



Uniting Church in Australia
ASSEMBLY
Assembly Standing Committee

10-12 March 2023

DOCUMENT 20

Title	17th Assembly Membership
Type of Paper (Information/Decision)	For discussion and decision
Assembly or ASC Minute	ASC minutes: 20.55.04 approve an exemption to Regulation 3.3.8(a)(iii)(1) regarding Synod membership of Assembly for the meeting of the 16 th Assembly; 20.55.05 approve the reduction of Synod membership by approximately 25% as: NSW.ACT Synod – 40 members, Northern Synod – 8 members, Qld Synod – 28 members, SA Synod – 26 members, Vic.Tas Synod – 44 members, WA Synod – 16 members;
Consultation	
Purpose	To seek the guidance of the ASC regarding the membership of the 17 th Assembly.
Rationale & Findings Summary	<p>In 2020, the ASC decided to reduce the membership of the 16th Assembly by approximately 25% due to the Covid-19 pandemic and the uncertainty of the format that the Assembly meeting would take. Although government restrictions relating to the pandemic have largely been discontinued, Covid-19 remains in the community and has not been downgraded to endemic status, and so some form of risk remains for large gatherings of people.</p> <p>It would seem prudent therefore, for the ASC to discuss the whether to retain a reduced membership for the 17th Assembly as was used for the 16th Assembly, or to decide to have a reduced membership, although slightly amended to that used for the 16th Assembly, or to revert to the membership as set out in the Regulations</p> <p>In order to assist with the ASC's discernment, some proposals are offered.</p>
Attachments	Nil
Proposal/s	That the Assembly Standing Committee: 1. Approve an exemption to Regulation 3.3.8(a)(iii)(1) regarding Synod membership of Assembly for the meeting of the 17 th Assembly; 2. Approve the reduction of Synod membership by approximately 25% as: NSW.ACT Synod – 40 members, Qld Synod – 28 members, SA Synod – 26 members, and Vic.Tas Synod – 44 members; and retain the membership as stated in the Regulations for WA Synod – 20 members; and the Northern Synod – 10 members.

Submitted by	Colleen Geyer Assembly General Secretary colleeng@nat.uca.org.au ; 0411 333 167
--------------	--