

Uniting Church in Australia

ASSEMBLY STANDING COMMITTEE

15 – 17 July 2005

PRESENT Dean Drayton (President), Bruce Binnie, Shayne Blackman, Elizabeth Burns, Dennis Chapman, Samantha Charlesworth, Sue Clarkson, Terence Corkin, Tony Davies, Bev Fabb, Susan Gormann, James Haire, Troy Hamilton, Wesley Gleeson, Geoffrey Grinton, Matthew Grudnoff, Isabel Thomas Dobson, Allan Thompson, Liva Tukutama, Julie Watts.

In attendance: Jenny Bertalan, Glenda Blakefield, Rob Bos, Kevin Davis, John Evans, Robert Johnson, Allan Kuchler, Jim Mein, Paul Swadling, Jenny Tymms.

WORSHIP On the Friday evening, as part of formation of the community, Tony Davis presided and Elizabeth Burns preached at the opening Service of Holy Communion. On the Saturday the President led morning worship, and Sam Charlesworth led evening prayers. On Sunday morning Isabel Thomas Dobson led the worship. The closing prayer was led by Sue Clarkson.

WELCOMES The President welcomed all Assembly Standing Committee participants to the meeting and extended a special welcome to the visiting Moderators; Jim Fraser for matters relating to Assembly Finances; Andrew Dutney for matters relating to the report on the Role of President; Paul Walton for matters relating to *Uniting in Worship 2*; Elenie Poulos for matters relating to “Refugee Warehousing” and Bill Fischer for matters relating to UCOA.

RECOGNITION OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS OF THE LAND

On behalf of Standing Committee, the President acknowledged the local Oreo and Dharug people and their role as custodians of the land on which the meeting took place.

APOLOGIES

05.25 **It was resolved** to receive the apology of Stu Cameron, Jason Kioa, Gregor Henderson, Sealin Garlett and Myffie Trudinger for absence for the whole of the meeting; from James Haire for Friday night, from Liva Tukutama for Sunday afternoon.

PASTORAL MATTERS

The President introduced a time of sharing on pastoral matters. The General Secretary advised the Standing Committee that Sealin Garlett had 2 deaths in his family. Rob Bos reported that Rev Dr Ian Gillmore had died. It was noted that since the last meeting the first President of the Assembly, Rev Dr Davis McCaughey, had died on March 25. It was reported the fifth President, Sir Ron Wilson, had died on July 15. The President led the meeting in prayers.

APPROVAL OF TIMETABLE AND AGENDA

The General Secretary spoke to the agenda and timetable as listed in Document 1. Documents 9A, 14A, 16, 17 and 26 were distributed on the Friday evening.

- 05.26** **It was resolved to** approve the timetable and agenda of the meeting as outlined in Document 1, noting that the committee is free to vary the agenda at any time.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- 05.27** **It was resolved to** confirm the minutes of the meeting held 11 –13 March 2005.

NOTE CONSTITUTION CLAUSE 39

Standing Committee members were reminded of the Constitution clause 39, as per ASC minute 00.71:

“On matters which, by a two thirds majority vote, the Assembly deems to be vital to the life of the Church, the Assembly shall seek the concurrence of the Synods and/or Presbyteries and/or Congregations as the Assembly may determine.”

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Do you know what the face of Christ looks like?” According to the President, if you want to know the answer, then look to the faces of those who are suffering. “It is in these faces,” he told the July Standing Committee meeting “that you will find new perspective and a reminder of how our faith calls us.” “Look into the faces of those suffering at the hands of the policy of mandatory detention and you will understand why the Assembly passed a resolution calling on us to engage with and speak on behalf of those in detention.” The President said the last three months had been an encouraging time for many asylum seekers and that he was grateful to the handful of Government MPs who had visited asylum seekers then taken the time to listen to groups like the Uniting Church and advocate for changes. “It shows that whatever you do, never meet an asylum seeker because you risk that all the false assumptions and projections that have been thrust on you, will be thrown out the window.” “I am told that as of today, only 15 of the almost 50 detainees who are on register of baptised members of the Uniting Church as still being held in detention. It is a great credit to the commitment of the social justice network of our church.” The last three months had also been a busy time of travel to many of our partners, including attendance at the World Council of Churches Conference on World Mission and Evangelism in Athens. “The theme, ‘Come Holy Spirit, Heal and Reconcile’ focused most creatively on Christian communities of healing and reconciliation”. He represented the UCA at the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland in Edinburgh, as they grappled with a national church rediscovering their mission. After a break with Sandra he spent time at the Free Wesleyan Church of Tonga Conference affirming the more than 170 years of relationship between Tonga and the church in Australia. This was followed by a visit to the Protestant Church in East Timor to sign a formal partnership agreement between the two churches. “The day before traveling we heard the news that Australia had agreed to a new compromise on the East Timor Gas Deal and would now be offering \$13 billion instead of \$5 billion to East Timor. The Church and the government were really thrilled at this news and expressed their gratitude for the voice the Uniting Church and the National Council of Churches amongst others who argued for a more just distribution of the resources by Australia.”

05.28 **It was resolved** to receive the report.

SYNOD SHARING – NORTHERN SYNOD

Kevin Davis, the General Secretary of the Northern Synod shared something of the life of their Synod as an expression of our inter conciliar sharing. The participants could get a glimpse of the Synod's historical background, geography and current organizational arrangements. The General Secretary briefly described the colleges operated by the Northern Synod, the Pilgrim Presbytery and he offered insight into the unique character of the people from Northern Australia.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS STANDING COMMITTEE

1. ASC APPOINTMENTS TO THE 11TH ASSEMBLY (ASC MINUTE 05.06.02)

The General Secretary introduced Document 19, consisting of a report on proposed changes in the way persons are appointed to the Assembly under Regulation 3.6.2(e).

05.29 **It was resolved to:**

05.29.01 receive the report;

05.29.02 acting on the authority of Regulation 3.6.2 (e) identify the following as the Assembly bodies to which this regulation applies for the 11th Assembly;

Assembly Secretariat
Christian Unity Working Group
Church Polity Reference Committee
Ministerial Education Commission
National Working Group Worship
National Working Group on Doctrine
Theology and Discipleship (mission expertise)
Uniting International Mission

a) associate with the Assembly for the whole meeting persons appointed by the Reference Committees of the following areas of Assembly work

Assembly Legal Reference Committee
Christian Education
Coolamon College
Frontier Services
Multicultural and Cross Cultural Ministry
UnitingCare
Uniting Justice

b) associate with the Assembly for business related to their area of work persons appointed by the Reference Committees of the following areas of Assembly work

Beneficiary Fund
Defence Force Chaplaincy
Historical Reference Committee
Reception of Ministers
Relations with Other Faiths
Uniting Church Adult Fellowship National Committee

05.29.03 determine that the most appropriate way in which to fulfill the decision of the 10th Assembly in relation to appointing extra persons from migrant communities (minute 03.10.03) is to appoint 8 persons on the recommendation of the National Director and Reference Committee of Multicultural Ministry.

2. ESTABLISHING KEY DIRECTIONS FOR THE ASSEMBLY (ASC MINUTE 05.20.01)

The General Secretary spoke to Document 2, consisting of a report on the process initiated to set directions for the Assembly and its Agencies in the next triennium. Significant discussion ensued that developed the understanding of how Agencies relate to the Assembly Standing Committee and provided clarity for the expectations of the process at the 11th Assembly.

05.30 It was resolved to:

05.30.01 receive the report;

05.30.02 refer Assembly Standing Committee resolution 05.20.01 to the General Secretary and, in the light of this discussion, to bring a proposal to the November Assembly Standing Committee meeting.

3. LAY REMUNERATION POLICY (ASC MINUTE 05.16.05)

The General Secretary introduced Document 22, consisting of a report on the issue of equitable remuneration for lay persons exercising executive functions within the Assembly.

05.31 It was resolved to:

05.31.01 receive the report;

05.31.02 adopt the policy that for lay persons filling executive appointments in the Assembly that the remuneration package be set by reference to the equivalent positions in the non-profit sector (25th percentile), with consideration also being given to the demand for the skills in the workforce and the capacity of the agency to pay.

4. REPORT TO THE CHURCH ON ASC ACTIONS UNDER 03.87.03 (ASC MINUTE 05.05.03 (a))

The General Secretary spoke to Document 8, consisting of a report on the actions taken in response to ASC Minute 03.87.03 (c).

05.32 It was resolved to:

05.32.01 receive the report;

5. REPORT ON CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN UAICC AND GENERAL SECRETARIES (ASC MINUTES 02.72; 05.07 AND ASSEMBLY MINUTE 03.43)

The General Secretary introduced Documents 9 and 9A, consisting of a report on the discussions that were held between the UAICC and the General Secretaries. Extensive discussion ensued during which the National Administrator of UAICC indicated that Congress needed more time to discuss the new Congress structures before the "Renewal of the Covenant" process could continue.

05.33 It was resolved to:

05.33.01 receive the report;

05.33.02 receive the request of the UAICC to put the “Renewal of the Covenant” process on hold until Congress indicates it is ready to continue.

6. REVIEW OF THE ASSEMBLY GENERAL SECRETARY

The President presented, supported by the other four members of the Review Group, Document 17, consisting of a report by the Review Group.

05.34 It was resolved to:

05.34.01 receive the report;

05.34.02 i. affirm with tanksgiving to God the ministry which Rev Terence Corkin has given as General Secretary, and recommend to the 11th Assembly that the Reverend Terence Corkin be reappointed as General Secretary of the Assembly for a further 3 year term from 1/1/2007 until 31/12/2009;

ii. submit the proposal to the Assembly for written ballot;

05.34.03 request the Assembly Officers to make minor alterations to the Position Description so that it reflects current staff positions and reporting arrangements, and bring it to the November meeting of the ASC for adoption;

05.34.04 direct the General Secretary to put in place a review of the administrative support for the General Secretary and the President;

05.34.05 direct the General Secretary to undertake professional supervision;

05.34.06 resolve that in consultation with the General Secretary it will establish a “Role Support Group” of three persons to meet at least three times a year;

05.34.07 congratulate Terence on the completion of his B.Th conversion course, and direct him to include in his future Continuing Education Plan at least one course on Management;

05.34.08 thank and discharge the Review Committee.

7. REVIEW OF THE NATIONAL DIRECTOR – MULTICULTURAL MINISTRY (ASC MINUTE 04.100.04)

Liva Tukutama spoke to Document 16, consisting of a report by the Review Group.

05.35 It was resolved to:

05.35.01 receive the report;

05.35.02 amend the Mandate of Multicultural Ministry by changing the name to Multicultural and Cross Cultural Ministry;

05.35.03 reappoint Rev Helen Richmond as National Director for Multicultural and Cross Cultural Ministry until December 31 2008;

05.35.04 refer the issues of supervision and workload raised in the report to the General Secretary for discussion and action with the National Director;

8. REVIEW OF THE MEC MANDATE (ASSEMBLY MINUTE 03.16 (g))

The General Secretary spoke to Document 11, consisting of a report on the resolution taken by the 10th Assembly which outlines why the Assembly Standing Committee should determine not to proceed with this resolution.

05.36 It was resolved to:

05.36.01 receive the report

05.36.02 a. resolve not to act on Assembly resolution 03.16 (g) that requested the Standing Committee to review the mandate, membership and name of the Ministerial Education Commission, including any necessary changes to the Regulations, to better implement its responsibility to include the theological education of lay persons at UCA theological colleges;

a. report this decision to the 11th Assembly indicating that the Assembly Standing Committee did look at the MEC Mandate.

9. SACRAMENTAL COMMUNITIES WITHIN UCA AGENCIES (ASC MINUTE 99.67.04)

Rob Bos spoke to Document 21, consisting of a discussion paper prepared by the National Working Group on Doctrine.

05.37 It was resolved to:

05.37.01 receive the report;

05.37.02 approve the report as a starting point for a draft statement to assist Presbyteries and agencies;

05.37.03 authorise Des Cousins (alt Norman McDonald), Jill Tabart (alt Robyn French) and Rob Bos as Convenor to form a task group, with Rob Bos as Convenor, to prepare a more careful statement and guidelines in consultation with Raoul Spackman-Williams, Tony Davies, Anne Yarham, Tony Watts, Marion Gledhill, Gale Hall and Paul Walton with others to be consulted as the drafting group decides;

05.37.04 direct the task group to take into consideration the experience of Lutheran Education Australia and, in particular, the policies and advice to principals, pastors and staff found at <http://www.lea.org.au/national/index.asp> - "Personnel";

05.37.05 bring such a statement and guidelines to the November 2005 meeting of ASC for possible approval or for presentation to the Eleventh Assembly.

10. TIMETABLE FOR PROPOSALS RELATED TO SEXUALITY (ASC MINUTE 05.05.03. (b))

The General Secretary spoke to Document 10, consisting of a proposed timetable for submitting proposals related to sexuality to the 11th Assembly. Discussion took place about elements of the timetable.

05.38 It was resolved to:

05.38.01 receive the report;

05.38.02 authorise the agreed timetable to be made available to the Church.

FROM ASSEMBLY BODIES

1. AGENCY REPORTS

The General Secretary introduced Documents 14 and 14A; consisting of consisting of brief reports from various Agencies, namely from Christian Unity Working Group, Multicultural Ministry, Defence Force Chaplaincy.

05.39 It was resolved to:

05.39.01 receive the reports;

2. ELEVENTH ASSEMBLY DESIGN TEAM

The General Secretary spoke to Document 7, consisting of a progress report on the programs, timelines and other undertakings the Design Team is dealing with.

05.40 It was resolved to:

05.40.01 receive the report;

05.40.02 appoint Geoffrey Grinton, Jim Mein and Jenny Tymms to the Business Committee.

3. FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

Bruce Binnie and Jim Fraser spoke to Document 5, consisting of a report on the completion of the Finance and Audit Committee's establishment and the audit of the financial accounts.

05.41 It was resolved to:

05.41.01 receive the report;

05.41.02 appoint Hall Chadwick as external auditors for the Assembly and agencies other than Frontier Services on the basis as tendered and recommended by the Assembly Finance & Audit Committee; and

05.41.03 record its appreciation and commendation for the work of Jim Fraser as Chief Financial Officer.

4. GENERAL REPORT

The General Secretary spoke to Document 15, consisting of a report on various matters.

05.42 It was resolved to receive the report.

5. LEGAL REFERENCE COMMITTEE

The General Secretary introduced Document 12, consisting of a report on the work the Assembly Legal Reference Committee has done since the March 2005 ASC meeting.

05.43 It was resolved to:

05.43.01 receive the report; and

05.43.02 refer the proposed changes to Regulations 2.3.1 to 2.3.4 back to the Assembly, Legal Reference Committee with the request that it consult with the National Working Group on Worship in respect of 2.3.2.

6. NATIONAL WORKING GROUP ON MISSIOLOGY

Rob Bos introduced Document 24, consisting of a proposal from the National Working Group on Missiology for a mission focus in 2006.

05.44 It was resolved to:

- 05.44.01 receive the report;
- 05.44.02 refer the ideas about a mission focus and good news stories (Suggestion 1 and 2) back to the Working Group on Missiology in order to further develop them in consultation with the Assembly Secretariat;
- 05.44.03 refer the ideas about media and communication strategies (Suggestion) 3 to Gavin Melvin, Assembly Communications Officer and the Synods' Communications Units for consideration in their planning towards the 11th Assembly.

7. NATIONAL WORKING GROUP ON WORSHIP

Paul Walton spoke to Document 20, consisting of a report on the service of recognition for an Intern and the funeral service as well as the resignations and appointments of the National Working Group on Worship.

05.45 It was resolved to:

- 05.45.01 receive the report;
- 05.45.02 resolve that the *Service of Recognition of an Intern* be recognised as a service of the Uniting Church and be included in the CD-Rom of Uniting in Worship 2 (Attachment A);
- 05.45.03 accept the resignations of Michelle Cook and Michael Jeffrey from the National Working Group on Worship;
- 05.45.04 appoint Ms Sue Pickering, Rev. Lu Senituli and Rev. Margaret Kumar to the National Working Group on Worship.

8. TASK GROUP ON THE BASIS OF UNION

The General Secretary introduced Document 26, consisting of a report on the implementation of ASC Minute 04.34.

05.46 It was resolved to:

- 05.46.01 refer the report to the National Working Group on Doctrine and request them to initiate conversation with the Task Group on the Basis of Union about the concerns they raised;
- 05.46.02 advise Chris Budden, Convenor of the Task Group of this referral and that the designated task remains first priority.

9. UCOA

Bill Fischer introduced Document 4, consisting of a report on UCOA governance issues and the revision of the UCOA mandate.

05.47 It was resolved to:

- 05.47.01 receive the report;
- 05.47.02 approve the revised mandate for the UCOA Division within UIM and the attached Appendix on Governance and other organisational matters ((Attachment B and Attachment C);
- 05.47.03 approve the revised mandate for UIM (Attachment D);

- a) instruct the Directors of UCA Assembly Ltd, under section II.3 of the Constitution of UCA Assembly Ltd, to authorise the Director of UCOA to enter into contracts with AusAid on behalf of the UCA Assembly Ltd in relation to government funding to UCOA;
- b) advise the directors of UCA Assembly Ltd that in the exercise of their responsibilities they may state the extent of this power, the period for which it is exercisable and the conditions that must be met by the Director of UCOA;

05.47.04 request the Audit and Finance Committee to give consideration to the reporting and information they require of the Directors of UCA Assembly Ltd in the light of the decisions.

10. UNITINGJUSTICE

Elenie Poulos introduced Document 23, consisting of a report on "refugee warehousing".

05.48 It was resolved to:

05.48.01 receive the report;

- 05.48.02
- a) note that the *1951 Refugee Convention* and the *1967 Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees* state that people fleeing persecution across international borders are entitled to certain protections. These include freedom from forcible return (*refoulement*), and basic employment, property and freedom of movement rights. These documents form the basis for the work of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and
 - b) that seven million refugees are currently *warehoused*, confined and segregated in camps or settlements for periods of a decade or more, and divested of their basic rights. Sometimes warehousing situations have been in place for generations.

- 05.48.03
- a) oppose the practice of *warehousing* refugees as an infraction of international refugee rights and a waste of human potential;
 - b) endorse the international campaign to end the warehousing of refugees;
 - c) support that the NCCA in its advocacy for an end to the practice of *Refugee Warehousing*;
 - d) encourage members, congregations, groups and agencies of the Uniting Church to educate and advocate against the practice of refugee warehousing.

GENERAL BUSINESS

1. MEMORIAL MINUTES FOR REV DAVIS McCAUGHEY AND SIR RONALD WILSON

Since the last meeting of the Assembly Standing Committee the Church has been saddened by the deaths of the first and fifth Presidents of the Assembly. With thanksgiving to God their lives and ministries were remembered and the following memorial minutes adopted:

05.49 The ASC resolved to:

- (a) give thanks to God for the life and ministry of its inaugural President, and of one of its founding fathers, Rev. Dr Davis McCaughey who died on March 25 2005.

Dr McCaughey was installed as the first President of the Uniting Church in a unique service of worship at Sydney Town Hall on 22 June 1977. This honour was bestowed upon him in recognition of the personal, intellectual and spiritual resources that he had contributed in the long journey towards Union and in particular in the shaping of the *Basis of Union*.

Davis McCaughey has had a lasting influence on the shape of the spiritual and social consciousness of the UCA though the vision, wisdom and intellectual strength that he contributed in the formative years of the UCA.

Davis also served as Master of Ormond College for twenty years, including the three years he was President of the Assembly. He was Deputy Vice Chancellor of the University of Melbourne, sat on the Faith and Order Commission of the World Council of Churches and was responsible for the theological formation of many hundreds of Ministers in Victoria and Tasmania.

Dr McCaughey also served the people of Victoria with compassion and distinction as Governor of Victoria and his commitment to education and learning was profound.

We give thanks to God for a man of great insight, wisdom and gentle spirit.

- (b) give thanks to God for the life and ministry of its fifth President, Sir Ronald Wilson who died on July 15 2005. Sir Ronald ("Ron") Wilson was the first Moderator of the Synod of Western Australia and the first lay President of the Uniting Church during a term which lasted from 1988 to 1991.

Ron offered compassionate, insightful and courageous leadership within the life of the church and the wider society. His Presidency will be most remembered for the leadership he showed in areas of public policy, especially his unwavering commitment to reconciliation with Indigenous Australians.

He had a distinguished legal career which culminated in his being appointed as a Justice of the High Court of Australia in 1979 and following his retirement in 1989, he became President of the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission.

It was during this time he co-authored *Bringing Them Home: Report of the National Inquiry into the Separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children from their Families*. This landmark report opened the eyes of all Australians to the tragic policies of the past that allowed Governments, with the co-operation of Churches, to take many Aboriginal children from their parents.

At great personal cost he advocated for the report which criticized not just the Government, but an Australian society whose attitudes had blindly allowed these acts to occur.

Sir Ronald's great love for the Uniting Church and his involvement in public life at the highest levels are a reminder to all Christians that the Christian faith is incarnational and nurtured by and expressed

through commitment to the Christian community. We give thanks to God for the great gifts that he bestowed upon us through his good and faithful servant Ron Wilson.

2. ASSEMBLY FINANCES – USE OF SALE PROCEEDS

The General Secretary spoke to Document 6, consisting of a report on the sale of the Assembly's property at 28 Little Oxford Street, Collingwood, Victoria, and the possibility of establishing an Assembly "Capital Fund".

05.50 It was resolved to:

- 05.50.01 receive the report;
- 05.50.02 resolve to establish an Assembly Capital Fund comprising the balance of the sale proceeds of the former JBCE / Uniting Education property, the investments of Uniting Education, the balance of the Wesley Uniting Employment Fund and such other designated funds and reserves that are appropriate;
- 05.50.03 request the General Secretary to bring a report to the November meeting on the designated funds that were reclassified into the capital fund and the final amount designated as the Assembly Capital Fund;
- 05.50.04
- a) determine as a matter of policy that not less than 25% of the income derived from the Assembly Capital Fund shall be retained within the Fund to preserve and build the capital base of the Fund;
 - b) that any further funds received by the Assembly for its use from the Wesley Uniting Employment levy be allocated to the Assembly Capital Fund;
 - c) that any bequests that are received for the general purposes of the Assembly be allocated to the Assembly Capital Fund;
- 05.50.05 authorise the General Secretary to present budgets from 2006 onwards that enable three year budgeting.

3. CORRESPONDENCE WITH JOHN MAVOR

The General Secretary presented Document 3, consisting of a letter from John Mavor, Ex-President. Discussion followed.

05.51 It was resolved to:

- 05.51.01 note that since the 10th Assembly there has been significant discussion about the meaning Clause 39 in the Constitution and how it would operate if invoked;
- 05.51.02 determine that the Church would benefit from greater clarity on the meaning and operation of Clause 39;
- 05.51.03 request the Church Polity Reference Committee to develop guidelines
- a) to assist the Assembly when it comes to a consideration of whether "a matter is vital to the life of the Church";
 - b) on how it might go about "seeking concurrence";
 - c) in consultation with the Assembly Legal Reference Committee to offer advice on the meaning of "seek the concurrence of Synods and/or Presbyteries and/or Congregations";

05.51.05 to request the Committee to bring a report to the November meeting of the ASC.

4. GENERAL BUSINESS

The General Secretary presented the business in Document 18.

05.52 It was resolved to:

05.52.01 grant the Synod of Victoria and Tasmania exemption from the operation of Regulation 2.3.6 to the extent necessary to enable the General Secretary's nominee as secretary of ACOMP to exercise the General Secretary role relating to the admission of Ministers from another denomination;

05.52.02 appoint Rev Dr Adrian Brown as Chairperson of the Uniting Education Reference Committee from June 30 2005 until the 11th Assembly;

05.52.03 appoint Rev. Carolyn Thornley and Mr Robert L. Jakes as Directors of UCA Assembly Ltd;

05.52.04 a) receive the resignation of Mr Philip Leslie as a member of the Committee of the National Disaster Fund, and express the gratitude of the Assembly for his work;

05.52.05 b) appoint Dr Peter Michael, Dr Peggy Goldsmith, Ms Bev Smith and Mr Ed Walker as members of the Management Committee appointed under the new constitution;

05.52.06 authorise, in 2005, the allocation of an additional \$20,000 from the Assembly Fund to the 11th Assembly designated fund;

05.52.07 appoint Revd Rachel Kronberger to be co-chair of the Salvation Army/UCA dialogue and Revd Dr Wes Campbell as co-chair of the Churches of Christ/UCA dialogue;

05.52.08 request the 11th Assembly Design Team to allocate 30 minutes in the program of the Assembly to the CUWG to highlight and explain the NCCA Covenanting process and what it can mean for the life of the UCA;

05.52.09 a) authorise the National Director of UIM to finalise the Position Description for the position of Associate National Director for UIM;

b) approve the position of Associate National Director – UIM as an Assembly placement;

c) request the National Director of UIM to provide a copy of the Position Description and advice on the appointment at the earliest opportunity;

05.52.10 note the conclusion of the placement of Rev Bruce Gallacher and the commencement of the placement of Rev (Deacon) Michelle Cook as Patrol Ministers with Frontier Services;

05.52.11 appoint Robert Watson, Barbara Huggins, Peter McDonald, Karyn Burchell and Jill Wilson to the National Committee of UnitingCare Australia.

5. GUIDELINES FOR THE USE OF THE UCA LOGO

The General Secretary introduced Document 25, consisting of a report on the guidelines for the Uniting Church in Australia logo by councils of the Church.

05.53 It was resolved to:

- 05.53.01 receive the report;
- 05.53.02 adopt the revised guidelines for the use of the Uniting Church logo, effective August 1 2005;
- 05.53.03 authorize the distribution of the guidelines to the church.

6. MAPOON

The ex-President, James Haire reported the conversations that had been held with the UAICC regarding the ASC decision not to conduct an appeal for a church for Mapoon and the talks he had with Reconciliation Australia.

05.54 It was resolved to:

- 05.54.01 receive the report of the ex-President on the Mapoon Church proposal and Congress response to the Assembly Standing Committee decisions in minute 04.62;
- 05.54.02 request the President to explore with Reconciliation Australia the possibility of funding for a building project in Mapoon and report to a later meeting.

7, ROLE OF THE PRESIDENT

Andrew Dutney, Allan Thompson and Sue Clarkson spoke to Document 13, consisting of a report prepared by the Task Group on the role of the President in the light of the Regulations and the Constitution, the Church's experience of its President, the ecclesiology/polity of the UCA and the clash of ecclesiology and expectations.

05.55 It was resolved to:

- 05.55.01 recognise that the demands on the President of the Assembly are such that it is not practicable to fulfill the office of President in a half-time capacity;
- 05.55.02 determine that the office of the President will normally be a full time one and remunerated accordingly as of the 12th Assembly;
- 05.55.03 request the General Secretary to report to the next meeting of the ASC on the implications for the Assembly budget, taking into account the need for the President to be able to live in the location of her/his choice;
- 05.55.04 request the Working Group to present to the next meeting of the ASC
 - i. proposed changes to Regulations reflecting ASC decisions re the election of the President-elect;
 - ii. a draft profile form for President-elect nominees;
 - iii. suggested protocols for implementation of a process whereby goals and priorities shall arise from consultation with the President and President-elect, giving heed to strategic needs of the church, and shall be reviewed at the first meeting of the Standing Committee following the Assembly in the light of the decisions taken at the Assembly.

CLOSURE

The meeting closed at 3.30pm with prayer led by Sue Clarkson.

<p>2005 ASC MEETING: 11 – 13 November 2005</p>
