



## CONSTITUTION OF THE CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AFRICA

### **1. NAME**

The name of the Association is *The Christian Association of South Africa*

### **2. THE NATURE OF THE ASSOCIATION**

The Association is interdenominational and essentially non-sectarian, serves all population groups.

### **3. OBJECTIVES**

3.1 The objectives of the Association include:

3.1.1 the spreading of the Word of God among all people of the Christian Association of South Africa and their families with a view to spiritual upliftment and growth;

3.1.2 the improvement of moral standards, social circumstances and labour relations as well as helpfund.

3.1.3 any other action of a spiritual nature on which the Executive may decide.

3.2 The objectives of the Association furthermore include the spreading of the following principles of faith:

3.2.1 the unity of the Holy Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit;

3.2.2 the Deity of Jesus-truly God and truly Man, received from the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, crucified, died, buried and resurrected from the dead, ascended to Heaven and His personal second coming;

3.2.3 the person of the Holy Spirit;

3.2.4 the fall of man and through this his corrupt nature and lost state;

3.2.5 the vicarious redemption of Jesus Christ;

3.2.6 the necessity of rebirth through the Holy Spirit that includes the act of faith in God conversion, repentance, restitution and confession;

3.2.7 the salvation from all sin through the blood of Christ;

3.2.8 the infilling of the Holy Spirit that brings about a life of sanctification in which the fruit of the Spirit is revealed;

3.2.9 the gifts of the Holy Spirit within the context of the Holy Scriptures;

3.2.10 the eternal bliss of the saved in heaven; and

3.2.11 the eternal judgment of the lost in hell.

3.3 Ideologies, fashion and values change but the entire Word of God inspired by the Holy Spirit is infallible and all sufficient as a criterion for faith and conduct.

3.4 To achieve these objectives, spiritual workers can be appointed by the Executive.

### **4. THE MINISTRY OF THE ASSOCIATIONS**

4.1 The Association shall under all circumstances refrain from taking over, replacing or interfering with the work of any church or minister.

4.2 The Associations will by no means strive to recruit members for any church or lure them away from any church. If, however, a soul is won for Christ, he will be encouraged to become involved in his own church and to fill his place there as an active member. If he does not belong to a church or decides to join another church, the choice of denomination must be left to him.

### **5. MEMBERSHIP**

5.1 All can become a member of the Christian Association. Membership is open to anybody but should you want to serve as an office bearer you must subscribe to the objectives, as referred in point 3 of the Constitution.

## **6. FINANCES**

- 6.1 Voluntary contributions are deducted from the salaries of employees of the SA Post Office and Telkom SA Limited by means of a stop order and paid over to the Treasurer of the Executive of the Association. Former employees and other people obtain and retain membership by means of cash payments, as determined by the Executive from time to time. Funds may also be collected by means of collections, selling of spiritual reading matter and other actions as approved by the Executive. Collections, however, are limited to employees of the Christian Association of South Africa. Donations may be accepted from anybody.
- 6.2 The spending of funds is limited to actions falling within the framework of the spreading of the Gospel and is subject to the approval of the Executive. Signing powers are vested in any two of the President, Vice-presidents, Treasurer and Secretary.
- 6.3 Emoluments may in certain instances be paid, subject to the Executive's approval.
- 6.4 The accounts of the Association shall be audited annually. The Head Committee shall employ and auditor annually.
- 6.5 The financial year of the Association runs from 1 March to 28 February.
- 6.6 The Association will have approved delegation of power.

## **7. ADMINISTRATION**

The administration of the Association shall be managed by the office-bearers of the local branches provincial committees and the Executive.

## **8. COMMUNICATION**

- 8.1 The Deogram is the Journal of the Christian Association, which is distributed to the membership quarterly.
- 8.2 Electronically communication : Website.

## **9 REPRESENTATION**

### **9.1 Local branches**

- 9.2.1 Local branches are established in offices/buildings/work-places where there is such a need and the number of staff is adequate. At centre's where staff members are in different offices/ buildings/work places, branches should be combined as far as possible. Each branch selects its own Chairman, Vice-chairman, Secretary and Treasurer plus as many additional members as may be considered necessary to serve as a local committee. The posts of Secretary and Treasurer may be combined. The local committee is chosen at a special meeting. When there are vacancies, the local committee has the power to fill them.
- 9.2.2 Local branches function on an autonomous basis with regard to the frequency and nature of the activities. Information or details required by the Executive shall be furnished.
- 9.2.3 Any branch arranging a presentation that may also affect other branches shall consult the Provincial Committee about the matter. Where necessary, provincial committees shall stay in contact with the Executive to prevent overlapping of presentations.

## 9.2 Provincial Committees

- 9.2.1 Provincial committees are established in the main centre's (Pretoria, Johannesburg, Durban, Bloemfontein, Port Elizabeth, Cape Town and Kimberley) to direct/manage and co-ordinate the operations of branches in the different regions. Provincial committees, consisting of a Chairman, Vice-chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and as many additional members as considered necessary are put together at a special meeting. The posts of Secretary and Treasurer may be combined. These office-bearers are chosen from the office-bearers of local branches. The Chairman may also be Chairman of a local branch. Provincial committees have the power to fill vacancies, as necessary.
- 9.2.2 Provincial committees are the Executive's link with local branches and therefore have an authoritarian position in the local branches of a province.
- 9.2.3 Provincial committees shall hold provincial congresses every second year. Provincial congresses include provincial committees and delegates of local branches. Where possible, the Executive Committee provides funds necessary for provincial congresses and other actions of provincial committees. The provision of funds, however, is limited to one delegate per-local branch. Points for discussion at provincial congress must be made available six weeks before the appointed. The Secretary must send the agenda to members of the regional committees and local branches at least 21 days before the appointed time.

### 9.2.4 New National Structure

Attendance of the congress : Provincial leader and 2 committee members. National

Structure:

Executive and Provincial leaders Executive Committee: New structure (Functional divisions)

## 9.3 The Executive

- 9.3.1 The Executive is the highest authority of the Association and consists of President, 2 Vice-president (Representing both of the companies in which the Christian Association function), Secretary, Treasurer and Editor plus nine Provincial Chairpersons and co-opted members as, when required. The Executive is chosen at the congress. The Executive may delegate specific tasks to office-bearers, as and when required. When there are vacancies, the Executive has the power to fill the post.
- 9.3.2 People that are knowledgeable in certain fields may be co-opted to attend a meeting.

## 9.4 Management Committee

- 9.4.1 The Management Committee consisting of the President, 2 Vice-presidents, Treasurer, Secretary and Editor give attention to urgent matters that might occur and matters, referred to the Management Committee. The Management Committee makes recommendations and reports to the Executive. The Management Committee may incur expenses confirmed by the Executive from time to time. To be able to function as effective as possible, the Management Committee may co-opt other members of the Executive.

## 9.5 Term of Office

- 9.5.1 Office-bearers of the bodies mentioned in paragraphs 9.1, 9.2 and 9.3 are elected for a period of two years. They can be re-elected.

## 9.6 Disposition and conduct of office bearers

- 9.6.1 All office-bearers of the bodies mentioned in paragraphs 9.1 to 9.4 shall be irreproachable, reliable in all respects, well-balanced, sensible, hospitable, not addicted to liquor or other agents and shall whole-heartedly endorse the objectives in paragraph 3.

## **10 MEETINGS**

10.1 Local branches, regional and executive committees must meet at least four times per year. The

day management meets as often as necessary. The minutes of regional committees must be

furnished to the Executive for perusal.

10.2 The Secretary shall notify each member of the local branches, regional committees and the Executive at least 14 days in advance of each meeting. Points for discussion at a meeting shall

be made available at least seven days before the appointed time.

10.3 When a vote is taken, each office-bearer shall have one vote. The event of an equality of votes, the Chairman shall have a casting vote.

10.4 The term of office of office-bearers that are absent from three consecutive meetings without apology or valid reason may be terminated by a majority decision of the local committee,

provincial committee or Executive as the case may be.

## **11. QUORUM**

11.1 A quorum for each committee shall be one more than half of the members of the committee concerned.

11.2 In the event of there being no quorum at a meeting, the meeting shall convene seven days later.

Should there again not be a quorum; the members present may proceed with the meeting. All

decisions taken will be valid and binding.

## **12. CONGRESS**

### **12.1 Congress**

The Executive arranges the Congress that will be held every second year. The Congress consists of all the office-bearers of the executive, spiritual workers, the chairmen of provincial committees and those representatives of the local branches that are nominated by the respective regional committees. All nominees present have the right to vote, provided they are registered members of the Association. The Association is responsible for the subsistence and travel allowance of office-bearers of the Executive, the Chairmen of provincial committees and nominees of each local branch. Points for discussion at the congress must be made available at least six weeks beforehand. The Secretary shall send the agenda to members of the executive and provincial committees at least 21 days before the appointed time. Provincial committees shall inform their local branches of the congress. The congress shall assume a form decided on by the Executive. After the conference a spiritual conference may be held. This conference shall not be a platform for the discussion of secular matters.

### **12.2 Special Congress**

Reference at what circumstance we can have a special congress.

12.2.1 Special congress: Called by Executive Committee.

12.2.2 If any 5 provinces (regions) requested a special congress.

### **13. ESTABLISHMENT OR DISSOLUTION OF BRANCHES**

The provincial committees shall be notified of the establishment or dissolution of branches and shall in turn inform the Executive.

### **14. DISSOLUTION OF ASSOCIATION**

- 14.1 The Association may not be dissolved without the approval of the Congress of the Christian Association of South Africa.
- 14.2 On the dissolution of the Association, the remaining assets, if any, shall be transferred to associations with similar objectives.

### **15. AMENDMENT OF CONSTITUTION**

The amendment(s) to the constitution is subject to two-thirds majority at the congress.

### **16. CONFIRMATION AND RATIFICATION OF MINUTES OF CONGRESSES**

The content of the minutes of a congress shall be confirmed at the next meeting of the Executive to implement decisions and shall be ratified at the next congress.

**CONSTITUTION AS AMENDED AT THE**

**AD-HOC CONGRESS : 1 NOVEMBER 2008**

**AT SOUTHERN SUN, O R TAMBO AIRPORT: JOHANNESBURG**