

## **2.4 ECUMENICAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION**

### **STATUS**

- 2.4.1 These By-Laws provide for the exercise of the powers of the Synod in regard to relationships with other denominations and other faiths.

### **ECUMENICAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION**

- 2.4.2 In accordance with Constitution Paragraph 32, the Synod has established the Ecumenical Affairs Commission, hereinafter called "the Commission".

### **MEMBERSHIP**

- 2.4.3 The Commission is appointed by each ordinary Synod and consists of:

- (a) a Convener;
- (b) the General Secretary; and
- (c) up to eight other persons.

- 2.4.4 The Commission may co-opt up to two further members to ensure balanced representation or to provide the Commission with knowledge, abilities or experience not otherwise available to the Commission.

### **PURPOSE**

- 2.4.5 The purpose of the Commission is to promote the Church's commitment to Christian Unity and ecumenicity by:

- (a) keeping the ecumenical question before the Church;
- (b) providing resources for local discussion regarding ecumenical co-operation;
- (c) keeping the Church informed of ecumenical activities locally, nationally and internationally;
- (d) representing the Synod in ecumenical activities and discussions as requested;
- (e) liaising with the Assembly's dialogues with other denominations;
- (f) promoting and supporting the activities of the World Council of Churches, National Council of Churches of Australia and the Council of Churches of Western Australia;
- (g) encouraging dialogue with other faiths; and
- (h) maintaining links with the Council of Christians and Jews.

### **RESPONSIBILITIES**

- 2.4.6 The Commission will:

- (a) provide representatives for, and encourage the initiation of, inter-church and inter-faith dialogues;
- (b) regularly produce reports for presbyteries;
- (c) encourage the sharing of news of ecumenical activities; and
- (d) be responsible to the Synod Standing Committee for the appointing of representatives to:
  - (i) Council of Churches of Western Australia.
  - (ii) World Day of Prayer Commission.
  - (iii) Bible Society.

- (iv) Australian Church Women State Unit.
- (v) any other group, as requested by the Synod Standing Committee

### **MEETINGS AND REPORTING**

2.4.7 The Commission will:

- (a) meet at least six times each year;
- (b) report to and provide representation at the annual National Christian Unity Working Group Conference; and
- (c) report to the Synod annually and to the Synod Standing Committee as requested or when necessary.