

CHARTER FOR “COMMISSION FOR NATIONAL CO-OPERATION”

Purpose statement:

To be a forum for national co-operation for the benefit of the whole Uniting Church as it participates in the mission of God.

1. Strategies

- 1.1 Facilitate the exchange of information and co-operation among Synods, Assembly and their agencies in areas of common interest.
- 1.2 Develop strategic possibilities for national co-operation.
- 1.3 Foster conversations or groups that advance the national co-operation opportunities that are identified.
- 1.4 Appoint UCA representatives to non Uniting Church bodies that deal nationally with procurements and other relevant areas
- 1.5 Oversee arrangements delegated by Synods that transcend Synod boundaries. Areas of oversight might include monitoring the performance of contractual undertakings and compliance, risk management, processes of reporting and establishing lines of accountability.
- 1.6 Receive reports from meetings and groups to whom specific functions have been delegated.
- 1.7 Establish policy frameworks within which national contractual and co-operation arrangements will operate.
- 1.8 Advocate on behalf of the whole Church to the Commonwealth Government on areas such as taxation, GST, FBT, charities issues, etc. This may be done as a whole group or by the appointment of specialists, including people outside the Commission, who are accountable to the Commission.

2. Membership

- 2.1 The Commission comprises up to two representatives appointed by each of the Standing Committees of the Synods, the Assembly and the National Executive of the UAICC.

3. Meetings

- 3.1 The Commission shall meet as and when it determines but not less than twice per calendar year.
- 3.2 The Commission shall elect, annually, from among its members a Chairperson.
- 3.3 Secretariat support will be provided by the Assembly.
- 3.4 Costs of meetings, including travel costs, will be shared equitably.
- 3.5 The Commission will invite other attendees to assist the work of the Commission.

4. Method of Working

- 4.1 The Commission shall provide an annual report to the Standing Committees of Synods and the Assembly.
- 4.2 The Commission may operate by determination of the whole, through Task Groups or other appointments, or by delegation to individuals.
- 4.3 The Commission will always remain conscious of the limits of its delegations and the range of other groups that have responsibility to assist the national work of the Church.
- 4.4 The Commission will take initiative, including conversations with Synods, where opportunities for national co-operation seem worthy of exploration.