

Joint Evangelism Outreach to congregations in the Nampula and Zambézia Provinces, Mozambique – March 2020



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1 Introduction

Mozambique has a population of approximately 28 million people and the 4 North-Eastern provinces (Zambezia, Nampula, Niassa and Cabo Delgado) contain more than half of this population. A significant portion of this population have not heard about the gospel of Jesus Christ or are not accepting Him as their only saviour (e.g. Muslims, who represent 18% of the population). Some people who believe in God, also believe in ancestor worshipping and witchcraft.

The congregation of the Reformed Church of Pretoria-Annlin (RCPA) is one of the South African congregations that became involved in evangelism outreaches in Mozambique about a decade ago. The congregation is currently working in close collaboration with the Igreja Reformada em Moçambique (IRM) through its Tumpline Synod in Milange.

Every third year RCPA sends out a group of approximately 12 people with vehicles to assist IRM with training and equipping congregation members to spread the gospel to non-believers. For the years in between they send out smaller groups that can follow up. This year of 2020 the RCPA sent two brothers, i.e. Neels Slump and Johnny Beumer who flew to Nampula. They were fetched from the airport by Rev Danie Murray of the Dutch Reformed Church of Proteahooft in Cape Town, South Africa, accompanied by four pastors of the IRM.

2 The Outreach Team

The outreach team comprised seven members – three from South Africa and four from Mozambique. Rev Danie Murray drove all the way up with his vehicle from Cape Town. He picked up Pastors Adolfo Mario, Moderator of the Tumpline Synod and João Herbath, Secretary of the same in Milange. Further on their route to Nampula, they picked up Pastor Fernando Alfredo of the Lugela congregation in Mocuba and joined Pastor Lourenço Tuvuliua at his parsonage in Nampula. On 17 March they all fetched brothers Neels Slump and Johnny Beumer from the Nampula Airport.



Back from left to right: Pastors Adolfo Mario, Fernando Alfredo, João Herbath, Rev Danie Murray and Pastor Lourenço Tuvuliua.

Front: Brothers Johnny Beumer and Neels Slump

3 Outreach Objectives

The objectives of the outreach were determined through correspondence with the Tumbine Synod and discussed again just after the arrival of brothers Neels and Johnny when the team was complete. The accepted objectives were:

- Visit one prayer house in Gilé to determine why the pastor and his family of Gilé are suffering so much and why the congregation can't take care of him and his family. Also

to teach members of the congregation about “Truth and Reconciliation” and “Discipleship”.

- Visit two prayer houses of the Ribaue congregation and teach the members about “Truth and Reconciliation” and “Discipleship”.
- Determine the living conditions of Pastor Lourenço Tuvuliua and why there is such a low growth in the membership of the Nampula Congregation.
- Visit the newly formed Nacala congregation and determine the needs.
- Hand out book bibles, audio bibles and course material to the four congregations mentioned above.
- To show the Jesus film to the communities of the visited congregations.
- Discuss the agenda points of a partnership meeting of the Tumbine Synod and the RCPA.

4 Visiting the four congregations of the IRM

The team started by first travelling on 19 March to the Cricane prayer house in the congregation of Gilé. They took the road from Nampula to Alto Molocue and turned left (South) at the town Alto Ligonha. From there it was a very bad dirt road and the team took 9 hours from Nampula to get to the Cricane prayer house. After spending two nights at Cricane, they headed to one of the Ribaue prayer houses, Namigonha on 21 March. This time they decided to take the dirt road to Alto Molocue which was not much better than the one from Alto Ligonha, but it was slightly shorter. It took the team 11 hours to travel from Cricane to Namigonha. They visited Pastor Jussa Passulane on their way in Alto Molocue and had lunch at a restaurant in Alto Molocue.

At Namigonha, the team split in two on 22 March and half of the members travelled to prayer house Lancheque for the day. Lancheque is approximately 20km from Namigonha. After sleeping over two nights at Namigonha, the team returned to Nampula on 23 March and put up their tents in the church building of Nampula. On that same day they travelled to Nacala to meet with Nacala congregation members. Since these members work in the Nacala city during the day the team had to meet with them after working hours. They travelled back to Nampula that same evening.



Visit Pastor Jussa Passulane in Alto Molocue. From left to right: Brother Neels, Pastors Jussa, Fernando, João, Adolfo, Rev Danie and brother Johnny

On 24 and 25 March the team continued with their meeting which started just after Neels and Johnny's arrival on 18 March. On 26 March Neels and Johnny were taken to the Nampula Airport and the rest of the team started their journey back to Milange. Pastor Fernando Alfredo was dropped off at his house in Mocuba.



The routes travelled

5 Interactions with congregations

5.1 Bibles and teaching material

RCPA donated 14 hard cover Portuguese bibles, 12 audio bibles and booklets with the teaching material on “Truth and Reconciliation” as well as “Discipleship”. The bibles were distributed as follows:

- Nampula congregation: 3 hard cover bibles and 2 audio bibles.

- Cricane prayer house, Gilé: 3 hard cover bibles and 2 audio bibles.
- Namigonha prayer house, Ribaue: 1 hard cover bible and 2 audio bibles.
- Nacala congregation: 7 hard cover bibles and 2 audio bibles.
- Pastors João, Adolfo, Fernando and Lourenço were each issued with one audio bible.

There were enough booklets with the teaching material and all the visited prayer houses and congregations received enough for their needs.

The full Portuguese bible, the New Testament in Lomué (Lomwe) and the Heidelberg Catechism in English had been loaded onto the audio bibles.

5.2 Cricane prayer house

The team was pleasantly surprised to see the beautiful new prayer house of Cricane. The prayer house was built by brother Edomas Abdala and it was very neatly done and thoroughly built. In the inside, the pulpit was nicely decorated with the emblem of the IRM. Edomas' love for Jesus was clearly visible from the work he had undertaken.

It could be clearly seen that Pastor Pilima and his family were suffering to make ends meet. Pastor Pilima didn't have the means to properly feed his family and pay the school fees for his children. The Cricane members were seriously reprimanded and they promised to bring their tithes of their harvest to the church. Unfortunately the prayer houses of Gilé are very far apart and members of the other prayer houses weren't present to hear this message, but the Cricane members were advised to set the example and that other prayer houses would follow.

The prayer house members were taught what it means when Paul writes to the Colossians that Jesus reconciled "all things" (Col 1: 20). They were also taught what it requires to be a truthful disciple of Jesus Christ and how to go about to make other disciples (Mat 28: 19 & 20).

The Jesus film was shown to the entire Cricane community on the evening of 20 March. This was the only opportunity to show the Jesus Film as the Mozambican Government announced regulations the next day to prevent the further spreading of the Covid19 virus and all gatherings of more than 50 people had been prohibited.



Saying goodbye to prayer house members of Cricane.



Pastor Pilima, his wife Virginia and 4 of their 7 children.

5.3 Namigonha and Lancheque prayer houses

The team split and one half went to Lancheque and the other half remained at Namigonha. It was Sunday and at both prayer houses worship services were held. After that the teachings continued. At Lancheque “Truth and Reconciliation” teachings were incorporated in the worship service and in Namigonha teaching on “Discipleship” was done in the afternoon. Prayer house members were eager to learn and the Word was received with gladness.



Warm welcome with songs when the team arrived at Namigonha.



Farewell at prayer house Lancheque. Members thanked the team with gifts.

The prayer house members expressed their desire to have their own pastor. The congregation is currently served by elder and evangelist Namutapa. The representatives of the Synod however explained that they must first be able to take care of their pastor. Pastor Tuvuliua will serve them in the meantime and they must now start contributing their tithes to the church to enable pastor Tuvuliua to visit them regularly and to conduct worship services.

A special effort was made to teach congregation members to do bible study by following the Discovery Bible Study (DBS) Methodology.

5.4 Nampula congregation

The church building and parsonage had been donated by a brother, Christoph, who's father was once a pastor in Gilé where he grew up. So far only a few people had become members of this potential congregation. It was suggested to start with a bible study group doing DBS on regular basis. Pastor Tuvuliua needs prayer as there are many unreached people in Nampula. Many of them are Muslims. According to Christoph, many people look what they can get from the church instead of what they themselves can offer out of thankfulness for Jesus Christ. The new members of Nampula currently need “milk” food (1 Cor 3: 2 & Hebrews 5: 12) and over time they must be fed with “solid” food.



Pastor Tuvuliua and family.



Team and a few members of Nampula congregation.

5.5 Nacala cogregation

A few people, who were previously members of the IRM in Beira, had been transferred from Beira to Nacala. Since there was no church of the IRM in Nacala, they contacted the Synod in Milange and they were encouraged to start a congregation there. Under leadership of elder Paulo, they started with church services in Nacala. Pastor Tuvuliua also helped them and conducted some of the services. They initially rented a building in Nacala, but that became too expensive. They contacted brother Christoph of Nampula who helped them to buy a piece of land in the outskirts of Nacala. They then built a church structure from plant material where they now hold their church services.



Church structure of the newly formed Nacala congregation.



Discussion with a few Nacala congregation members.

When the team arrived in Nacala the attendance was not great due to a misunderstanding about the time the team would arrive. Nevertheless, fruitful discussions were held with Paulo and the few members and they were encouraged. The congregation has certain challenges, i.e. to do the Catechism teachings to newly converted adult members and also to children. A further challenge is to bring the gospel to Muslims. Some of the Muslims have joined them already. After handing over the bibles and teaching material, the team prayed for the congregation before they returned to Nampula.

We are very thankful for this new congregation and we praise the Lord for this new development. The congregation however needs everyone's prayer.

The congregation should be equipped with the Gold Nuggets course which teaches you how to bring the gospel to Muslims. The course is currently in English and it should be investigated if the course material can be interpreted by someone in Portuguese.

6 Discussions

Lengthy discussions took place between the IRM representatives and the two representatives of the Pretoria-Annlin congregation on issues with respect to the partnership. Rev Danie Murray acted as consultant. The issues below were discussed and their outcomes are provided.

6.1 Cost of living subsidies for needy pastors

The fact that South Africa donors send their donations to specific pastors poses a problem to the Synod. Some pastors do really need a subsidy whilst their names do not even appear on the list. There are also pastors who receive less subsidy than others which causes great unhappiness. One example is pastor Tuvuliua, who only receives R350 per month while the others receive R500 per month. The Secretary would like to see that South African donors donate their subsidy money all in one pot and that the Synod Moderamen be entrusted to decide who are the deserving cases and award the moneys. All amounts should be equal, except perhaps for a few missionary pastors who could get more.

Another problem is that some Reformed churches in South Africa have stopped their subsidies.

RCPA only manage donations of seven Reformed Churches in South Africa. The subsidy for each Mozambican congregation had been motivated following the dire need of their specific pastor. Information on that congregation, their pastor and his family had been sent to that South African donor congregation and a relation between the South African congregation and the Mozambican congregation and pastor had been built. If all donations are randomly put in one pot, this relationship will be lost. It is uncertain whether the South African churches would be willing to continue with their subsidies if they don't know beforehand who will benefit from their contribution. There is a risk that a significant amount of the subsidies might be lost.

Some South African congregations like Reformed Church of Rustenburg only donated subsidies for one single year. That is why pastor Zalimba's subsidy expired months ago. Likewise Reformed Church Brooklyn also indicated that their subsidy for Pastor Nico Mario will expire in August 2020. The subsidy was meant to help the congregation out in difficult times, such as drought but the congregation should bring their tithes and take care of their pastor. The subsidies are supposed to phase out over time.

Rev Danie Murray explained that there are only a few pastors that receive R350 per month, the rest all receive R500 per month. He could talk to Dutch Reformed Church Stilbaai to change their four donations of R350 per month each to three donations of R500 per month each.

The following decisions were taken

- Rev Danie Murray undertook to personally contribute R150 per month to bring Pastor Tuvuliua's subsidy in par with the others.
- The proposal that all South African donors leave the distribution of the subsidies (and reporting afterwards as to who benefited) to the Moderamen of the Synod, will be presented to the full Synod meeting. The risk of such a step will also be explained.
- If the full Synod approves the proposal, RCPA is requested to inform the 7 South African churches accordingly and ask them to please continue their donations under the new conditions. Rev Danie Murray will do same with respect to the donations which are managed by the Commission for Witness Action.

6.2 Bursaries for theological students

One South African donor awarded a bursary for student Eduardo Januario who this year is doing his second year. The need however is much greater. Two more students are studying at Hefsiba without bursaries and their accounts still need to be paid. Since the Reformed Church of Centurion (RCC) supported Hefsiba and awarded bursaries in the past, they had been approached for possible donations for the two students. RCC however took a firm stance that they will not further support Hefsiba or students because the standard of administration of Hefsiba is going downwards. RCC feels unhappy about the exorbitant fees of Hefsiba. They also made various appeals to the university to build on the relationship which they had in the

past and to address RCC's concerns, but the management of Hefsiba didn't react to any of those appeals.



Meeting under the Mango trees

The IRM pastors confirmed the drop in standards of Hefsiba's administration. Two examples were mentioned:

- The Secretary of the Synod asked repeatedly for student Januario's first semester results last year so that the second semester's bursary could be paid. It was only sent towards the end of the year.

- RCC paid Pastor Fernando Alfredo's bursary for his 4th year (outstanding monograph) to Hefsiba in the beginning of 2019. After Pastor Alfredo repeatedly asked for the study material, he only received it towards the end of 2019, too late to complete his 4th year in 2019.

The situation regarding Hefsiba affects the IRM and its synods directly. The Secretary decided that he and the Moderator will soon travel to village Ulongue and discuss the problem with the Hefsiba management. They asked brother Johnny to request RCC to write a formal letter to the Tumbine Synod in which they confirm their decision on withdrawing further support to the university or students and to provide the reasons. The letter must be on RCC's letter head and be signed. Such a letter will help the Moderator and Secretary with their visit to Hefsiba.

6.3 Missionary work of Pastor Fernando Alfredo and possible changes to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

When the meeting started discussing this point, it was clear that there were misunderstandings which led to distrust between the parties. Examples were:

- The perception was with everybody that Pastor Alfredo himself decided to start his missionary work at Nampula, knowing well that Pastor Tuvuliua had already been relocated there. This perception led to great unhappiness among the members of the Synod. The Synod felt that the visions of RCPA and the Tumbine Synod were not aligned. The perception however was not correct. The previous Secretary of the Synod wrote a letter to Johnny and informed him about the church building and parsonage in Nampula that had been donated to IRM. He then requested if RCPA would concur to make Nampula Pastor Fernando's first priority and to send him to Nampula first. It was confusing that Pastor Tuvuliua arrived at Nampula one month before Pastor Alfredo would go on his first trip. Instead of clearing the confusion with the Synod Moderamen, it was erroneously assumed by RCPA that the Synod had in mind that Pastor Alfredo must initially help Pastor Tuvuliua to evangelise and recruit members for the new church.
- It was not clearly understood why Pastor Alfredo was given the task of missionary work with the little experience as pastor. Normally a pastor must stay at least 4 years at his

first congregation before he can be called to another congregation or do missionary work. It was however agreed that Pastor Alfredo had the gift of evangelism and that his proficiency in languages makes him a useful instrument for the Lord.

- Quite a few clauses of the memorandum were not adhered to, e.g. reporting was not done by the Lugela Church Council, but by Pastor Alfredo himself. Also, certain payments had been made erroneously to Pastor Alfredo by RCPA, such as the cost of repair work on his motor cycle. The Lugela Church Council was supposed to pay for this.
- Much confusion had been created when RCPA added an amount for bibles which Pastor Alfredo had to hand over to Pastor Jussa in Alto Molocue. Pastor Jussa's house was on Pastor Alfredo's way to the missionary area.

After all the mistakes that were made were confessed, the parties asked each other for forgiveness and decided that the vision of sending Pastor Alfredo out for two months per year should continue. It was decided to peruse each clause of the MOU in detail and amend where necessary. This was done and the amended version of the MOU is appended as Appendix A of this report.

Another problem which needs to be addressed is the location of Pastor Fernando Alfredo. The representatives of RCPA were shocked to hear that Pastor Alfredo has already done 32000 km on his motorcycle in 1 ½ years' time. The vehicle had been donated for the long distance missionary work and not for commuting between Mocuba and Lugela (approximately 60km apart). Pastor Alfredo had been forced to move into his own house in Mocuba because the Lugela congregation couldn't provide him and his family with a house in Lugela. Apparently the Lugela congregation members are not bringing their full tithes to the church and this is why they couldn't afford to provide a house for their pastor. This is wrong and the Synod representatives undertook to take it further with the Lugela congregation.

6.4 Policy on donated motorcycles

A policy needs to be devised for pastors who are issued with motorcycles. RCPA has donated 5 motorcycles so far and it was realised that the lack of a clear policy will create problems in future. Examples of existing problems, already experienced are:

- A motorcycle had been donated 3 years ago to Pastor Vasco Acacio of Pebane. Pastor Vasco left the ministry and took the motor cycle with him.
- A motor cycle had been donated to Pastor Carlos Pedro when he was Secretary of the Synod. A new Moderamen has been chosen and Pastor João is now Secretary. The question is whether the motor cycle was attached to the Secretary position or to the congregation which Pastor Carlos is serving. If it was supposed to be attached to the Secretary position, the motor cycle should have been transferred to Pastor João.

A donated motor cycle should be registered in the name of the beneficiary pastor and not in the name of the Synod. If a pastor causes an accident he will be liable himself. If the motorcycle is in the name of the Synod, the Synod would be liable.

It was decided that an agreement between the Synod and the beneficiary pastor will be drafted which will determine that the motorcycle must be transferred to another pastor, nominated by the Synod, in case of him leaving the ministry, being relocated to another congregation, disability or death of the pastor. The pastor must sign the agreement with witnesses before he may start using the motorcycle.

6.5 Possible outreach of RCPA for 2021

In the past, the RCPA have send larger groups of approximately 12 people with vehicles to assist the IRM with training and equipping congregation members to spread the gospel to non-believers. This made logistics difficult, very expensive and more time consuming. The decision was therefore taken by RCPA that larger groups will only be coming every 3rd year if resources are available and for the years in between, smaller groups that can do follow-up. This already happened in 2019 and 2020.

RCPA would like to arrange an outreach for a bigger group in 2021. The logistics for a bigger group is much more difficult and RCPA also will need the permission from the Mozambican Government. The Synod should indicate which congregation should be visited but RCPA thought of Pebane since this congregation is now without a pastor. At Pebane the group can split into two subgroups and various prayer houses can be visited.

The Moderator and Secretary of the Synod welcomed the prospect of an outreach in 2021 and they agreed that the Pebane congregation is a good idea. The congregation, without their

pastor, needs encouragement. Thorough preparation will be needed by the IRM and RCPA, i.e:

- Synod representatives as well as representatives of the Presbytery need to visit the congregation long before the outreach to determine what the needs of the congregation are.
- A joint decision (Tumbine Synod and RCPA) must be taken on the teachings that RCPA will provide.
- RCPA must apply timeously to the Mozambican Government for permission.

There are quite a number of orphans in the Pebane prayer house groups and therefore a programme for children is very necessary. Parallel programmes for church leaders, women, youth and children can be arranged.

One focus area should be the care of each other (love your neighbour). The seed action teaching will cover this. Seed actions can be undertaken internally within the congregation, but also externally to the unbelievers in the community. The seed actions can then open a door to bring the gospel to unbelievers.

Actions needed:

- Start timeously – the earlier the better.
- Identify the team members.
- Acquire colour copies of all documents, i.e. SA Police clearances, passports, biographies, official letter from RCPA with declaration which explains the purpose of the outreach and each member's role.
- The Tumbine Synod has a standard letter which RCPA can use. Pastor João will send it to Johnny.
- The submission with all attached documents must go to the Ministry of Judgement in Maputo. The Synod will assist with this. In Maputo Pastor Chibota of IRM will be asked to help. He can personally hand in the application at the Ministry of Judgement and do

any necessary follow-ups. RCPA must however be prepared to pay Pastor Chibota for his transport.

If the group consists of 12 members it would be better to apply for 16. In the situation of cancellations, the reserve members can stand in for them.

6.6 Translation of the Heidelberg Catechism in Lomué

RCPA currently distributes bibles with a copy of the Heidelberg Catechism (HC). This enables the receiver to do bible study guided, by the HC. The HC is already available in various languages of South Africa. Since RCPA has already supplied many bibles in Lomué, there is a need to issue a HC booklet along with it for future issues. The audio bibles are also loaded with the HC. This however means that a sound recording must be made in a sound studio. For this however, a correct script of the HC is required. It means that the HC must first be translated into Lomué.

Various options were discussed. Members of the team also went to see Dr Woodrow, an American surgeon who lives in Nampula. He mentioned the name of Steward Forster. It seems that the place to start is Summer Institute of Linguistics (SIL). Rev Danie will send Johnny the contact details. If they can do the translation, Steward Forster can possibly be asked to proofread.

The Secretary requested that RCPA also consider translating the HC in Chichewa for the churches in Malawi.

6.7 Status Quo of the Mailbox Club Tuition

The question at hand is whether the Mailbox Club material is still sufficient for training Youth Leaders and children the Christian doctrine. Should RCPA invite Benjamin of Milange and Filizardo of Magodane to join them on the outreach, planned for 2021?

The Synod representatives informed the others that the material had all been stored in a wooden storeroom. The room and material had been attacked by ants, but the Synod management could save some material by transferring it to a brick store room.



Lunchtime

The teaching material is not the best available, but the Mailbox Club makes it available at no cost. The doctrine is pure except that it also teaches the rapture which is not in line with our doctrine. This however is only one chapter and can be taken out.

The Synod representatives are not completely satisfied with Benjamin and Filizardo insofar as they do their own thing and it is necessary that the visions of the Synod and the vision of these two brothers are aligned. The Moderator and Secretary undertook to meet with Benjamin and Filizardo and they will let RCPA know of the outcome. If visions can be aligned, RCPA can

make them part of the 2021 outreach team. Languages must be kept in mind. Benjamin for instance is not proficient in Lomué.

6.8 Nampula congregation

See par 5.4 above.

6.9 Gilé congregation

See par 5.2 above.

6.10 Ribaue congregation

See par 5.3 above.

6.11 Status quo Niquide prayer house group

After Reformed Church Strand requested RCPA in 2012 to support the newly formed Niquide prayer house group with the building of their prayer house, RCPA had several sessions with the group and the agreement was that RCPA would provide the materials and the prayer house group would provide the labour. The group therefore manufactured all the bricks with cement provided by RCPA and Reformed Church Montanapoort. Owing to a lack of building skills Pastor Pilima helped them with brick laying and in this manner the two South African congregations could help Pastor Pilima, who was suffering to take care of his family at that point in time.

The roof was put up by a contractor and the building had been completed towards the end of 2018. RCPA however lost contact with the prayer house group after completion of the building because their focus shifted more Northwards. RCPA would like to know how the prayer house members are doing and if any growth in the group can be observed.

The Secretary mentioned that they cannot report on Niquide and that they first need to investigate what is happening there. Niquide is a prayer house of the Magodane congregation and the Secretary mentioned that this congregation experience severe problems. The church building of Magodane had been severely damaged as a result of the 2018 floods and the Synod Secretary asked whether RCPA could possibly help repairing the damage of the Magodane building. He mentioned that the agricultural conditions in Magodane is weaker than

elsewhere due to less fertile soil. The members of Magodane congregation are therefore poor and cannot afford to repair the damage themselves.



Damage to the Magodane prayer house



Pastors Samuel and Adolfo in front of the damaged Magodane prayer house

Brother Neels mentioned that he knows that church building very well and that the roof and roof trusses were in a very bad condition anyway before the flood. The lack of maintenance actually caused the damage which was aggravated by the flood.

The representatives of RCPA didn't have the mandate to make any promises as RCPA's focus shifted to the areas more Northwards. It was suggested that Magodane congregation close the gap in the walls, then take off the roof and replace it with a well-built roof of plant material, like the one at Cricane. They can even reuse some of the material that are still in good condition. People of the area know this building practice and they can even ask Edomas Abdala of Cricane to help them.

6.12 Visiting Nacala congregation

See par 5.5 above

7 Retrospection and Evaluation

Overall the outreach can be regarded as successful and blessed by our Lord. The fact that brothers Neels and Johnny could fly to Nampula two days before the Mozambique Government

closed its borders in order to prevent spreading the Covid19 virus and that they again could return to South Africa a few hours before a total lock down in South Africa is not just a coincidence. We see the hand of our God in this.

Rev Danie became very ill just after the outreach and isolated himself in a room in Milange. We are very thankful to our Lord that he recovered from the sickness.

Apart from the teaching at the congregations this was a very important outreach insofar the meeting between the IRM representatives and RCPA representatives is concerned. Important decisions were taken and we believe that the Holy Spirit guided us and we are thankful that the meeting could be held in such good spirit.

Implementation of the decisions is now ahead of us and we pray that God's Kingdom will be served through good co-operation between the partners.

8 Acknowledgements

We thank God above all, who made this outreach possible, let the members of the team travel safely and blessed the work that was done.

We also say thank you to:

- All the prayers which went up to the Lord for the outreach team.
- Brother Danie Pelser for presiding when the congregation of RCPA sent brothers Neels and Johnny out.
- All the love received from the people at the prayer houses. The food provided.
- Pastor Tuvuliua for taking care of the team while in Nampula. Also Thanks to Mrs Natalia Tuvuliua and her children for all the hard work. They carried water for washing ourselves, prepared food and washed our clothes.
- The Tumbine Synod for their cooperation and making Pastors Mario and Herbath available to be part of the outreach team.
- Our translators, i.e. Pastor Fernando Alfredo and Rev Danie Murray.
- Rev Danie Murray for his valuable advice and contributions. Also thanks to Rev Danie for the use of his vehicle.

- RCPA Evangelism Commission in South Africa who provided funding for the outreach as well as the Bibles.
- Sister Andrie Beumer who kept the RCPA congregation and nearest relatives of brothers Neels and Johnny informed on a daily basis during the outreach.
- Sister Cobie Plomp who managed finances and organised the printing of teaching material at very short notice. She also kept the congregation of RCPA informed through their newsletters and Facebook.

Appendix A

Revised Memorandum of Understanding



Memorandum of Understanding between:

- **Tumbine Synod of Igreja Reformada em Moçambique**
- and**
- **Reformed Church Pretoria-Annlin, South Africa**



Introduction:

A number of congregations of the Reformed Churches of South Africa supported the Tumbine Synod of the Igreja Reformada em Moçambique (hereafter TS-IRM) over the last few years with several activities such as outreaches, donations of bibles, finance for motor cycles, cost of living subsidies for pastors and building of church buildings (prayer houses). The Reformed Church of Pretoria-Annlin (hereafter RCPA) in South Africa would like to expand their support by enabling Pastor Fernando Alfredo, who is currently the pastor of the Lugela congregation, to also do missionary work in the North-Eastern part of Moçambique. This memorandum of understanding (MOU) describes the intentions of TS-IRM and RCPA.

By this MOU the TS-IRM and RCPA express their desire to strengthen the Reformed witness in Mozambique (and beyond), and to plant new Reformed Churches in Mozambique to the honour and glory of God, and their mutual understanding regarding the labours of a missionary towards that end. Together we affirm the Three Forms of Unity as containing the system of doctrine taught in the Holy Scriptures, and this common doctrinal commitment forms the basis for our cooperative labours.

Common vision

The vision of the two parties (TS-IRM and RCPA) is the Word of God spread in the North-Eastern parts of Moçambique, i.e., Zambezia, Nampula, Niassa and Gabo Delgado Provinces. In these provinces there live many people who haven't as yet received the good news that Jesus Christ came to the earth to reconcile all things (Col 1: 20). The vision goes further and the parties see new disciples of Jesus Christ forming new congregations as a result of bringing the Word of God to current non-believers.

The purpose of the missionary work is to glorify our God and any involved person must do this work with great modesty without seeking honour for him/herself

Pastor Fernando Alfredo

Pastor Alfredo finished his theological studies at Hefsiba at the end of 2017. His tuition fees at Hefsiba Theological School had been paid by the Reformed Church Centurion in South Africa. He started with his theological studies at a relatively late stage and was 42 years of age when he was ordained as a pastor. RCPA supported him with an allowance for his cost of living while studying because he had to study full time, sacrifice his previous income and he had a big family (wife and five daughters) to take care of.

Pastor Alfredo is proficient in Portuguese, English and six African languages that are spoken in Moçambique.

Intentions of the TS-IRM

The TS-IRM decided to locate Pastor Alfredo in Lugela after completion of his studies.

The Lugela Congregation or congregation whom Pastor Alfredo might serve, should he later be relocated (hereafter referred to as “respective congregation”), must allow Pastor Alfredo to go to the missionary areas for at least twice a year for periods of approximately one month. Shorter, more frequent trips can however be agreed upon between the pastor and the respective congregation.

The respective congregation should send out Pastor Alfredo each time and keep praying for him. The respective congregation will also make Pastor Alfredo available for any outreaches of the RCPA. Pastor Alfredo can then assist with translations or whatever other assistance. The outreaches normally take place in the winter months, i.e. June and July.

The respective congregation will send regular reports of Pastor Alfredo’s missionary work and progress to the TS-IRM and will copy these reports to the Presbytery of that congregation as well as to the RCPA. The report will be evaluated by the Presbytery and TS-IRM, refined if necessary and sent to RCPA as the final version.

In collaboration with the respective congregation, the TS-IRM reserves the right to brotherly reprimand Pastor Alfredo and implement corrective measures at any point in time, should there be any evidence of misconduct or if the work envisaged in the target area is not performed satisfactorily. If the problem remains, the TS-IRM will have the right to withdraw Pastor Alfredo. The TS-IRM however intends to negotiate such a step with the respective congregation, the Presbytery of that congregation and the partner church in South Africa.

Intentions of the RCPA

The partner congregation in South Africa intends to support the action in the following ways:

- A living cost subsidy of R500.00 per month will be sent via the TS-IRM to Pastor Alfredo for as long as the members of the respective congregation cannot fully support their pastor.
- Finance for a bigger type of motorcycle, suitable for the long road and off road conditions has been provided to Pastor Alfredo.
- Finance for travel costs e.g. costs for fuel for the motor cycle, toll fees and sleep overs on the way will be considered on condition that a budget is submitted prior to any missionary trip of Pastor Alfredo. The budget will be compiled by Pastor Alfredo and then sent to TS-IRM for approval after which the TS-IRM will submit it to RCPA.
- It is expected that the people in the target area will host Pastor Alfredo during the time spent in the area. Should this not be the case, a subsistence allowance can be considered.
- Finance for Bibles and printing material can be considered by the partner congregation on condition that a budget is submitted prior to any missionary trip of Pastor Alfredo.
- Training to Pastor Alfredo to equip him for the task can be provided.

Pastor Alfredo and the respective congregation will be responsible for the maintenance of his motorcycle. If they cannot fully afford major repair work, the respective congregation may approach the TS-IRM for requesting assistance from the RCPA.

All payments by the partner congregation in South Africa will be communicated to the TS-IRM. When direct payments to the respective congregation or Pastor Alfredo have to be made, the TS-IRM will be consulted prior to the payment.

Responsibilities of Pastor Fernando Alfredo

Pastor Alfredo will work together with his respective congregation in the planning of all missionary work. When working in the area of another IRM congregation he will do the

missionary work in collaboration with that congregation's pastor. When new IRM churches are planted, he will work in collaboration with those new congregations.

Pastor Alfredo is responsible to compile the budget for each trip and submit this budget to the TS-IRM for approval after which the TS-IRM will send it to its partner church in South Africa, namely RCPA.

Pastor Alfredo will lay the foundation of new churches by preaching and teaching. He must lead and prepare gathered people for an established church and focus on the training of church leaders who can continue the work when Pastor Alfredo is not around.

Pastor Alfredo will work together with his respective congregation in writing of reports about outreaches.

Pastor Alfredo shall be zealous and faithful in maintaining the truths of the gospel, the purity, peace and unity of the church, and walk with exemplary piety before those whom he labours. Like the Apostle Paul's words in 1 Corinthians 11:1 "Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ."

The donated motor cycle has been registered in the name of Pastor Alfredo. If Pastor Alfredo however quits from being a pastor and/or the missionary work or in the situation of death of Pastor Alfredo, the ownership of the motorcycle must be transferred to another pastor of the IRM as nominated by the TS-IRM. An agreement to this effect between the TS-IRM and Pastor Alfredo will be signed. No compensation needs to be paid to Pastor Alfredo or in the case of his death, his next of kin.

Communications

Communications to the parties in this MOU are send electronically, as set forth below.

<i>The RCPA:</i>	Johnny Beumer Tel: +27828853573 Email: beumerjohnny@gmail.com
<i>The TS-IRM:</i>	Pastor..... Tel: Email:

Amendment and termination

This MOU may be amended from time to time with the concurrence of the TS-IRM and RCPA. It shall continue in effect until terminated by either the TS-IRM or the RCPA, and the party desiring termination shall provide three months' notice of such intention.

Soli Deo Gloria!

_____	_____
Chairman	Date
Tumbine Synod of the IRM	

_____	_____
Chairman	Date
Reformed Church Pretoria-Annlin	