



Reformed Evangelical Church of Australia

Foundation for Ecumenical Ties

Approved by the General Assembly of 30 August 2013

Foundation for Ecumenical Ties

1. With the establishment of Ecumenical ties between RECA and other churches we acknowledge each other as Reformed churches. This is done on the understanding that the teachings of both churches are in accordance with the Word of God, and in line with the reformed Tradition as worded in:

- a) The Apostolic Creed, the Creed of Nicea and the Creed of Anthanasius whereby the churches express their commitment to the general Christian church and,
- b) The Heidelberg Catechism, the Dutch Confession of Faith and the Doctrines of Dordt through which the churches express their unity with reformed tradition

The churches accept that their role is not fully completed when their doctrine has been written. In the future different circumstances and a greater understanding of the Word of God may lead to the acceptance of further creeds or the adaption of existing creeds. The churches agree to inform each other herein.

The churches recognize and accept each other's autonomy

2. On grounds of the above full ecumenical ties are agreed upon which means:

- a. Commonalty with regards to the sacraments and the ministering of the Word from each other's pulpits
- b. Acceptance of each other's members with evidence of membership
- c. Mutual calling of ministers, taking into consideration specific requirements that a church may have with regards to the ordination of their clergy. When churches are located in different countries they should undertake to inform each other when a minister of the Word with status as VDM emigrates;
- d. Attendance and participation in each other's general meetings
- e. Regular communication with each other with regards to developments in both churches

3. In conjunction with each other the churches can agree on the following:

- a. Further theological training
- b. Possible joint religious publications
- c. A commitment from both churches to support each other with regards to their missional calling.
- d. Support with ecumenical matters