



Office of the President

**Southern Africa Union
Conference of the Seventh-day
Adventist Church**

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***To the Members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the Southern
Africa Union Conference.***

It is with deep sadness and regret that we inform you, as members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church within the Southern Africa Union Conference (SAU), of certain developments impacting upon the Church in this region.

Subsequent to the special constituency meeting of February 2013 and the regular constituency meeting of October 2013, of the Trans-Orange Conference (TOC), some members and former leaders of the Conference set up an organization based in Alberton, Johannesburg, Gauteng, calling themselves the "Trans-Orange Conference". This group has encouraged other members and churches to support their breakaway group and to submit their tithes and offerings to the Alberton office.

We wish to inform the constituency of the SAU that this breakaway structure has no **legal or official standing with the SAU**, the Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division (SID) or the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists (GC), and is thus not a part of the Seventh-day Adventist World Church.

Those members and churches that have chosen to join the breakaway group are placing **themselves in the position where they could find** themselves outside of the sisterhood of churches and membership of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

The TOC, based in 17 Louis Road, Orange Grove, Johannesburg, under the leadership of Dr Justice Mongwe, his fellow officers and the Executive Committee elected at the regular constituency meeting of October 2013, is the only organization operating under the name *Trans-Orange Conference* officially recognized by the SAU, SID and GC.

At a meeting of the SAU Executive Committee held 8-9 June 2014, it was voted

"to inform the membership of the SAU not to recognize or be associated with this breakaway structure.

FURTHER that the churches and institutions within the SAU not entertain or provide a platform for the breakaway structure to be involved in the programmes or organizations of the church in any way whatsoever."

We wish to appeal to the membership to support the official structures and organizations of the church. **It is through its structures and policies that the unity of the church is maintained.** **God has declared through His servant that, "Enfeebled and defective as it may appear, the church is the one object upon which God bestows in a special sense His supreme regard."** Ellen G White, *Acts of the Apostles*, p.12.

As members of His Remnant Church, let us continue to support His church, remaining faithful to its mission as we anticipate the glorious appearing of Christ at His second coming.

Issued by the Southern Africa Union Conference Executive Committee at its mid-year meeting held at 2 Fairview Avenue, Bloemfontein, South Africa, June 8-9 2014



President: Dr T Letseli



Secretary: Ps T Kunene



Chief Financial Officer: Mr E Odendaal

June 9, 2014
Bloemfontein