Dear Colleague,

1. **TIPS ON MITIGATING THE IMPACT OF LOADSHEDDING**

   On Monday February 11, 2019 when South Africa remembered the release of Mr. Nelson Mandela from prison, Eskom’s six generators developed functional capacity. Consequently, Eskom escalated load shedding from Stage 2 to Stage 4. Since then the country is going through Stage 3 load shedding. South Africa only had a brush with Stage 4 in 2015. Stage 4 load shedding has the disastrous potential to plunge large part of the country into darkness. According to the Minister of Public Enterprises, Mr. Pravin Gordan, Eskom is in a crisis which has been caused by structural, operational and financial capacity.

   All of us, need to brace ourselves for the difficult days ahead. Let us not forget about the Up4SA nation-wide prayer initiative next weekend. I encourage all our pastors and congregations to establish prayer points in their local communities. We cannot let this opportunity for fervent prayer pass by. You can connect with this initiative through:

   To volunteer: admin@up4sa.co.za or 072 083 1371
   More information: www.up4sa.co.za
   More information: Facebook.com/up4sa
   To download the full information, visit the link the below:
   [http://afm-ags.org/category/media/](http://afm-ags.org/category/media/)

Up4SA National Co-ordinator:
Past. Robbie Black 082 462 1540

Important tips to mitigate the effects of load shedding:
1. Communication: Ensure that your cellphone, laptop, tablet and radio are always fully charged when power is available. This will allow you to be able to communicate with friends and family during load-shedding.
2. Transport: Make sure that your vehicle always has fuel in the tank as most petrol stations may be unable to pump fuel during power outages.
3. Cash: Keep some cash with you as ATMs cannot operate without electricity.
4. Security and safety: Backup batteries for electrically operated gates, garage doors and security systems should be kept in a good working condition and be able to last through periods of load-shedding. Regular testing of these backup batteries is essential.
5. Store temporary light sources such as battery-powered torches, gas lamps and **candles in** places where they will be easy to find in the dark.
6. Eating: If you do not have a gas stove, prepare meals before the power is scheduled to be switched off. Boil water in your kettle and keep it in thermos flasks for hot drinks. You can also use an insulating cover on teapots, pots and pans to keep drinks and meals warm.
7. Most medication requiring refrigeration can be kept in a closed fridge for several hours without
spoiling but you should check with your doctor or pharmacist if in doubt.

8. Print and refer to the load shedding schedule of your area to enable you to plan your properly.

2. **2019 AFM NATIONAL CONFERENCE**

Please note that there has been a change in the date of the 2019 National Conference. Due to practicalities at the venue, the date moves one week earlier and the conference is now starting with the evening service on **Sunday 15 September** and concluding with the evening service on **Wednesday 18 September** 2019. The venue will be at the:

Lighthouse Ministries, 275 Voortrekker Road Parow, Cape Town.

There will be PCD sessions from 10:30-12:30 and 14:00-15:30 on Monday 16 and Tuesday 17 September 2019. Participants can accumulate 5 PCD credits per day, totalling 10 credits for the two days.

3. **NOTICE: EDUCATION & TRAINING DEPARTMENT**

Please note: Deadline for the NWU online application for the 2019 second semester intake is the 30th April 2019.

For more information please visit the AFM website: [http://afm-ags.org/departments/theological-training/](http://afm-ags.org/departments/theological-training/)

4. **NOB EMPOWERMENT VISITS 2019: A SPECIAL INVITATION**

Inviting our Pastors, Governing Bodies, National Youth and Leaders in the Church.
We hereby extend a special invitation to all our pastors, governing body members, national youth and leaders in the church to attend this year’s NOB (National Office Bearers) Empowerment Visits. The format is a combination of pre-recorded video material, live presentations, interactive dialogue sessions and opportunities for networking and fellowship. This year our theme is: **Facing the Future with Lessons from the Past**

To download the **programme** for both the Friday and Saturday, kindly follow the link below:

[http://afm-ags.org/category/events/](http://afm-ags.org/category/events/)

The various dates and venues has also been confirmed:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONTH</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>PROVINCE</th>
<th>VENUE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>22-23</td>
<td>KZN</td>
<td>Amanzimtoti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>8-9</td>
<td>Limpopo</td>
<td>AFM Fountain of Life (Nkowankowa)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>8-9</td>
<td>Mpumalanga</td>
<td>AFM Bethel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>12-13</td>
<td>Gauteng</td>
<td>Herlewingsentrum (Wonderboom)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>12-13</td>
<td>North West</td>
<td>AFM Oase (Klerksdorp)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>10-11</td>
<td>Northern Cape</td>
<td>AFM Lofoord (Upington)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>10-11</td>
<td>Eastern Cape</td>
<td>Uitenhage (Lofoord)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Blessings!

M.G. Mahlobo