

(4)

ACT

To provide for the incorporation of the Bible Society of South Africa, to determine its objects, powers, duties and functions, and to provide for further incidental matters.

*(Afrikaans text signed by the State President)
(Assented to 3rd March 1970)*

BE IT ENACTED by the State President, the Senate and the House of Assembly of the Republic of South Africa, as follows:-

1. In this Act, unless the context otherwise indicates -

Definitions

- (i) "Bible Society" means the Bible Society of South Africa (formerly an auxiliary of the British and Foreign Bible Society) before its incorporation under this Act; (i)
- (ii) "Board" means the National Board of the Society referred to in section 7; (vi)
- (iii) "Executive Committee" means the Executive Committee of the Board to in section 14; (viii)
- (iv) "fixed date" means the first day of January 1971; (ix)
- (v) "General Secretary" means the General Secretary of the Society referred to in section 10; (v)
- (vi) "honorary reasurer" means the honorary treasurer of the Society referred to in section 11; (ii)
- (vii) "prescribed" means prescribed by rule made under section 17; (x)
- (viii) "regional board" means a regional board established under section 13 (b); (vii)
- (ix) "Society" means the Bible Society of South Africa incorporated under this Act; (iii)
- (x) "this Act" includes any rule made under section 17. (iv)

2. (1) As from the commencement of this Act the Bible Society, which is an educational and religious organisation, shall, under the name of the Bible Society of South Africa, be a body corporate, capable of suing and being sued in its name and of performing all such acts as are necessary for or incidental to the attainment of its objects, the carrying out of its functions, the performance of its duties and the exercise of its powers.
- (2) The Society shall have its head office at 38, Shortmarket Street, Greenmarket Square, Cape Town, or at such other place in the Republic as it decides upon in terms of its constitution.

Incorporation of the
Society, and its
Head office

3. (1) The objects of the Society shall be to print, bind and publish the Bible, to translate the Bible into every language and dialect of the world, to encourage the wider distribution of the Bible and to co-operate with any other similar society for the purpose of circulating the Bible. Objects of the Society
- (2) No translation or publication of the Bible shall contain any dogmatic or doctrinal note.
4. (1) In order to attain its objects the Society shall have power – Powers of the Society
- (a) to acquire, let, hypothecate, sell or otherwise alienate movable and immovable property;
 - (b) to erect buildings for the purposes of the Society;
 - (c) to sell or otherwise dispose of the undertaking of the Society or any part thereof for such consideration as the Society may deem fit;
 - (d) to receive donations, bequests and gifts;
 - (e) to open accounts with banking institutions;
 - (f) to raise or borrow money in such manner as it may deem fit;
 - (g) to invest its money upon such security as it may deem fit;
 - (h) to lend money or give advice and guidance to any society or body of persons having objects similar to those of the Society;
 - (i) to appoint, fix the remuneration and conditions of service of and discharge officers and employees of the Society;
 - (j) to establish pension schemes for officers and employees of the Society;
 - (k) to collaborate with any society or body of persons having objects similar to those of the Society;
 - (l) generally, to do such things as will contribute towards the attainment of the objects of the Society.
- (2) The Society shall apply its profits (if any) and its other income in promoting its objects and shall not pay any dividend to any person.
5. (1) The whole of the movable and immovable property which at the commencement of this Act was vested in the Bible Society or registered in its name, upon the commencement of this Act, vest in the Society and be deemed to be registered in its name, without payment of transfer duty or stamp duty or fees of office, and the respective registrars of deeds in the various provinces of the Republic shall, upon production to them of the title deeds of any immovable property so registered, endorse the same to the effect that Vesting of the Bible Society's property in the Society

such immovable property is deemed to be registered in the name of the Society in accordance with the provisions of this Act, whereupon the said title deeds shall serve and avail as the title deeds of the Society in respect of such immovable property.

- (2) Where any such immovable property is subject to any bond, mortgage or otherwise, such bond shall be likewise endorsed, which endorsement shall have the effect of substituting the Society as the debtor under the bond and shall make it and the property aforesaid subject to all the duties and obligations under the bond and entitled to any rights to readvances under the bond exactly as if the said Society had originally been the debtor thereunder.

6. (1) All existing rights and obligations acquired, incurred or undertaken by the Bible Society prior to the commencement of this Act, shall be deemed to have been acquired, incurred or undertaken by the Society.

Existing rights and obligations of, and pending legal proceedings by or against, the Bible Society

- (2) All legal proceedings pending at the commencement of this Act by or against the Bible Society shall be deemed to have been instituted by or against the Society.

7. (1) The management and control of the affairs of the Society shall be vested in the National Board of the Society which shall consist of—

The National Board

- (a) subject to the provisions of subsection (2), two persons representing each regional board, namely, the chairman of the regional board designated by such board;
- (b) the General Secretary;
- (c) the Deputy General Secretary;
- (d) the honorary treasurer;
- (e) all secretaries of regional boards; and
- (f) such additional members, if any, as may be provided for in the rules.
- (2) The persons representing a regional board shall not both be ministers of religion and shall not belong to the same church denominations.
- (3) A person designated under subsection (1)(a) shall hold office as a member of the Board for a period of three years from the time of designation unless his membership of the regional board is terminated sooner.