



*THE APOSTOLIC FAITH MISSION OF SOUTH AFRICA
DIE APOSTOLIESE GELOOF SENDING VAN SUID-AFRIKA*

(PBO no/WO nr: 930004069)

NATIONAL OFFICE – NASIONALE KANTOOR

Building no. 14, Central Office Park, 257 Jean Avenue, Centurion, Gauteng, South Africa.
Gebou nr. 14, Central Office Park, Jeanlaan 257, Centurion, Gauteng, Suid-Afrika.

P.O. Box /Posbus 9450, Centurion 0046
Tel: 27 12 644-0490 (8 lines/lyne) Fax/Faks: 27 12 644-0732/4

Website/Webwerf: www.afm-ags.org e-mail/e-pos: iburger@afm-ags.org (President);
jlapoorta@afm-ags.org (Deputy/Vise President); mmahlobo@afm-ags.org (General
Secretary/Hoofsekretaris); ultimate@iafrica.com (General Treasurer/Hooftesourier)

16 October 2008

**CIRCULAR TO ALL NATIONAL LEADERSHIP FORUM MEMBERS, PASTORS
AND AFM ASSEMBLIES**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ

Greetings in Jesus' Name

In the light of erroneous speculations, confusion and misunderstanding amongst some of our pastors and members about the future of Theological training in our church, we have found it necessary to inform our church about the present unhappy state of affairs.

We need to inform you about a High Court Action which has been brought against the AFM by the Auckland Park Theological Seminary (ATS).

ATS has taken Court action in order to prevent the AFM of SA from using the Section 21 Company as a vehicle to register the new College. It received interim relief by agreement from the High Court prohibiting the use of the Section 21 Company by the NLF until the merits of the case are heard. The NLF is defending this action.

We would like to bring it to the attention of AFM pastors and members that the process for the establishment of the new theological College has been open and inclusive. ATS, like the other two AFM Theological Colleges, signed a memorandum of agreement to this process.

The original intention was to register a new Section 21 Company. This intention was not proceeded with since one of the NLF members who was part of the ATS proposed that the NLF should enter into negotiations with the Management Board of ATS on the possible transfer of the Section 21 Company to the NLF. An option was given to the NLF to consider the original intention in the event negotiations with ATS were unsuccessful.

The National Office Bearers of the AFM met with the ATS Management Board in this regard. The agreement to use the Section 21 Company by the NLF was signed by both the ATS Management Board and National Office Bearers of the church on 14 August 2007. This was an offer which was gratefully accepted by the NLF.

Subsequent to this agreement the ATS Principal participated in all the processes of the advertisements of posts and appointment of the Executive Directors under whose auspices the new College would operate. The ATS Principal also served as a member of the Board of Directors until his resignation during February 2008.

On 19 May 2008 the ATS Management Board gave notice that they were unilaterally canceling the agreement in respect of the use of the Section 21 Company as agreed to on 14 August 2007 and were withdrawing from the process with immediate effect.

This decision was communicated by the chairperson of the ATS Management Board during the debate at the 2008 GBM. Regardless of his contribution the 2008 GBM overwhelmingly endorsed and accepted the decisions and the process for the formation of the church's Department of Education and Training as well as the establishment of the new College.

ATS then brought a High Court order preventing the NLF from using the Section 21 Company.

There was an agreement on 07 October 2008 between the National Office Bearers and ATS Management Board to have talks on 24 October 2008 with a view to achieve a negotiated and brotherly settlement. This process was to be facilitated by a mutually accepted mediator.

On 13 October 2008 the AFM received a threat of another Court action while preparing for the talks of the 24th October 2008. We responded by asking them to withdraw this act of bad faith. Our request was met with a refusal.

Having done everything possible to resolve this matter through mediation without success we were left with no option but to oppose the relief sought in the High Court case.

In spite of this difficult situation we are exploring all options to ensure the smooth opening of the new theological College in 2009.

Your prayers are solicited.



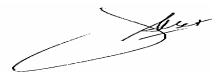
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