

PROCEDURE 6: SELF-SUPPORTING MINISTER AND SECONDED MINISTERS

SELF-SUPPORTING MINISTERS

- 6.1 A Self-Supporting Minister is a minister engaged in full-time secular appointment who has been appointed to a form of ministry by a Regional Council or Synod for a period, not exceeding a year at a time. A minister may not be appointed as a Self-Supporting Minister to more than one pastoral charge.
- 6.2 The Region appoints a self-supporting minister to a local church on the recommendation of the Regional Ministerial Committee in consultation with the local Church concerned.
- 6.3 A self-supporting minister receives no stipend or any other fixed emoluments except an allowance for travel and other out-of-pocket expenses (e.g. postage, telephone/fax calls).
- 6.4 The Regional Ministerial Committee annually review each appointment and thereafter make its recommendations to the Synod Ministerial Committee which in turn make a recommendation to the Assembly Ministerial Committee regarding reappointment.
- 6.5 Regional Councils should as far as possible appoint Self Supporting ministers to the non-viable churches.

SECONDED MINISTERS

- 6.6 A Secoded Minister is a minister engaged in another form of Christian Service with the consent of the Assembly Ministerial Committee.
- 6.6.1 Secondment may be granted to ministers who:
 - i) accept appointment in ecumenical bodies, educational institutions, chaplaincies and theological seminaries and University theological faculties in which the UCCSA is directly involved;
or
 - ii) accept appointment in Christian, social welfare or related organisations and theological seminaries and divinity faculties of universities in which the UCCSA is not directly involved;
or
 - iii) accept a position in other churches with which the UCCSA has a working relationship or a covenant agreement.
- 6.6.2 Chaplaincy, pastoral counselling, and Christian education in a variety of settings are examples of "Christian service".
- 6.7 Application for secondment must be made in writing to the Assembly Ministerial Committee through the Regional Council and the Synod. The application for secondment must include the following:
 - 6.7.1 Designation and a job description of the post
 - 6.7.2 Name and address of the body to which secondment is sought
 - 6.7.3 Proposed period of appointment

- 6.7.4 Proposed arrangements for contributions to the Pension Fund
- 6.8 The minister's classification on the Roll of Ministers is amended only after the application is approved.
- 6.9 The Synodical and the Regional Ministerial Committee reviews each appointment annually and thereafter makes its recommendations to the Assembly Ministerial Committee.
- 6.10 The Seconded Minister is to submit an annual written report to the Assembly Ministerial Committee through the Synod and the Regional Council not later than 31 August each year. The report should outline the service done during the year.
- 6.11 If the appointment of a Seconded Minister changes in any way before the end of the period of appointment, he/she is responsible for notifying in writing the Assembly Ministerial Committee through the Synod and the Regional Council. A decision will then be taken as to whether the minister must apply for secondment again or may continue with the appointment. Lack of such notification could result in the secondment being withdrawn.