

POLICY ON THE STATUS AND FUNCTION OF THE INTERIM MINISTER

RATIONALE

From time to time it may become necessary to appoint an interim minister to a local church. That may be occasioned by the following circumstances:

- a) Senior pastor proceeding on vacation, study or sabbatical leave.
- b) Illness of the senior pastor.
- c) The need to fill a vacancy created by the resignation or death of a senior pastor.
- d) The need to provide leadership in the transition period between the resignation of a senior pastor and the appointment of a new pastor.
- e) Senior pastor suspended from ministry for one reason or another.

PROCEDURE

An interim minister appointed under any of the above circumstances shall:

- 1) Serve for a maximum period of one year (except otherwise stated by the National Board of Directors).
- 2) Perform the functions normally associated with the role of the senior pastor.
- 3) Shall consult with the senior pastor (if possible), Regional Superintendent or the National Director before making any major decision regards the ministry. These may include:

- Renovations/repairs to the existing facilities
 - Major expenditure related to the above or any other project
 - Appointing of any persons to positions in the church
- 4) Shall inform the National Director or its duly authorized representatives of all Church Board meetings. The Regional/District Superintendent shall attend all such meetings. **N.B.** Any decision taken at any meeting of the church board in the absence of the senior pastor, the regional superintendent or the district superintendent shall be unconstitutional, null and void.
 - 5) Observe all the rules outlined in the ministerial code of ethics.
 - 6) Be given a stipend as determined by the National Board of Directors.

Unless otherwise stated, the (absentee) senior pastor shall have access to his leadership team, i.e. members of the church board, elders, office staff and heads of departments. Further, the senior pastor shall have access to all relevant documents/information pertinent to the operation of the church.

Any complaints coming from the church board or the interim minister shall be directed to the Regional Superintendent.