the support of a member of Council can be qualified to be considered for elections to serve on the National Executive Committee;

1.6. d. The SACC Elections Management Committee draws up a slate for consideration and for presentation to the National Conference;

1.6. e. Successful candidates must receive a simple majority approval by secret ballot vote in order to be confirmed as a member of the National Executive Committee;

1.6. f. In the event that a simple majority is not attained, the candidate's name is removed from the slate.

1.6.g. The SACC Elections Management Committee Convenor shall present to the National Conference the names of those individuals who shall serve as members of the National Executive Committee.

End

25th September 2024