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To: The Chairlady
CRL RIGHTS COMMISSION
Delivery per e-mail: Thoko@crlcommission.org.za

Re: Preliminary Report on the 'commercialisation' of religion and abuse of people's belief systems

Date: 9 November 2016

Dear Mrs Mkhwanazi-Xaluva,

We refer to the above Report issued by the CRL Rights Commission and released on its website on Wednesday, 26 October 2016 ("the Report"), and address this letter to you on behalf of the churches and religious institutions whose names appear at the bottom of this letter.

You may be aware of the meetings convened with senior leaders and representatives of the faith community in Cape Town on Wednesday, 2 November 2016, and Johannesburg on Thursday, 3 November 2016, to discuss the Report.

At both meetings, grave concern was expressed regarding the tight timeline given for response to the Report (namely Friday, 18 November 2016, i.e. three weeks only). The consensus was that, given the magnitude of the regulations that are being proposed and the serious impact that these will have on each and every religious institution and practitioner in South Africa, the time frame given by the Commission is completely inadequate for the level of consultation that needs to take place within individual churches and denominations before appropriate and informed comments can be made with regard to the Commission's Report and recommendations.

As such, in the interest of good faith towards the faith community of South Africa and taking into consideration the fact that many churches and denominations will only have their annual general meetings in April next year, we propose and request that the deadline for responses to the aforementioned Report be extended to **Thursday, 1 June 2017**

We trust that you will give this important matter your favourable consideration, and we look forward to receiving your confirmation in this regard. (For ease of administration, please address written confirmation to Adv Nadene Badenhorst, Legal Counsel of FOR SA, at legal@forsa.org.za who has been mandated by the undersigned churches and religious institutions for this purpose.)

Yours faithfully,

For and on behalf of the denominations, churches and religions listed below, ***who have individually communicated their endorsement of this communication:***

LIST OF SIGNATORIES

1. All Africa Bishops' Council
2. Alliance of Pentecostal and Charismatic Churches of South Africa (APCCSA)
3. Anglican Catholic Church of South Africa
4. Anglican Church of Southern Africa
5. Arise and Shine Ministries International
6. Assemblies of God (AOG)
7. Baptist Union of Southern Africa
8. Bethelites Apostolic Church, Vosloorus
9. C3 Church Southern Africa
10. Christian Family Church, International (CFC)
11. Christian Life Ministries, Edgemead
12. Christian Revival Church (CRC)
13. Church Unity Commission
14. Church Unlimited in Christ
15. Consultation of Christian Church Cape Town (network of 43 denominations, Christian organizations and fraternals)
16. Cornerstone Church, Bedfordview
17. Dutch Reformed Church in South Africa (DRC)
18. El Bethel Ministry
19. Every Nation / His People Churches South Africa
20. Forward in Faith Church in the RSA
21. Foundation of Truth Ministries
22. Fountain Scroll Ministry
23. Freedom of Religion South Africa (FOR SA)
24. God's Tabernacle Christian Family Church
25. Grace Bible Church
26. Grace Christian Fellowship
27. Grace Revival Ministries
28. Hatfield Christian Church
29. IFCC and Rhema Family Churches
30. Joshua Generation Church
31. Kairos cfc Kyalami
32. KwaZulu-Natal Church Leadership Council
33. Lighthouse Christian Centre
34. Light the Fire Ministries
35. Maranatha Community Church
36. Methodist Church of Southern Africa (MCSA)
37. Muslim Judicial Council SA (MJC)
38. New Covenant Church Midvaal
39. Nico Claassen Global Outreach
40. Oasis Church Johannesburg
41. Oasis in Christ Ministries
42. Old Apostolic Church SA

43. Rivers of Living Waters Ministries International
44. Seventh Day Adventist Church of Southern Africa
45. Sharon Assembly of God
46. Shofar Christian Church
47. Sola 5
48. Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference
49. The Apostolic Faith Mission of SA (AFM)
50. The Church of England in South Africa (REACH SA)
51. The Church of Pentecost, SA
52. The Evangelical Alliance of South Africa (TEASA)
53. Uniting Presbyterian Church of Southern Africa
54. Uniting Reformed Church in Southern Africa
55. Valley of Miracles International Ministry
56. Vineyard Churches SA
57. Zayin Bible Church