



THE METHODIST CHURCH OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

a Christ-healed Africa for the healing of the nations

MISSION UNIT

JUSTICE AND SERVICE DESK

**PRESENTATION
ON
LAND REFORM IN
THE MCSA**





Preamble

The MCSA & Land Reform



The Church as Landowner

- The church in South Africa is a major landowner, although there is no clear register of church land ownership.
- Land has a central place in the history of the church.

- Large farms were acquired for the establishment of mission stations and, thus the church became the owner of relatively large tracts of land throughout our South Africa.

- Land acquisition took place through various means including purchase and grants from chiefs and/or colonial authorities.

The role of the church in land reform

*a reminder to the 2018
Conference*

- Since 1994, various churches have reacted very differently to the land reform programme and also have had very different views with regard to the role the Church could/should play in the restoration and redistribution of land.

The Rustenburg Declaration

In 1990, mainline churches adopted the Rustenburg Declaration.

The Declaration states that:

“Confession and forgiveness necessarily require restitution. Without it, confession of guilt is incomplete.

As a first step toward restitution, the Church must examine its land ownership and work for the return of all expropriated land from relocated communities to its original owners.

**“NO MORE RESOLUTIONS
BUT ACTION/SOLUTIONS**

*Conference has passed and instructed
the Methodist people...*

REMEMBER????

1998-2001:

- **Formulate Policy to guide the Church on land issues in consultation with all levels of the Church**
- **Ensure that Land is available to communities especially the poor**
- **Take into account particular needs of the Church**

1998-2001:

- Hasten completion of the inventory & audit of MCSA owned land including:
 - Residents; Beneficiaries
- Campaign to inform people on restitution claims
- Establish communication with churches of other countries with similar circumstance e.g. Canada, Australia, New Zealand and African Countries

2005

Church to play a prominent role in the land reform process

2006:

Hope that success of our Church Land Programme will provide a model for the country, and clearly demonstrate our commitment to the eradication of poverty

2017

Directs the Mission Unit in consultation with the Ecumenical Affairs Unit to hold a reflective session to include issues in all member countries , to address this issue of land reform, Compensation, and Redistribution



TO DATE

- Draft Policy on Land use/reform has been developed
- The audit and inventory for South Africa were completed in 2004 now require to be update.
- A partnership on low income cost housing was entered into with the Federation of Homeless People.

- MCSA participated in the South African Council of Churches discussion on Land Reform 2018
- Participated in the Moral Regeneration Movement Summit 2018
- Held a reflective Session on Church Land 2018



of Reflective Session

- Discussed the issues of Expropriation WITHOUT Compensation and its implications
- Explored and discussed the move to amendment Section 25 of the Constitution
- Identify the “next steps” in the implementation of Conference Resolutions

Outcomes of Reflective Session

The following next steps were identified and need further reflection and discussion throughout our Connexion

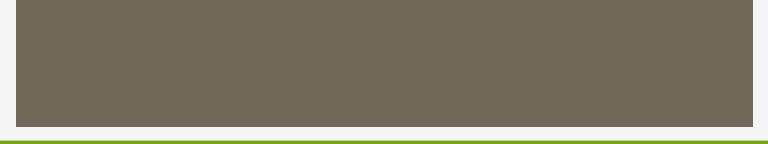
The following next steps were identified:

- Acknowledge and Confess our own involvement in dispossession, land reform, legislation that inform policy (throughout the Connexion)
- MCSA see it role from a justice & moral basis – which should be aligned to Our Vision & Mission Statement
- The need to identify/develop Theological tools to assist in addressing the land issue, (Include Social Analysis),

- Educate & Inform the Methodist people about history & legacy of land, dispossession, reform, & Legislation Policies throughout the Connexion
 - *Instruct clergy to ensure that conversations happened at Society, Circuit & District levels);*
- Research, Capturing and or Review of MCSA land ownership in all 6 Countries,

- Assess & draw attention to current processes of land claims, especially as it refers to the roles of women & children;
- Raise awareness on “political games” – especially as it refers to the Political Parties;
- Strengthen & Build Partnerships with Ecumenical Bodies to discuss collaboratively on the land issue/work.

- Remind MCSA members about the various Resolutions taken by Conference,
- Review and Update MCSA's current Policy on Land;
- Request Districts, Circuits, Societies & Organisations to Urgently convene Reflective Sessions on Land locally and to inform MCO on outcomes.



IN CONCLUSION

- A Communique from the Presiding Bishop be sent to all Bishops & other relevant stakeholders (Regarding the mind & Outcomes), and
- Request Conference NOT to formulate any further resolutions regarding land – rather compel Districts & Circuits to seriously engage existing Conference Resolutions and find ways of implementing them.

Health HIV & Drug & Substance Abuse

Conference 2018

**Theme: "Shaping Tomorrow
-Today"**

Date: 05-09 September 2018

Venue: Mozambique

**By: Pearl Moroasui-MCSA- Health, HIV ,
Drug & Substance Abuse Desk
Coordinator**

Health & Life

HEALTH IS NOT ABOUT ABSENCE OF
PAIN

“...do we want to be well?”

What we Seek to Achieve.....

“Christians seek to bring justice, peace, and love to every situation because we embody the very God we worship”

.....and HOW HEALTHY ARE WE REALLY?

Desk highlights

- Growing stake-holders relations for mission, such as, Municipalities & Government departments with MCSA
- Successful 2017 WAD events at district & Circuit levels
- MASA exposure visits to different substance Abuse rehabilitation models
- Central Chronic Medication Dispensing Distribution (CCMDD) expansion & upscaling & the World Council of Churches Health Desk visit to two MCSA sites
- International AIDS Conference 2018-Interfaith Network Zone call to All faiths to make their voices louder through actions that reflect unity
- Continuing Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) training
- Visit to MCSA CCMDD sites by the World Council of Churches Health Desk form Geneva to learn lessons from our interventions....

2017 Conference resolutions on MASA

- In the light of the recent tragic death in Port ST Johns where an uncle killed and ate his nephew and the brutal killing of a final year medical student at WSU who was killed by a group of students; also noting with concern that perpetrators in all these events were under the influence of liquor and substances;
- *the Conference directs MASA to be very active and visible to especially those living in hostels so as to speak against the misuse of drugs and consequences thereof rather than preaching to the converted*
- *Conference Resolutions – checked with Resolutions Convener & PB, 21 September 2017 directs that the MASA desk establishes a drug rehabilitation centre by making use of the unused church properties as prospective venues for this project*
- MASA is to have a clear program of action and system of reporting so as to be proactive that being reactional.
- Conference refers this resolution to the Mission Unit and directs the Unit to report back to Conference 2018.

2017 Conference Resolutions (MASA) Cont.....

- Justice and Service Desk together with the Health & HIV/AIDS Desk to:
- Convene a multi stakeholder Connexional Task Team meeting to determine a strategy for the MCSA
- Revisit the 2012 initiatives to address the establishment of Come Back Mission (Germany) model of rehabilitation and
- Revisit the Clarkebury & Grahamstown Initiatives to establish a rehabilitation Centres

Response to MCSA Conference 2017 Resolutions on (MASA)

- Exposure visits paid to different models of Drug & Substance Rehabilitation Centres-ongoing activity
- A variety of Drug & Substance Abuse Rehabilitation Centres in four (4) MCSA districts, Grahamstown, Clarkebury, Natal West, Central & Highveld & Swaziland districts have been visited-and valuable lessons are learnt
- Visited Come-Back Emk programme in Zitau-Germany
- Liaising with Clarkebury district concerning identification of existing MCSA infrastructure in drug-hot spots of the district
- Currently recruiting members to serve in the Connexional multi-stakeholder Substance Abuse Task Team
- Accessing available Drug-Abuse Master Plans for the countries of the Connexion
- Multi-stakeholder committee to meet in November
- Planning conversations on the subject for Districts in clusters, funds permitting
- Bishop of Clarkebury district linked to the WSU in Mthatha and serving in their committee
- Identification of MCSA infrastructure in Clarkebury District in process

Lessons Learnt on Rehabilitation of Drug & Substance Abuse

Different interventions:

- Counseling-out-patient
- Support groups-early stages or post treatment
- Detox-medically or naturally
- Spiritual growth
- Medical Rehabilitation-hospital/clinic admission
- Social Therapy-halfway-house
- Exit stage

The most challenging stage is re-integrations back to families & communities- **Exit**. Most people relapse at this stage and it becomes a vicious circle.

Semonkong Hospital

This hospital is still a vital feature of the Semonkong Methodist Centre given the services it used to render to the remote community of Semonkong.

- MCSA committed to re-establishing the facility
- In the process of communicating with the ministry of Health in Lesotho concerning their guidance & assessment of the project
- Robust Connexional fund-raising being planned towards this Connexional project.

Way Forward

- Continue with Training on Non Communicable Diseases (NCDs)
- Complete recruitment of the members to serve in the Connexional MASA Multi-stakeholder Committee/Task-team
- Expand geographic reach of Central Chronic Medication Distribution Dispensing (CCMDD) and upscale its programme while looking at harnessing ecumenical partners with similar programmes
- Fund-raising

Conclusion

“One of the revelations of the apocalyptic event of the HIV and AIDS epidemic has revealed ethical deficits at all levels of our societies, local, national and global. It has revealed and underlined to us that our mission should seek to heal all broken relationships that deny people their God-given dignity, thereby denying them good health.”

Prof. Musa Dube-MCSA Mission Congress 2016
Resource Book-pg.91

CHILDCARE DESK (CCD)

- Great progress has been made since the establishment of the ChildCare Desk. We acknowledge the sterling work visible in all the Districts and appreciate the support given to all childcare coordinators
- Future Plans:
- Our focus for the future will include orientation of new CCD Coordinators
- Strengthening childrens services in mainly Lesotho & Swaziland
- Building capacity of Childcare workers ensuring that they carryout the norms and standards as required.
- Compilment the skills and abilities of clergy & seminarians to further enhance and engage in children's ministry in particular training membership in baptism and welcoming children into the Church, and

Quality care of children in Transit

- Encourage all districts to make contact with the local Road Safety Departments in the areas of operation to access information, collaboration and participate in campaigns