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African Church Assets Programme: Elections, Governance

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4a. African Church Assets Programme: Elections, Governance

African Church Assets Programme ACAP II Workshop, Zimbabwe, Harare, ZCC, 5-7 Feb. 2018

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2a. Criteria for attitudes and skills of Candidates for Church Elections

Churches and CRO need very strong personalities for its various leadership functions, with the following characteristics:

- **Faith**: strong roots in faith in spirituality
- **Vision** of the church and strategy for the future
- **Integrity** with ethical, corruption-free behaviour
- **Integration** of different parts of church, respectful, motivating
- **Courage** to take decisions
- **Innovation** of the church and its programmes
- **Management** for the efficient, faithful use of resources
- **Networking, Communication, Negotiation** skills in interaction with all sectors of society.

2a. Other Criteria to check qualifications of Candidates for Church Elections

- Geographic or ethnic criteria should not play a decisive role compared to the other cirteria above
- God's calling for a position does not mean that the candidate has not to be interviewed and has to explain his/her vision of the church and the mandate.
- Present oneself or through other witness (secondment)? Different systems depending on the denomination
- Test the interest and vision of the candidates for asset management
- Check the previous engagement, performance and faith
- Churches can learn from secular election procedures

3.1 Minimum Standards for Candidates for Church Elections

- *The Prophetic Forum for the Life and Witness of Churches (PFLWC) in South India, at its fourth workshop in Chennai, India, on 27-28 November 2009 under the theme 'Towards a Second Reformation of Churches in India', proposed 'Twelve minimum standards for candidates for election to the Church Synod' :*
- Persons who do not have against them a history of well-documented charges of corruption, maladministration, receiving of bribes and gifts, favouritism and nepotism especially in respect of family members.
- Those who do not follow a lavish lifestyle and who eschew undue publicity and discourage sycophancy.

- Those who have a desire for reconciliation and peacemaking and are willing to bring an end to long standing litigations through negotiations.
- Those who are willing to take seriously charges of corruption irrespective of the status of the persons against whom the charges are made and initiate a genuine inquiry.
- Those who will declare an immediate moratorium on sales and lease of CSI TA properties, pending a thorough investigation into the status of permission so far granted for such actions in relation to the conditions on which permission was granted.
- Those who will promote the autonomy of institutions of the churches and prevent commercialisation and exploitation of educational and health services of these institutions and their properties.

- Those who will promote transparency and accountability in administration.
- Those who are willing to set an example to others by declaring their assets and that of their immediate family members.
- Those who will make their responsibility in the church as their first priority and reduce engagements which encroach upon their time.
- Those who will not make unprincipled pacts and bargains with power mongers at the time of elections and in sum.
- Those who aspire to be true servants of the servant Lord.
- Those who refrain from victimizing those who question them and criticize them with good intentions.

4. Governance: Rules and Regulations, Asset Mapping, secured Archives

Rules and Regulations

- Establish a list of existing rules and regulations of the church which are relevant for governance of the church and are related to asset management. Mark those which need adaption
- Expand the list by rules and regulations to be developed and adopted. Make priority list.

Asset Mapping and Secured Archives

- Detailed Inventory of assets incl. expiry dates etc.
- Priority list of securing assets
- Insurance policy for assets, e.g. fire insurance for buildings)
- Secured archives with originals of documents and separate copies. Centralised archiving policy.

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شكراً جداً (Shokran Gidan) merci

thank you teşekkürler ngiyabonga

baie dankie kealeboga diolch

yn fawr धन्यवाद (Danyavad) tatenda 謝謝

(xiexie) asante sana gracias Спасибо (spacibo)

Mazvita danke Siyabonga grazie

adube oshe dankjewel obrigado/a