

NETACT
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
JMTC, LUSAKA, ZAMBIA
8-10 August 2007

MINUTES

Wednesday, 8 August 2007

08h40. DEVOTION: Rev HW Murray – Romans 12:3-8

NB168
(2007 Annual
Report No will
appear in
brackets after
the NB no.)
(1)

CONSTITUTING THE MEETING:

Introductions and welcome:

All present member institutions with full voting rights are represented:

- 1 ABC – Mrs M Madimbo
- 2 Hartgerink Trust – Dr R Hartgerink
- 3 Hefsiba – Rev M Matiquele
- 4 JMTC – Dr DT Banda
- 5 JMTC – Rev AJM Mnthambala
- 6 MTC – Rev HW Murray
- 7 NetACT ED – Prof HJ Hendriks
- 8 NETS – Rev H Prentice
- 9 RITT – Rev S Ngigii
- 10 SU – Prof E Mouton
- 11 ZTC – Dr HY Hara

New members accepted and accorded voting rights:

NETS represented by Rev H Prentice

ISTEL (Angola) represented by Rev A Rafael

ISEU (Angola) represented by Rev A dos S Mioco

Guests:

- Rev L Banda (JMTC); Prof G Hunsberger (Western Seminary); Rev R van Es (Reformed Church in America and St Paul's University, Limuru, Kenya); Dr H van Deventer (Bible Media); Dr K Odendaal (CFW); Dr J Botha (CFW); Mr E Chitanda (WCC); Rev M Zvenyika (RCZ); Mr S Mhungu (RCZ), Rev P Grove (BUVTON, SU), Rev K du Preez (Hefsiba); **Miss Janet Guyer (HIV coordinator Southern Africa, PCUSA).**
- Guests are awarded observer status and invited to participate in discussions

News:

- All institutions submitted a written report prior to the meeting. Tabled on Monday.
- Dr S Chipangwe (previous Vice-Chairman) is recovering after two operations and will hopefully resume duties at ZTC.
- Rev A Ekitala (RITT) (current vice-Chairman) is unable to continue. Fresh elections for this post are to be conducted during the AGM
- Rev A Kasambala (previous NetACT Chairman) was appointed as Director for Africa for Focus on the Family
- Rev Dr R Rutoro (MTC) is congratulated by SU Dean with the achievement of his doctorate. The degree will be conferred by SU in December 2007.

NB169
(2) MINUTES OF 2006 AGM HELD IN WINDHOEK: these have been approved by the EC as mandated by the 2006 AGM. Copies of these as well as of the EC are available at this meeting.

(2.1) EXECUTIVE VACANCIES: voting for a Chairman and vice-Chairman will be conducted on Friday. Any voting member can be nominated. Nominations will be called for on Thursday.

NB170 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR retired at SU June 2007. Contract 1 (page 19, addendum 2 in the Annual

- (2.2) Report): change “Southern Africa” to “sub-Saharan Africa”. This contract was subsequently accepted. Contract 2 (page 21, addendum 3 in the Annual Report): an amended version to be distributed and discussed on Thursday (see NB176 and NB192).
- NB171
(3.1) AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (addendum 4, page 23-24 in the Annual Report): discussed by the Board. Reprinting is necessary due to poor quality reproduction – further discussions on Thursday.
- NB172
(3.2) BUDGET 2008: refer to Ron Hartgerink to note financial needs as it becomes apparent during the meeting. He will present his findings at the end of the meeting, and assist the meeting to draw up a realistic budget. (Addendum 4 to these minutes is the final version as accepted by the Board.)
- NB173
(3.3) DIVERSE FUNDING POSSIBILITIES: ED to pursue the matter.
- NB174
(3.4) FUTURE FUNDING: POLICY CHANGE DISCUSSION: the following decisions were taken:
- 1 Direct linking between NetACT institutions and donors is preferable.
 - 2 We accept the principle that donors prefer to give to a specific institution for a specific project and that we tailor our fundraising accordingly.
 - 3 NetACT institutions develop networks that will help them to attend NetACT Annual Meetings, lecture exchange opportunities, scholarships for their lecturers and ministers and their pro-rata share of NetACT administration (office) expenses.
 - 4 ACTEA accreditation and leadership development should be a priority.
 - 5 More permanent associate partners should be developed to sustain the NetACT mission and goals and infrastructure.
 - 6 Setting up partnerships implies forming friendships. This relationship needs to grow over time so that the parties concerned become aware of one another’s needs, ministries and potentials. Mutuality, equality and sensitivity are necessary
 - 7 The ED / NetACT office through SU and Dr Hartgerink help seminaries develop networks and income that will support their continued membership and the attainment of NetACT goals.
 - 8 The ED / NetACT office serves as a hub to coordinate and initiate such ventures.
- (3.5) INTERNATIONAL STEWARD: Prof R Allen to address the meeting at 11h00 on Thursday.
- NB175
(3.6) ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEE. The following decisions were taken:
- 1 Members and associate members agree that the aim financially is for NetACT to eventually fund its office through membership fees.
 - 2 Student numbers for NetACT institutions do not include non-residential TEE students – thus NETS falls into the lowest bracket.
 - 3 Membership fees to double for 2008. .
 - R1000 up to R2,000: ABC, JMTC, SU
 - R500 up to R1,000: ISEU, ZTC
 - R300 up to R600: Hefsiba, ISTELE, JMTC, MTC, RITT, NETS (Membership fees for NETS for 2007 have already been paid)
 - 4 Accounting of funds: there is a need for developing local expertise. CFW is available to provide such service to NetACT.
 - 5 Fundraising and long-term financial sustainability: that SU in 2009 provide a workshop for NetACT membership.
- NB176
(4) NETACT OFFICE: the meeting endorsed points 4.1 to 4.4. The proposed contract between NetACT and the ED needs to be amended, and will be tabled later in the meeting (see NB170 and NB192)
- NB177
(5) NeTACT HOUSE: the following decisions we taken:
- 1 NetACT expressed its concern about the physical condition of the NetACT houses entrusted by contract to SU. The building and premises are a run-down condition and below average living conditions provided by SU for its students.
 - 2 NetACT accepted in principle that accommodation fees should be raised but requested that the NetACT office negotiate with all parties concerned that accommodation fees should not deter people from studying. In order to do this, flexible scales may be applied.

- 3 Post graduate students are encouraged to study for longer periods and the time-frame limits of 6 months to studying is waived on condition that the house will always have rooms available for short term students.
- 4 The NetACT Weidenhof House Administrator (HA) has to work with the NetACT office, the International Office and other bodies to keep occupancy rates in the NetACT house above 75% in order to make it financially viable.
- 5 Reservations for rooms have to be made at least six months before going to Stellenbosch and persons going for shorter periods have to negotiate through the NetACT office with the HA so that the rooms available for short term occupants are used in sequence.
- 6 SU expects NetACT to make accommodation available to its own member-students at the University rate. NetACT is free to subsidise its students. Other students making use of this facility will pay the normal SU rate.
- 7 SU FT Dean reported that it will cost R2,3m to extend and renovate the two properties. If SU will donate half of this, NetACT is willing to fund the other half. This proposal is now before the SU Rectorate. A response is awaited by November 2007. Prayer is requested for this matter.
- 8 The Board needs a guarantee to be built into the agreement with SU that the two NetACT houses will always remain available to students of the NetACT members, and at affordable rates.

NB178 (6) COMMUNICATION: Much progress has been made. MTC is the only exception – until such time as this matter has been adequately addressed, this matter remains on the agenda. The communication need of MTC is of importance, especially with the current situation in Zimbabwe.

- NB179 (7) LECTURER EXCHANGE: the following decisions are taken:
- 1 Members are urged to contact the Office for possible exchange lecturers, ahead of time.
 - 2 Prof Hunsberger's offer is gratefully accepted to compile a shortlist of interested lecturers at Western Theological Seminary who will act as exchange lecturers. This list to be circulated by the NetACT office.
 - 3 JMTI, MTC and JMTC record their thanks to NetACT and CFW and Western Theological Seminary for assistance in making relief lecturers available during the past year.
 - 4 The NetACT website should be used for advertising temporary teaching possibilities at its member institutions.
 - 5 Lecturers available:
 - a) Dr Laban [Chipwatanga \[mailto:drlabanchipwatanga@yahoo.co.uk\]](mailto:drlabanchipwatanga@yahoo.co.uk) from JMTC is available for the whole of 2008. He teaches Homiletics and is also responsible for the AIDS program at JMTC.
 - b) RCA missionary Rev Rowland van Es teaches at St Pauls University, Limuru in Kenya. His sending organization encourages NetACT institutions to use him. He teaches OT and NT, [Business Ethics](#) (including Social Responsibilities).
 - c) The PCUSA people visiting this NetACT AGM are also possible candidates to help.
 - d) The following people from Western Theological Seminary are available:
 - Rev Dr Mark Rich: New Testament and Ethics. Lutheran.
 - Rev Dr Cynthia Holder Rich: Theology of Development, Practical Theology, Christian Education. RCA. She did her doctoral degree with Steve de Gruchy as supervisor at the University of KwaZulu-Natal.
(Both the above candidates have been teaching in Madagascar for five years.)
 - Rev Dr Todd Billings: Systematic Theology. He has worked in Ethiopia and Uganda for two years. Presbyterian.
 - Rachel Billings: Hebrew and Old Testament. Busy with a PhD in Old Testament (Presbyterian).
 - e) Staff from the Faculty of Theology SU are always available: make appointments well ahead of time.
 - f) Dr Amon Kasambala. CEO Focus on the Family, P/B X1023, Hillcrest, 3650, SA
 - g) Sherron George. PCUSA Mission Personnel / Interfacing and Networking the work of South American seminaries, several decades of experience in Brazil (Portuguese), 5 years teaching at Austin Seminary, can teach in Missiology and more subjects
 - h) Joe & Helen Martin. PCUSA, decades Brazil experience, fluent Portuguese. Since 1990

Faculty at Belhaven College. Joe has PhD in intercultural missiology, global Christianity, third world theology. Belhaven College, 1500 Peachtree Street, Jackson, Mississippi 39202

NB180
(8)

SCHOLARSHIPS: the following decisions were taken:

- 1 R40,000 to R60,000 is the typical amount required for full-time scholarship per year at SU.
- 2 It is accepted that Rev A dos S Mioco should attend a 6 month English course at SU at the cost of R60,000
- 3 Proposed budget for scholarships: R210,000 & R60,000
- 4 Institutions to forward to the NetACT office the names of applicants.

Thursday, 9 August 2007

08h50 Devotions – Dr HY Hara – John 4:7-9, 39

NB181
(9.1)

HIV/AIDS PROJECT: Decisions and discussions:

- How does NetACT ensure that its positive resolutions on this matter really touch and influence local situations?
- NetACT is not to check that members do an AIDS course. Its role is to coordinate, empower and network so that members can have access to good information for their syllabi.
- Member institutions need to deliver to the churches pastors who are well-trained and able to function relevantly in their communities.
- The Board notes that local developments at the respective institutions have surpassed the (original) AIDS course and knowledge.
- It may be useful to share our respective experiences and insights and come up with a collective, current understanding.
- It is agreed that, due to the urgency of the matter, December 2007 until March 2008 be the time for such a workshop.
- The possibility of establishing an AIDS desk needs to be finalised.
- WCC is willing to fund \$5,000 towards a meeting of AIDS-lecturers of member institutions.
- In the meantime the AIDS lecturers should be networking in preparation for such a workshop
- It is important to take real note of what others in this field are already doing – eg the Circle of Concerned African Women Theologians (meeting in Cameroon in Sept 2007).
- Dr Hennie van Deventer of Bible Media introduces some Chewa literature on HIV/AIDS.
- Ms Janet Guyer of PCUSA introduces some of the literature and teaching aids in Addendum 1

ED and Rev Du Preez need to visit all member institutions as a follow-up of such a round-table conference.

NB182
(9.2)

AFRICAN NETWORK FOR HIGHER EDUCATION AND RESEARCH IN THEOLOGY AND HIV: This network was formed earlier this year. It has strong academic and financial support, working on post-graduate and doctoral level.

- R100,000 for workshop
- AIDS desk: to be situated at a member seminary, to be identified at workshop – volunteer.
- R10,000 starting money.

ED to network with this body, also for the purpose of the upcoming workshop.

NB183
(3.5)

INTERNATIONAL STEWARD (IS): Prof. Richard Allen addresses the meeting on the rebuilding of a culture of giving within the Church in Africa. He informs the meeting:

- 1 This process starts within the theological institutions, teaching a course on Biblical giving.
- 2 Each NetACT member institution to train and equip existing ministers in a workshop format
- 3 IS is willing to assist the institutions in this process. Eg to come once and teach a course, which can afterwards be taught by a faculty member, trained by IS. At the same time IS can also run a workshop for existing ministers.
- 4 IS is willing for NetACT office to distribute their course to member institutions.

- 5 About a third of the course contents is devoted to Biblical foundation on stewardship. Another third addresses practical issues: developing vision and mission and strategic planning on how to effectively communicate the change that needs to take place. The balance is for students to contextualise the principles of the course to make it applicable to the local situation.
- 6 IS is in favour of strategic partnerships, as long as such partnerships do not cripple the growth of each partner towards self-sufficiency and maturity.
- 7 Contact Address: 7915 Wilderness Way, Ooltewah TN 37363, USA. E-mail: rallen@intsteward.org Website: www.intsteward.org

ED to enter into negotiations with IS, and to advise the Board (also regarding the syllabus).

NB184
(10)

CURRICULUM REPORT & ACTEA: Prof Mouton reports:

Developments since 2006:

- Situation is fluid, and processes are still in flux, with resultant uncertainty. HEQF (Higher Education Qualification Framework) is eagerly awaited, so that re-curriculation can be done.
- NQF, ACTEA and NetACT met in Sept 2006. Purpose: to establish a possible memorandum of understanding between ACTEA and CHE. Meeting articulated discrepancies at various levels of education in southern Africa. This results in problems in SA when students from elsewhere would come to SA for advanced studies. NetACT wants these discrepancies to be addressed so that problems can be avoided in future. We would like to see current SA policy on acceptable basis for accreditation of degrees and diplomas awarded by African theological institutions.
- ACTEA is accepted by NetACT as the ideal general accrediting body for theological education in Africa, and is recommended as such to the CHE (Council for Higher Education). ACTEA is a regional body of ICETE (International Council for Excellence in Theological Education). It also associates with ICAA (International Council of Accrediting Agencies).
- Mr Theo Bengu of CHE responded: NetACT came to the wrong address!! He advised:
 - CHE accredits programs for education in SA, but the registering body for accredited programs is SAQA (South African Qualifications Authority), who should be contacted.
 - He conceded that SAQA would probably not want to evaluate standards for theological education of other countries.
 - Qualifications standards control for any SA institution is the responsibility of that institution. They need to evaluate and acknowledge the prior learning standards of their prospective students, and motivate the NQF standards according to which such evaluation is done.
- ACTEA seems to be the ideal vehicle to assist NetACT to formulate parameters for evaluating the qualifications of students intending to come to SU.
- SU FT undertakes to keep on trying to obtain clarity for the benefit of NetACT members.
- Currently each application is individually scrutinized, with the application of ACTEA standards to the evaluation of the applicant's prior learning.
- This Board requires that each member institution should obtain ACTEA accreditation.

ED to follow-up with ACTEA to ascertain its connections and relations with international accrediting bodies, to ascertain the benchmark of its academic standards.

NB185
(10.2)

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT: Rev Kruger du Preez is working towards a doctoral degree on curriculum development in the NetACT institutions. He reports:

- He is in the process of developing the research parameters.
- He reports on the progress of his research work.
- He shares some of his joys and frustrations.
- The intention of his research is to understand how to help institutions to re-curriculate contextually.
- The ideal will be for member institutes to eventually engage the curriculum issue in a positive and realistic way on Board level as well as in its own context.

Budgeting: For DTh of Du Preez: R18,000 for 2008.

For ACTEA accreditation R30,000 for 2008 for ISTEEL, ABC and MTC

ED & Rev Du Preez to liaise with Prof Hunsberger to obtain additional information on curricula.

NB186
(11.5)

BIBLE MEDIA CONTRIBUTION OF R10,000 FOR EACH NETACT INSTITUTION TO BUY BOOKS: Dr H van Deventer informs the meeting of the work of Bible-Media.

- Bible Media offers R15,000 to each institution on certain conditions (see addendum 2)
- Bible Media is thanked by the Board for their involvement and offer.
- Each member institution needs to respond individually to Bible Media.
- If not all funds on offer are used, the balance of the funds may possibly be made available to NetACT for the purpose of writing a needed book.

NB187
(11.1 to 11.4)

Studying Congregations in Africa: ED reports:

- Third printing of “Studying Congregations” available.
- Portuguese translation of “Studying Congregations” is underway.
- First draft of “Preaching on AIDS in Africa” is ready.
- “Ethics in Africa”: funding not available yet. Idea is to utilise Ethics lecturers of member institutions to write such a book.
- Books for libraries – great help from Reverends. (1 box to ISTEEL, 4 boxes to Hefsiba and 18 boxes to MTC)
- “Africa Bible Commentary” available at R110 each. 8 copies available at this meeting. Any further orders via NetACT Office. What about the ideal to provide every student leaving our seminaries with such a copy?! Also available in French. Portuguese translation on the way.
- A booklet on tithing by Rev Mirimai Mutanda (Pamushana Congregation) of RCZim

Budget:

- R15,000 for Portuguese translation of “Studying Congregations”
- R80,000 for Ethics handbook.
- R40,000 for “Preaching on AIDS in Africa”

Closing of session with prayer at 16h00 by Rev H Prentice.
Group departs for a visit to Lilayi wildlife farm and dinner.

Friday, 10 August 2007

08h50 Devotions – Rev K du Preez – Romans 5:5 & 1 John 4:7-21

NB188
(12.1)

MEMBERSHIP GUIDELINE: The following guideline (NB63a) is changed – the addition is underlined: *NetACT is a network of Reformed/Presbyterian theological institutions operating on a post-secondary level in Sub-Saharan Africa, and will therefore mainly focus on institutions in this area. In some cases they will need upliftment.*

NB188.1
(12.3)

APPLICATION PENDING: The Instituto Biblico de Kinkuni (IBK), Angola, represented by Past. Campos Afonso at the 2004 meeting at Zomba and in 2006 by Pastor Silva Matemba at the Windhoek meeting, submitted an application for NetACT membership. IBK has moved to Luanda and has now changed its name to Instituto Teologico de IERA. It operates only on secondary academic level (high school).

The Board decides:

- The application for NetACT membership is turned down due to the fact that the institution operates on a secondary level.
- NetACT encourages them to send capable candidates to ISEU for further training.
- NetACT thanks them for their application and interest.

ED to forward these decisions.

NB188.2
(12.4)

WEST AFRICAN MEMBERSHIP: The NetACT office is repeatedly requested by Reformed and Presbyterian institutes from West Africa to join NetACT. It was financially impossible to do this

previously. Dr Johan Botha of the Commission for Witness of the DRC-URCSA has been to Nigeria to celebrate the 50th birthday of autonomy of the TIV church. An Ad Hoc Committee tabled the following proposal: *In the light of the fact that NetACT endeavours to serve theological institutions in sub-Saharan Africa, the Board invites the Reformed Theological Seminary (RTS) of the NKST (Church of Christ amongst the Tiv in Nigeria) to join NetACT. The Board requests:*

- *the CFW to inform the NKST, in cooperation with the ED, that RTS is welcome to apply for NetACT membership*
- *that the CFW supports RTS to afford the affiliation with NetACT.*

The Board discusses the above proposal, and decides:

- NetACT has now reached the stage in its growth where additional economic and management dynamics will increasingly play in on its development and growth
- NetACT is willing to receive a membership application before the next AGM from the Reformed Theological Seminary (RTS) of the NKST
- If such application is received, then:
 - The RTS is free to attend at own cost the next AGM as observer
 - The next AGM will consider its application for membership.
 - Such consideration will be done in the light of the complicated and challenging context influencing NetACT as a growing organisation.
- The CFW, in cooperation with the ED, can convey this decision to the NKST.

NB188.3 ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP: At the moment associate membership is limited in the Constitution. Interested organisations: RCA, PCUSA, Bible-Media/NBI/CLF, CFW, Western Theological Seminary. (Addendum 3 for NBI application)

The Board decides that this clause in the Constitution be reformulated to make provision for such organisations too. Referred to EC, to be ratified by NB in 2008.

NB188.4 PROPOSAL RECEIVED FROM THE FLOOR: The following proposal by the delegates of Hefsiba, ISEU, ISTELE and ABC is referred to the EC for consideration: “That the EC of NetACT should research the possibility of NetACT to:

- Organise itself in smaller geographic areas (like SADC)
- Promote the establishing of other theological networks in sub-Saharan Africa
- Submit a report to the next AGM of NetACT”

NB189 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2008: The meeting decides:

- (13)
- Depending on the availability of funds, an AGM should be held in 2008.
 - Venue: depending on the situation in Zimbabwe, MTC to be the 2008 venue.
 - If, by February 2008, the situation in Zimbabwe has not improved, JMTI (Malawi) should be the venue.

ED to remain in touch with these institutions, and to inform all members in time.

NB190 MISSION AND GOALS: After discussing the Working Group On NetACT’s Mission And Goals, the Board decides:

- The matter of Mission and Goals to be attended to at the next AGM
- Last vision statement should be aligned to the Windhoek meeting minutes (NB158 last bullet) which reads “Ensure that an HIV/AIDS course is developed and maintained as a routine part of the normal curriculum at each NetACT institution.”

NB191 (15) BUDGET: The Board discusses the proposals prepared by Mr Ron Hartgerink. The decision of the Board – see Addendum 2

NB192 (2.2) CONTRACT BETWEEN NETACT AND ED: Refer NB170 and NB176 of these minutes. The following wording is added to the contract between NetACT and the ED, : *If at anytime the available cash assets fall below 50,000 Rands, the monthly salary payments to the Executive Director will stop*

until NetACT's Executive Committee can meet and agree upon a course of action. Available cash assets shall mean the total of cash assets which have been given by donors for General Purposes or for administration, and which have not been committed to a specific cause. When the Executive Committee meets because of low cash assets, it could decide to continue the Executive Director's full salary, or provide a lesser salary until such time as the situation improves. . Thus the threshold of 50,000 Rands is not an on/off switch, but rather a signal to quickly call an Executive Committee meeting to decide how to handle the cash shortfall.

The Board decides:

- The Employment Contract between NetACT and the ED (page 21 of the 2007 Administrative Report, addendum 3,) as amended above, is unanimously accepted by the Board for implementation after voting by the Board.
- The Memorandum of Agreement between NetACT and Stellenbosch University (page 19 of the 2007 Administrative Report, addendum 2,) is unanimously accepted, without amendments, by the Board for implementation after voting by the Board.
- Three copies of each contract to be signed and distributed to SU, ED and Chairman

NB193 DAILY TRAVEL ALLOWANCE FOR DELEGATES TO THE 2007 AGM:

- Those delegates who have not yet received travel allowances (Mocambique, Zimbabwe and Malawi), US\$5 per person per travel day will be paid.
- For the future: daily travel allowances only for one delegate per institution.
- The meeting is reminded that delegates to the AGM should comprise of only one person per institution, any more attendees need to pay for themselves (travel, food, accommodation etc).

ED to forward guidelines to member institutions

NB194 ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

The positions of Chairperson and vice-Chairperson are vacant and need to be filled.

- Nominations were called
- Nominations for Chairperson: Nominations for Dr DT Banda were by far in the majority. Recommendation by the Ad Hoc Committee is that Dr DT Banda be the new Chairman. Unanimously accepted.
- Nominations for vice-Chairman: 3 persons received the same number of nominations: Madimbo, Mnthambala, Rafael. Voting followed.
- Ms Maggie Madimbo (ABC) gathered the majority of votes, and is declared the new Vice-Chairperson.
- The new Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson thanked the meeting for the trust put in them.

NB195 PLANNING FOR CONFERENCE WITH PC(USA) VISITORS ON 11 AUGUST: The Ad Hoc Committee's report is tabled, and after discussion and amendments the document is accepted as a discussion document. The final declaration issued by all parties on the evening of 11 August is attached as Addendum 5.

NB196 NEWS-SHARING: Each institution should send a copy of its regular newsletter to the NetACT office.

NB197 OWN FUNDING: In the light of the current stage of development of NetACT, each institution should start to find ways how to fund its own participation at the AGM as well as how to fund its part of the functioning of the NetACT office. It is well understood that the respective member institutions are at different levels of self-sufficiency, and this will be taken into account in future.

ED to remind member institutions about this matter.

CLOSING: The Chairman thanks all for their participation, including the observers and potential associate members. Closing of session with prayer and singing at 18h30.

Addendum 1 (refer NB181):

A Preliminary Resource List

Plus News


This is a service that will send you the news in the world of AIDS on a weekly basis.

<http://www.plusnews.org>

Children-IAC2006 eForum

This is a new forum, just started at a pre-conference of the International AIDS Conference in Toronto. So far I have only received a few mailings from them but they seem to be very good.

“join-Children-IAC2006@eforums.healthdev.org join-Children-IAC2006@eforums.healthdev.org”

 **Southern African AIDS trust (SAT)** “The Southern African AIDS Trust (SAT) is a regional initiative that supports community responses to HIV and AIDS through in-depth partnerships with community groups in southern Africa and wider networking, skills exchange and lesson sharing throughout the region and internationally. SAT funding and skills building activities support the capacity development of partners and their programming in order to create more effective, sustainable and comprehensive community responses....”

SAT has some very good resources on counseling that have sound content and are written in easy to understand language. I recommend caution on using the materials on working with abused children as here it is possible to do more harm than good. Also be careful about using the material on domestic and other forms of violence. The material is good but it is sensitive area of counseling.

SAT Regional Office

PO Box 411919

Craighill Park 2024

Johannesburg, South Africa

Tel. 011 341-0610/-0660

info@satregional.org

www.satregional.org/index.html

sat.mozambique@satregional.org

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SAT Mozambique

No. 1112

R/C Dto

C.P. 1593

Maputo, Mozambique

Tel. 01 306-163; 01 306-304

REPSSI

REPSSI specializes in the psychosocial care of children affected by HIV/AIDS, poverty and violence. They have good training programs that are a bit expensive but they are willing to be flexible. They also have materials such as methods for doing memory books and/or boxes, hero books among others.

REPSSI Regional Office &

Angola, Mozambique, South Africa

P.O. Box 1669

Randburg 2125

South Africa

Tel. 27 11 998-5820

info@repssi.org

<http://www.repssi.org>

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P.O. Box 5895

Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania

Tel. +256 22 212-8411/-2
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Zimbabwe and Botswana
Harrison and Hughson
Number 12, 10th Ave.

☐☐☐  Christian Aid

‘Theology and the HIV/AIDS epidemic’, by Paula Clifford, is one of the most thorough and accessible overviews on Theology and AIDS I have seen.

Christian Aid
PO Box 100
London SE1 7RT
United Kingdom
www.christianaid.org.uk

Strategies for Hope (SFH)

This organization has put out a good amount of Christian material to help those who are dealing with the AIDS pandemic. Their most recent publications, which are still in progress, is the ‘Called to Care’ toolkit which at this point comprises of 3 well written and helpful books. In our region these are available from CLF (below).

Strategies for Hope Trust
93 Divinity Rd.
Oxford OX4 1LN
United Kingdom
EMail sfh@stratshope.org
Website www.stratshope.org

Christelike Lekturfonds (CLF)

This Christian publishing house has many publications on Christian responses to AIDS. I particularly recommend the ‘Called to Care’ toolkit put out by the Strategies of Hope organization. The third book in the Called to Care series, ‘Time to Talk: A guide to family life in the age of AIDS’, by James Tengatenga and Anne Bailey deals nicely with a wide range of issues. It was piloted by the Anglicans in Blantyre, Malawi. The person to contact is Amanda Carstens. Another recommended publication from CLF is ‘Building your Ability to Deal with AIDS’. Unfortunately I have not seen this book but it comes highly recommended. There are also many other AIDS-related titles available.

amanda@clf.co.za

HelpAge International

This global organization specializes in working with the elderly and has a wide range of information available through their website dealing with the needs of the elderly.

PO Box 32832
London N1 9ZN
United Kingdom
<http://www.helpage.org>

Family Health International (FHI)

FHI primary area of work is in the area of population control. Although some may not agree with their stance on various issues, their methodology especially for training in peer education is worth looking at.

Family Health International
PO Box 13950
Research Triangle Park
North Carolina 27709
USA

(Note: There are also regional offices in many places i.e. Johannesburg, but I do not have the addresses here.)

<http://www.fhi.org> Fax + 1 919 544-7261

Bulawayo
Zimbabwe
Tel.
admin.srccentral@repssi.org

⚡ International AIDS Alliance

The Alliance has put out some excellent materials on AIDS including a toolkit on issues around AIDS and children in Africa and a participatory training manual to use with the tool kit. These materials can be ordered through their web site. They also have cds that contain most of their printed materials.

International AIDS Alliance
Queensberry House
104-106 Queens Road
Brighton BN1 3XF
United Kingdom
publications@aidsalliance.org

⚡ 'Sara' Materials

This series of life skills manuals for adolescents is written in comic book form, has good messages and is very readable. Not only are written materials available for different age levels (I have only looked at the one for adolescents) but there are also videos and teachers' manuals. The brochure says that they have been adopted by many national school systems so that is someplace one could ask to see if they are available. Also check with the UNICEF address below to see if they have 'samples'. Otherwise they are a bit expensive. Also, there may be Longman publishers in your area. I only have the address for the Cape Town office.

SCI, UNICEF
PO Box 44145, GPO
Nairobi
Kenya
Tel. + 254 020-621095

Maskew Miller Longman
PO Box 396
Cape Town 8000
South Africa
Tel. +27 21 531-7750
Sara-Programme@mml.co.za

⚡ Maskew Miller Longman Publishers

'Building Resilience in Children Affected by HIV/AIDS' now published by Longman's but originally written by the Catholic AIDS Action in Namibia in conjunction with the Namibian Department of Education is one of the best pieces I have seen on working with children. Its thesis is that we need to help children become strong – resilient – before the crisis so that they will better handle a crisis when it comes. It is also very appropriate for helping children regain a sense of resiliency after the loss they face. A bit expensive but well worth it.

Catholic AIDS Action
PO Box 11525
Windhoek
Namibia
Tel. +264 61 27-6350
EMail info@caa.org.na
Website www.cca.org.na

Maskew Miller Longman
PO Box 396
Cape Town 8000
South Africa
Tel. +27 21 531-7750
mml-info@mml.co.za

⚡ The Global Coalition on Women and AIDS

As its name suggests, this is a UN related organization that focuses on issues surrounding women and AIDS.

The Global Coalition on Women and AIDS
20, avenue Appia
CH-1211 Geneva 27
Switzerland
<http://womenandaids.unaids.org>
womenandaids@unaids.org

⚡ UNAIDS

UNAIDS is the inter-agency response to the HIV and AIDS pandemic. This site generally has the most current statistics that are also, from my experience the most used ones. It also has links to articles and other information. They have also published 'A Report of a Theological Workshop Focusing on HIV- and AIDS-related Stigma', a very good resource on the topic.

UNAIDS
20, avenue Appia
CH-1211 Geneva 27
Switzerland
www.unaids.org

⚡ UNESCO

This United Nations department also has materials on HIV and AIDS. I particularly recommend their booklet (33 pages) on UNESCO Guidelines on Language and Content in HIV- and AIDS-Related Materials which can be found on their website.
<http://www.unesco.org/aids>

⚡ World Health Organization (WHO)

The WHO website also has materials on AIDS. Several years ago they put out a book on Home-based Care. I do not know if it has been up-dated or if it is even available now but the site is worth going to see what they do have.
www.who.int

This is just a preliminary list of the many resources out there. I hope it is helpful. If you have any questions, ideas of materials that should be included on the list or if you just want to say 'hello' please feel free to contact me at jguyer@pobox.com. My postal address is Rev. Janet Guyer; 45 Wyvenhoe Gardens; Sunny Road; Benoni 1501 South Africa.

Rev. Janet Guyer
NetACT Lusaka
August 2007

Addendum 2 (refer NB186):

BM/CLF partnership with NetACT Grant for the production of Christian literature

Bible Media (BM) and the Christian Literature Fund (CLF) hereby offer a grant to all NetACT institutions for the production of Christian literature. This will replace the grant that BM gave to NetACT schools in 2006 for the purchase of library books.

Purpose

The purpose of this grant is to encourage theological colleges to get involved in the production of Christian literature in Africa south of the Sahara.

Motivation

At a workshop organised by CLF in Lusaka in March 2007, where a number of the NetACT institutions were also represented, it was agreed that there is a desperate need for such literature in NetACT's operational area and that theological colleges can play a pivotal role to provide in this need. It would also be in agreement with NetACT's own mission statement in which the following goal is formulated:

- *"Publish theological handbooks relevant to the African context."*

Obviously NetACT's first priority will be to produce handbooks for theological students, but it would be a denial of its own character as a "network for African *congregational* theology" if it would not be concerned about Christian literature in general. For those congregations to become *missional congregations* (cf the mission statement), we do not only need trained leaders, but we also need the tools for those leaders to empower the entire congregation for mission. That cannot be done without appropriate literature. And the truth is that theological colleges are best equipped to initiate and drive this project in the particular circumstances of sub-Saharan Africa.

It is also more true to the character of BM and CLF to encourage and sponsor the local production and publication of Christian literature relevant to the African context rather than providing a grant for the purchase of library books from overseas sources.

Terms and conditions

The following terms and conditions will apply to the grant:

1. BM and CLF will together provide the sum of (R15 000??) to every NetACT institution that produces a manuscript(s) that can be published either as a handbook for theological students or as a general Christian book that will be helpful to the church and the community.
2. The theological colleges can give the writing assignment to their own staff or can even involve competent Christian authors in their own church or the broader society.
3. If the churches with which the colleges are involved have controlling bodies for the Christian literature ministry or a Christian writers association, those bodies will have to approve the manuscript(s) for publication. Otherwise the staff of the NetACT institution may themselves do the evaluation and approval of the manuscripts in order to apply quality control.
4. The material to be published must be a minimum of 100 A5 pages. However, one, two or even three manuscripts can be used to reach that number of pages.
5. The manuscripts can be in English, Portuguese or any of the indigenous languages.
6. The books must be relevant to the needs of our African context. Each institution will also be provided with the analysis of the needs that was drawn up at the Lusaka workshop in March 2007 as guideline.
7. The grant will be paid out as soon as the institution provides BM/CLF with proof of approved manuscripts and a plan for the use of the funds. The institutions will be free to use the grant to pay the author and to edit and print the books. Local printing would be preferable. If some of the funds remain it could even be used to acquire more library books for the college.
8. Exceptionally good manuscripts may be considered by CLF and BM for publication in South Africa.
9. The NetACT institutions that do not deliver any manuscript for publication will unfortunately not qualify for the grant. If manuscripts of less than 80 pages are presented, the grant will be reduced pro-rata.

Addendum 3 (refer NB188.3):



3rd August, 2007.

**Executive Director
NetACT
171 Dorp Street
Stellenbosch
7600**

Dear Prof Hendriks,

APPLICATION FOR ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

At the meeting of the Nehemiah Bible Institute (NBI) Board of Directors which was held in Kempton Park on the 27th July, 2007, the NBI decided to apply for associate membership of NetACT. Thus I am writing on behalf of the Board to present such an application to the NetACT Board of Directors due to meet in Lusaka from 8-10 August 2007.

We do realize that NetACT is actually catering for theological institutions on a tertiary level, though many of the members do not really have accreditation on that level. Since NBI is not functioning on that level, we do not even try to apply for full membership. We do, nevertheless, hope to qualify for associate membership. We build this hope on the following facts:

1. The NBI training is a “course for church leaders in Africa”. It provides distance education to church leaders who have been active in ministry, but have never had the opportunity to be equipped for their task. The majority of the NBI students are leaders of the Africa Initiated Churches (AIC’s). As we all know these “indigenous” churches form the bulk of Christianity in Africa today. To neglect the training of these leaders would be a serious strategic blunder for all who are involved in theological training on our continent. We are aware that some NetACT institutions do give attention to them and that some are even using the NBI course for the purpose of that kind of training. We would like to invite all the other institutions to have another look at our material. We are more than willing to grant permission to any of the NetACT institutions to use our course for a theological education by extension program.

2. We need to emphasize, however, that the NBI course is not only useful for AIC leaders, but can also play a significant role in the mainline churches. In Malawi (particularly in the CCAP Nkhoma Synod) it has so far mainly been used for the training of elders and other leaders within the congregations. Recently one presbytery of the Uniting Reformed Church in Southern Africa (URCSA) has enrolled 61 leaders for the course. They will actually do the training in a class situation, not just by correspondence. We really wish other established churches will follow the example. In situations where there is an acute shortage of ministers, and where elders thus have to fulfil the duties of a pastor (as in most of the churches represented in NetACT), this may be the only realistic solution. Failing to train the leaders who carry out all the pastoral duties at the different centres within a particular congregation, we are heading for trouble and we are risking the danger of becoming churches with no theological depth. Eventually our Christians may not differ much from the members of the AIC's in their theological understanding.

The NBI course is very practical. It aims at developing the skills required for leadership and ministry in a congregation. There are, for example, courses on preaching, church administration, youth work, making disciples, evangelism, stewardship, community development, marriage and family counseling, the ministry of singing and services of worship. The training will also enhance Bible knowledge and Bible interpretation skills. In each of the six modules there is a course on the Bible itself. We give more details about our curriculum in the prospectus, which will be provided to each of the NetACT institutions present at this meeting. Our brochure will add even more information.

Though we have applied to the South African government for accreditation as a "Further Education and Training" (FET) institution, there are a lot of obstacles in the way. The process is very complicated, expensive and frustrating. In the meantime we get some recognition from the Centre for Contextual Ministry of the University of Pretoria, and students finishing the course actually receive a certificate from the UP. Unfortunately this does not have any academic value. In the light of the above we hope that the NetACT Board of Directors will favourably consider our application for associate membership. We sincerely believe we can add value to this network.

Yours sincerely,

Dr H J van Deventer

PRINCIPAL: NEHEMIAH BIBLE INSTITUTE

Addendum 5 (refer NB195):

Network for African Congregational Theology (NetACT)

Justo Mwale Theological College, Lusaka, 6-11 Aug 2007

Journeying together as stewards of God's grace:

Reflections on common understandings

As a gathering of NetACT members and associates, visitors from the PCUSA, and an interdisciplinary group from Pittsburgh (Theological Seminary), Pennsylvania, and Calvin College, Grand Rapids, Michigan, we confirm that a spirit of friendship has developed between us during the past weeks. Prior to the 2007 NetACT Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Lusaka colleagues from the USA visited NetACT institutions in order to be exposed to their realities. The purpose was to establish direct contact and to build personal **relationships** between the individual NetACT institutions and interested groups in the USA.

1. As we were looking at the tragic effects of the AIDS pandemic and poverty on church life in Sub-Saharan Africa, we agreed that the situation is critical and that we are all deeply affected by it. We became convinced that genuine friendship leading to **partnerships** between the various groups may play a part in helping the church bring about new hope and abundant life in this region.
2. It is important to structure such partnerships in sensitive and just ways. We agree that these must be characterized by true **mutuality**, reciprocity, shared visions, common goals, co-responsibility and accountability. Our vision is that each partner will be open to listening to, and learning from the other. We realize that such partnerships should encourage economic justice within interdependence, maintaining a sense of African ownership of NetACT. We understand that each partner brings unique gifts and understandings to the relationship, aiming towards becoming a reconciling and healing body of Christ across the globe.
3. The visitors have shown an eagerness to become **ambassadors** for the various NetACT institutions in their home environments; to share information and raise interest for particular institutions. Organizations that develop partnerships with the various institutions may be invited to become associate members of NetACT, and their representatives will be welcome to attend the AGM. We foresee a growing network of interested, praying "Friends of NetACT" who will be kept informed of NetACT happenings.
4. Partnership implies walking with the church in Sub-Saharan Africa as we together come to understand the implications of being "**stewards** of God's grace" (1 Peter 4:10). The gathering of this week has emphasized that such partnerships should work together with NetACT institutions to offer dynamic, relevant theological training, including in matters pertaining to HIV and AIDS. We agree that such training must be towards developing Spirit-filled leaders, who love

deeply, act boldly and keep up to date with AIDS information, thus building AIDS-competent churches which will be safe and supportive environments for all people.

5. We agree that stewardship involves the church advocating for **policies** that address issues of power, representation and inequality within communities, including gender, racial and economic inequality. In partnership we wish to work together to build coalitions towards making the commonwealth of God a reality in the world.
6. Whilst this mission statement represents the broad **framework** on which we agreed, the detail of such partnerships will have to be developed within each context and be negotiated and agreed upon by all parties involved.

Addendum 4 (refer NB191):

NetACT Budget For July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008 In Rands

Cash On Hand On July 1, 2007

General purposes-Administration	60,095
Scholarships	66,923
Publications-Portuguese Translation	12,334
Lecturer Exchange	9,786
Matthew 6 - MTC Communications/Computer Project	105,000

Projected Income - July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008

Hartgerink Trust		
Annual NetACT Membership Fees	13,000	
Windhoek East Contribution for Admin & Annual Meeting	27,000	
Mustard Seed Foundation	140,000	**
Possible NetACT Scholarship Funding	70,000	
CFW - Scholarships	140,000	**
NetACT House	150,000	
Possible HIV Funding	35,000	**
Possible Actea Assessment Funding	8,000	**
Bible Media/CLF Publishing Project - CLF amount added later	143,000	**

Total Cash on Hand + Projected Income

980,138

Proposed Expenses for Discussion and Approval

			Priorities
Administration	112,000	****	2
Annual Meeting 2007 Remaining Expenses	10,000		
Annual Meeting 2008	100,000		7
NetACT House	150,000		
Communication/Computers - MTC	105,000		9
Lectureship Exchange	90,000	****	6
Scholarships	70,000		
	CFW		
	Mustard Seed Foundation		
	Angolan English Course		8
HIV/AIDS	Establish an AIDS Desk	10,000	
	NetACT HIV/AIDS Meeting	100,000	1
Curriculum Development	du Preez DTh Curriculum Study - 2008	18,000	3
	ACTEA Assessments of 3 NetACT Institutions -ISTEL	30,000	3
Publications	Bible Media/CLF Publishing Project - CLF amount later	143,000	
	Portuguese Translation of "Studying Congregations"	15,000	**** 5
	Required to start "Ethics in Africa"		80,000
	Required to Finish "Preaching on AIDS in Africa"	40,000	4
Total Expenses - July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008	1,323,000		
Income minus Expenses	(342,862)		

** Examples of types of income on which we could consider charging an overhead fee in the future.

A 10% fee on these items would generate 46,600 Rand for Administration.

**** Some dedicated funds are available for these items. See 'Cash on Hand' above.