



S2.6 International Partnership and Development Commission By-Law

STATUS

- S2.6.1 These By-Laws provide for the exercise by the Synod of its powers and responsibilities in regard to the work of Uniting World.

INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

- S2.6.2 In accordance with Constitution Paragraph 32, the Synod has established the International Partnership and Development Commission, hereinafter referred to as “the Commission”.

MEMBERSHIP

- S2.6.3 The Commission is appointed by each ordinary Synod and consists of:
- (a) the Convener;
 - (b) a staff person appointed by the General Secretary and
 - (c) up to eight other persons.
- S2.6.4 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

- S2.6.5 In response to God's purpose for the world and its peoples, the Commission will focus on the vision and utilise the resources of the Church by:
- (a) engaging in God's mission in the world in obedience to the call of Christ (see. *Basis of Union* paragraphs 1 and 2);
 - (b) encouraging and supporting the Presbytery and congregations in nurturing local initiatives towards mutual relationships with equivalent councils of partner churches overseas;
 - (c) enabling the Church to hear and respond to the needs of all peoples especially the poorest of the poor throughout the world; and
 - (d) building and strengthening relationships in mission particularly in Timor Leste (East Timor), Eastern Indonesia and other Indian Ocean rim countries.

RESPONSIBILITIES

S2.6.6 The Commission shall:

- (a) work with churches and other agencies in partnership with the Uniting Church in Australia, to develop programs in mission, justice and peace, human rights and community development;
- (b) assist the Church to witness to a unity of faith and life in Christ which transcends cultural, economic, national and racial boundaries (*Basis of Union* paragraph 2), and to act accordingly through the giving and receiving of resources of people, money, theological engagement and experience;
- (c) emphasise a particular care for, and solidarity with, people who are marginalised, oppressed or discriminated against, in their hunger for justice;
- (d) share news regarding Uniting World at meetings of the Presbytery and at Regional Gatherings; and
- (e) work in close conjunction with relevant Synod staff and the Assembly Director of Uniting World.

MEETINGS AND REPORTING

S2.6.7 The Commission will:

- (a) meet at least six times each year; and
- (b) report to the Synod at each ordinary meeting and to the Synod Standing Committee as requested or when necessary.