

# DELEGATION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

## May 2015

### PROPOSED DELIVERANCE

#### The General Assembly

1. Receive the Report of the Delegation of the General Assembly and thank it for its work.
2. Continue the appointment of the Delegation with the same powers as hitherto - the Principal Clerk of the General Assembly to be Chairman and the Depute Clerk of the General Assembly to be Vice-Chairman.

### REPORT

The Delegation has to report that during 2014 it granted, in virtue of the powers conferred upon it by the General Assembly, three additional Model Deeds of Constitution.

The present amended Model Deed of Constitution was approved and adopted by the General Assembly on 21 May 1994 for issue to each congregation whose temporal affairs were then administered by a Congregational Board under the Model Deed and for granting to each congregation thereafter adopting it. Some amendments to it have subsequently been approved to take account of changes required by charity legislation.

The General Assembly of 2003 also permitted congregations to adopt, as an alternative to the Model Deed of Constitution, the Unitary Constitution either by Resolution of the congregation or by Basis of Adjustment. 45 congregations adopted the Unitary Constitution during

2014 compared to 42 in 2013. The number of congregations electing to be constituted in terms of the Unitary Constitution thus continues to be substantially higher than those adopting the Model Deed.

A number of the congregations adopting either form of constitution have done so prompted by the Deliverance of the General Assembly of 2008 instructing congregations to review their constitutions. The Delegation once again expresses the hope that those congregations who have not yet held such a review will do so in the course of this year.

*In the name and on behalf of the Delegation*

GEORGE J WHYTE, *Acting Chairman*  
JANETTE S WILSON, *Secretary*