
UNITING REFORMED CHURCH IN SOUTHERN AFRICA GENERAL SYNOD

MODERATOR

Rev Prof LJ Modise

Cell: +27 82 949 4164

Email: moderator.gs@urcsa.org.za



SCRIBE

Rev Dr EM Monhla

Cell: +27 82 806 777 9

Email: scribe.gs@urcsa.org.za

12 March 2026

TO ALL

REGIONAL SCRIBES, MODERATORS, MINISTRIES AND DELEGATES

Dear Sisters and Brothers

GS 2026 COMMUNICATION.1 - NOTICE OF GENERAL SYNOD SITTING 2026

Greetings in the Name of Jesus Christ, the Lord of the Church.

We wish to bring to your attention several important matters relating to the upcoming General Synod 2026.

1. DATE AND PLACE OF THE SYNOD

1.1 The General Synod 2022 resolved that the Ninth General Synod of the Uniting Reformed Church in Southern Africa (URCSA) be hosted by the Free State & Lesotho Regional Synod. The General Synod Order Commission has accordingly set the dates for the General Synod 2026 as **28 September – 4 October 2026** in Lesotho.

1.2 In collaboration with the leadership of the Free State & Lesotho Regional Synod, the Order Commission has secured the Avani Maseru Hotel as the official venue, after exploring several alternative options.

1.3 Arrival and registration will take place on **Monday, 28 September 2026**. The Synod sitting will commence at **14h00** and will conclude on **Sunday, 4 October 2026**, with the celebration of the Holy Communion service.

2. COST PER DELEGATE

2.1 The cost per delegate will be **R16 000.00 / N\$16 000.00** (Sixteen Thousand Rand/Namibian Dollars).

This amount includes accommodation, meals, transport, and the cost of the official Synod agenda.

2.2 The Presbyteries must send their monies (delegate fees) to the Regional Synods who will then make the direct payment to the General Synod. The due date for payment is **01 July 2026**.

2.3 Payment to the hotel must be finalized as soon as possible to secure and confirm the booking.

Executive members: Rev Prof Leepo Modise, Rev Elbie Vinqi, Rev Mottalentwa Betha, Rev Dr Elias Monhla, Rev Langa Fokase, Rev Serame Majola and Rev Soraya Mostert-Gertze

3. OFFICIAL NOTICE OF MEETING

The official notification of the Ninth General Synod was announced at the GSC 2025 and subsequently communicated through the Minutes of GSC 2025 to all delegates, Ministries, Scribes, and Moderators of the Regional Synods. The formal notice will further be published in the official URCSA Newsletter.

4. DUE DATES FOR REPORTS FROM REGIONS AND MINISTRIES

- 4.1 In order for the Scriba Synodi to prepare, print, and dispatch the Agenda, all reports must reach him no later than **22 June 2026**. Ministries and Regional Synods are requested to plan timeously to ensure that their reports are submitted on time. Reports must cover the period **October 2022 to May/June 2026**.
- 4.2 In accordance with the Church Order, all proposals seeking amendments to the Church Order and Regulations must reach the *Scriba Synodi* at least three months prior to the General Synod. The due date for such proposals is **28 June 2026**, allowing the Permanent Support Ministry for Judicial Matters sufficient time to process them and submit them to the *Scriba Synodi* for inclusion in the Agenda.
- 4.3 The Church Order further stipulates that the Agenda must be distributed to delegates at least one month in advance. Delegates will therefore receive the Agenda by **24 August 2026**. Each delegate will receive a hard copy, and a soft copy will also be made available.
- 4.4 Provision will be made for second reports and, where necessary, late submissions. These must, however, be communicated timeously to the GS *Scriba Synodi*.

5. DELEGATES AND CREDENTIALS

- 5.1 Each Presbytery is required to elect two delegates: one minister and one church council member. Each delegate must also have a *Secundus*. Presbyteries are requested to take into consideration the *decision of the General Synod (2005)* regarding the inclusion of female and young representatives among the delegates. All delegates must possess a valid passport for travel.
- 5.2 Credential letters from the Regional Synods must reach the Scribe no later than **1 June 2026**, to enable the Permanent Order Commission to prepare its report for inclusion in the General Synod Agenda.

6. ELECTIONS

It was decided, in accordance with the *GS2022 decision*, that each Regional Synod forward three (3) names to the General Synod for election (GS 2022, Decision 191). The Actuarium will issue a formal circular to facilitate and guide this process.

Thanking you in anticipation

With kind regards and blessings,



Rev Dr EM Monhla
GS SCRIBE