



## PRESIDENTIAL NOTE

*We have deemed it expedient to publish a special newsletter of the ASI-SAU Update, aimed at informing ASI members and patrons on current developments. This issue focuses on ASI's Church Building Programme, the utilization of special projects funds, ASI and church partnerships, pilot church building projects and the inaugural Church Development Conference.*

### 1. Church Building Project

At the 2009 ASI Convention in Bloemfontein, members pledged R 264 890 for church infrastructure development. At the next convention in 2012 members further pledged R295 900.

### 2. Use of Project Funds

These funds are managed by ASI-SAU Missions, ASI's project funds holding organization. ASI-SAU Missions is both a Non-Profit Organization (NPO) and a Public Benefit Organization (PBO).

In terms of the NPO and PBO legal framework, funds raised for public projects have to be used for such projects during the organization's financial year. Besides, beneficiaries expect the implementation of projects once funds have been pledged.

The projects however could not be implemented between 2010 and 2013 for the following reasons:

- a. Funds were pledged at these conventions and therefore not immediately available.
- b. Pledges took a long time to redeem
- c. Between 2009 and 2011, ASI did not have a debit order system to expedite the redemption of pledges. As a result, several pledges were not honoured. This system was only introduced in 2012, making it possible to redeem 82% of the 2012 pledges. The latter was received during 2012 and 2013. Thus the redemption of these 2009 and 2012 pledges paved the way for the commencement of the church building projects.

### 3. ASI and Church Partnerships

One of ASI's accomplishments during 2013 was to secure partnerships with almost all Conferences in the SAU with respect to the ASI Church Building Programme. To this effect, ASI and relevant Conferences have signed Memoranda of Understanding that define the roles of ASI, the local church, Conferences and the Union.

### 4. Pilot Projects

ASI decided to pilot these building programmes in selected Conferences, based on the memoranda of understanding referred to above. The first pilot project was in Phalaborwa (Northern Conference), as can be seen below:



**Building in Progress**

**Building Completed**

## 5. Dedication of the Phalaborwa Church Building

The Phalaborwa church building will be dedicated on 25 October 2014. All ASI members are invited to attend this historic occasion. A special invitation is also extended to all the ASI members who pledged generously towards the realization of this special project.

## 6. Upcoming Inaugural Church Development Conference

ASI and the SAU Stewardship Department have clinched a partnership to jointly implement selected projects and events. One such event is the Inaugural Church Development Conference scheduled as follows:

- **Date:** 31 Oct – 2 Nov 2014
- **Venue:** Southern Africa Union, Bloemfontein

## Guest Speakers:



**Dr Hudson Kibuuka**  
(GC Associate Director of Education)



**Dr Themba Mhlambi Mzizi**  
(Pastor of Rancho Cucamonga  
SDA Church, California)



**Howard Karst**  
(GC Director of In-house Operations)

**Registration Fee:** R800 inclusive of meals. Fees are payable to: Southern Africa Union, ABSA Bank, Account No: 1073011562, Branch Code: 632005, Ref: Church Dev Conf+ Your Name. Fax proof of payment to: Rejoyce Ncube at 086 521 6188 or email it to her at

[ncuber@adventist.org.za](mailto:ncuber@adventist.org.za)