



TRUST DEED CONSTITUTION & BY LAWS

**The Christian & Missionary Alliance
of New Zealand**

NOVEMBER 2021

Please Note

Words deleted using the ~~strikeout~~ feature, and words added in **Green** have been approved by Council and are awaiting ratification.

CONTENTS

The Constitution	Page
Article I – Name	3
Article II – Objects and Powers	3
Article III – The Doctrinal Statement	7
Article IV – Membership	9
A. Churches of the Alliance	9
B. Church Property	9
C. Active Members of Member Churches	9
Article V – Organisation & Government	10
A. The General Council	10
• Powers of the General Council	10
• Membership of the General Council	10
• Meetings of the General Council	11
• Special Meetings of the General Council ..	12
B. Officers	12
C. National Leadership Team	13
D. Official Workers	14
E. Accounts	14
F. Seal	14
Article VI – Relationship	14
Article VII – Dissolution	14
Article VIII – Amendment to Constitution & By Laws	15
The By Laws	
BL1 – The General Council	16
A. Duties of Officers and Committees	16
BL2 – National Leadership Team	17
BL3 – Officers	17
BL4 – Appointment of Ministry Support Personnel	18
BL5 – Divorce and Remarriage	18

CONSTITUTION

PREAMBLE

The Christian and Missionary Alliance of New Zealand (hereinafter referred to as “the Alliance”) is a Charitable Trust which operates as a Christian ministry in New Zealand, founded on the recognition of Jesus Christ as Saviour, Sanctifier, Healer, and Coming King. The Alliance has one document entitled the Trust Deed, Constitution and By-Laws (hereinafter referred to as “the Constitution”) which provide the necessary guidelines for it’s ministries, the election of its trustees, officers, governing boards, administrations and institutions.

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name and title by which this organisation shall be known in law is THE CHRISTIAN AND MISSIONARY ALLIANCE OF NEW ZEALAND.

ARTICLE II - OBJECTS AND POWERS

A. The objects of the Alliance shall be:

1. To bear witness to the Christian truths, especially those relating to the deeper Christian life.
2. To promote unity of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.
3. To preach the Gospel of the Kingdom in all the world for a witness to all nations, and particularly where Christ is not named, thus hastening the coming of the Lord.
4. To evangelise at home and abroad.
5. To establish and maintain churches.
6. To establish and maintain missionary work overseas.
7. To erect and maintain such buildings as may be necessary for such purpose.
8. To provide for individual believers of kindred spirit fellowship with one another without affecting their denominational relations.
9. To encourage the co-operation of such evangelical groups of churches or Christians as may be disposed to send their missionaries under its auspices and contribute their missionary offerings through its treasurer.
10. To teach and train believers for the ministry of Christ according to the doctrinal statement.

B. The power of the Alliance shall be to do anywhere within New Zealand any of the following acts or things:

1. To acquire sites for building altering or enlarging and to build or erect alter or enlarge churches, colleges, schools, homes, hospitals, and other buildings to be used in such connection and the land upon which they are or shall be standing;

2. To purchase, take on lease or in exchange, hire or otherwise acquire any lands, building, real and personal estate or any interest in the same which may be deemed necessary or convenient for any of the purposes of the Alliance or to hire any room, hall or dwelling house and also to hire, purchase or acquire vehicles, printing presses, household, school or hospital furniture or other chattels;
3. To improve, manage, develop, work and maintain all or any of the property (real and personal) for the time being of the Alliance wheresoever situate and to erect, construct, alter and maintain any houses, building or works necessary or convenient for the purposes of the Alliance;
4. To accept, take and hold any property whether real or personal which may from time to time be given, conveyed, transferred, assigned or otherwise vested in the Alliance PROVIDED THAT in case the Alliance shall take or hold any property which may be subject to any trusts the Alliance shall only deal with the same in such manner as is allowed by law having regard to such trusts;
5. To accept, take and hold whether as bare trustee or otherwise any property whether real or personal which may from time to time be conveyed, transferred, assigned or otherwise vested in the Alliance upon any trust or trusts for the benefit of or in any manner calculated to advance the interests or further the objects of the Alliance or of any person, society, association, organisation, committee or cause connected with the Alliance and carrying our similar objects;
6. To receive and take any gift of money or property for any of the purposes and objects of the Alliance whether subject to any special trust or not but so that the Alliance may nevertheless decline to accept any gift or donation or to take over any property which has annexed to it any condition or obligation not approved by the Alliance;
7. To take such steps by personal or written appeals, public meetings or otherwise as may from time to time be deemed expedient for the purpose of procuring contributions to the funds of the Alliance in the shape of donations, annual subscriptions or otherwise;
8. To sell, manage, lease, mortgage, charge, exchange, transfer, assign, dispose of or otherwise deal with all or any part of the property of the Alliance;
9. To establish, maintain and endow churches, colleges, schools, homes, orphanages and hospitals, and to employ ministers, chaplains, officers, teachers, servants, doctors, nurses, hospital attendants, gardeners, and other persons necessary for such purposes and to enter into all contracts and execute all documents or instruments and do all things necessary or incidental to such establishment, maintenance, endowment and employment;
10. To provide for or cause to be provided for the remuneration of any person employed under the last preceding object or otherwise employed by the Alliance and to pay such remuneration out of the funds of the Alliance;
11. To print and publish any newspaper, periodical, books or leaflets that the Alliance may think desirable for the promotion of its objects;
12. To draw, make, accept, endorse, issue, purchase, negotiate, discount, receive, transfer, assign and deal in bills of exchange, cheque, promissory notes, debentures, letters of credit, coupons, circular notes, bills of lading, dock warrants, delivery orders, rights or things in action, or other negotiable or mercantile instruments or securities;
13. To borrow and raise money in such manner as the Alliance may think fit;
14. To invest and deal with the money of the Alliance not immediately required in such manner as may be permitted by law for the investment of trust funds;

15. To enter into any arrangements with any government or authority, supreme, municipal, local or otherwise that may seem conducive to the Alliance's objects or any of them; and to obtain from any such government or authority any rights, privileges and concessions;
 16. To borrow or raise or secure the payment of money in such manner as the Alliance may see fit and to secure the same or the repayment or performance of any debt, liability contract, guarantee or other engagement incurred or to be entered into by the Alliance in any way and in particular by the issue of debentures perpetual or otherwise charged upon all or any of the Alliance's property (both present and future) and to purchase, redeem or pay off any such securities;
 17. To take or hold mortgages, liens and charges to secure payment of the purchase price or any unpaid balance of the purchase price, or any part of the Alliance's property of whatsoever kind sold by the Alliance or any money due to the Alliance from purchasers or otherwise;
 18. To give any guarantee or enter into any bond in connection with the affairs of the Alliance and to indemnify any person or persons who may incur or may have incurred any personal liability for the benefit of the Alliance and for that purpose to give to such person or persons any security by way of mortgage or otherwise over the whole or any of the property and assets of the Alliance;
 19. To establish and maintain relations with bodies having similar objects throughout the world;
 20. To institute, conduct, defend or compromise proceedings either at law or equity or against the Alliance or the officers or employees thereof;
 21. To make and/or adopt rules and/or by-laws for the internal management, operation, control, maintenance and regulation of any church, college, home, school, hospital and other property with the Alliance and to alter or rescind such rules and/or by-laws and/or any of them for the purpose of carrying on managing, operating, controlling, maintaining and regulating any such property within the Alliance and under any such rules or by-laws to appoint boards of management or committees and for such purposes to delegate all or any of the objects or powers of the Alliance to such boards or committees;
 22. To pay all the costs, charges and expenses of the promotion and establishment of the Alliance;
 23. To seek incorporation as a Board in accordance with the current legislation concerning Charitable Trusts.
 24. To do all such other things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the objects and the exercise of the powers of the Alliance.
- C. The income and property of the Alliance when so ever derived shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects of the Alliance and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise howsoever by way of profit to the members of the Alliance PROVIDED THAT nothing herein shall prevent the payment in good faith of reasonable and proper remuneration to any officer or servant of the Alliance or to any member of the Alliance in return for any services actually rendered to the Alliance nor prevent the payment of interest at a rate not exceeding interest at the rate for the time being charged by bankers in Auckland for overdrawn accounts for money lent or reasonable and property rent for the premises demised or let by any member to the Alliance,
- D. When property is accepted or acquired by the Alliance for any or all of its general objects here-in-before expressed it may apply in both capital and income including the proceeds of the sale or mortgage thereof in or towards any of such objects as the Alliance may in its absolute and unfettered discretion deem fit or it may accumulate such income until the same can be usefully applied for all or any of such objects.

- E. When property is accepted by the Alliance upon special trusts declared by the donor all the above powers shall be deemed to be incorporated in the Deed of declaring such special trusts except in so far as the same shall be expressly excluded or modified or be inconsistent with such special trusts.

ARTICLE III - THE DOCTRINAL STATEMENT OF THE ALLIANCE

- A. There is one God,¹ Creator of all things,² who is infinitely perfect,³ and existing eternally in three Persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.⁴

¹Deuteronomy 6:4; Isaiah 44:6; 45:5-6, 21-22; ²Genesis 1; Colossians 1:15-16. ³Matthew 5:48; Deuteronomy 32:4. ⁴Matthew 3:16-17; 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14

- B. Jesus Christ is true God and true man.⁵ He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.⁶ He died upon the cross, the Righteous for the unrighteous, as a substitutionary sacrifice,⁷ and all who believe in Him are justified on the ground of His shed blood.⁸ He arose from the dead according to the Scriptures.⁹ He is now at the right hand of the Majesty on high¹⁰ as our great High Priest.¹¹ He will come again to establish His Kingdom of righteousness and peace.¹²

⁵Philippians 2:6-11; Hebrews 1:2, 3; 2:14-18; Colossians 1:15-20; 2:9. ⁶Matthew 1:18; Luke 1:35. ⁷1 Peter 2:24; 3:18; 1 John 2:2; 4:9, 10. ⁸Romans 3:22-25; 5:9. ⁹1 Corinthians 15:3-6. ¹⁰Hebrews 1:3, 8:1 ¹¹Hebrews 4:14-15; 9:24-28. ¹²Matthew 25:31-34.

- C. The Holy Spirit is a divine person, sent to indwell, guide, teach, and empower the believer for godly living and service, to bring glory to the Lord Jesus Christ, and to convict the world of sin, of righteousness and of judgment.¹³

¹³Acts 1:8; John 14:16-17; John 16:7-15.

- D. The Old and New Testaments, inerrant as originally given, whose words were inspired by God, are a complete revelation of His will for the salvation of all people. They constitute the divine and only rule of Christian faith and practice.¹⁴

¹⁴2 Timothy 3:15-17; 2 Peter 1:20-21.

- E. People were originally created in the image and likeness of God; they fell through disobedience, incurring thereby both physical and spiritual death.¹⁵ Subsequently all people are born with a sinful nature, are separated from the life of God, and can be saved only through faith in the atoning work of the Lord Jesus Christ on the cross.¹⁶ The destiny of the unrepentant and unbelieving is everlasting separation from God in conscious torment (Hell); but that of the believer is everlasting joy and blessing in the presence of the Lord (Heaven).¹⁷

¹⁵Genesis 1:26-27, 3; ¹⁶Romans 3:9-12; 22-25; Galatians 3:22; Ephesians 4:17-18. ¹⁷Matthew 25:41-46; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-10; Revelation 14:9-13

- F. Salvation has been provided only through Jesus Christ for all people.¹⁸ Those who repent and believe in Him are justified freely by His grace, are born again of the Holy Spirit, receive the gift of eternal life, and become the children of God.¹⁹

¹⁸John 3:16; Titus 3:5-7; Acts 2:38. ¹⁹Ephesians 1:7; Romans 3:22-25; 1 Corinthians 6:11; John 1:12.

- G. It is the will of God that each believer should be filled with the Holy Spirit and be sanctified thoroughly, thereby being separated from the power of sin and conformity to the world, and being fully dedicated to the will of God, receiving power for holy living and sacrificial and effective service toward the completion of Christ's commission.²⁰ This is both a distinct encounter and a progressive experience in the life of the believer subsequent to conversion.²¹

²⁰1 Thessalonians 5:23; Acts 1:8; Romans 12:1-2; Galatians 5:16-25; ²¹2 Corinthians 3:18; Romans 6:1-4; 1 John 2:15-17

- H. Provision is made in the redemptive work of the Lord Jesus Christ for the healing of the mortal body.²² Prayer for the sick and anointing with oil as taught in the Scriptures are privileges for the Church in this present age.²³

²²Matthew 8:16-17. ²³James 5:14-16.

I. The universal Church consists of all those who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, are redeemed through His blood, and are born again of the Holy Spirit. Christ is the Head of the Body, the Church. He has commissioned the Church to go to all nations as a witness of the Gospel.²⁴

J. The local church is a body of believers in Christ who are joined together for the worship of God, which includes being built up through the Word of God, prayer, fellowship, the observance of Baptism and the Lord's Supper, and the witness of the Gospel locally and globally.²⁵

²⁴1 Corinthians 12:13; Ephesians 1:22-23; 3:6-12; Matthew 16:18; 28:19-20. ²⁵Hebrews 10:25; Acts 2:41-47; 1 Corinthians 11:23-29; Acts 1:8

K. There shall be a bodily resurrection of all people.²⁶ For believers a resurrection to life;²⁷ for unbelievers a resurrection to judgement.²⁸

²⁶ John 5:25-29; Acts 24:14-16; ²⁷ 1 Corinthians 15:20-23; ²⁸ 2 Thessalonians 1:5-10.

L. The second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ is imminent, and will be personal and visible.²⁹ As the believer's blessed hope, this vital truth is an incentive to holy living and faithful service toward the completion of Christ's commission.³⁰

²⁹ Matthew 24:29-31; Acts 1:7-11; 1 Corinthians 1:7; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17; 2 Peter 3:8-9; Revelation 1:7; Revelation 22:7,12; ³⁰ Matthew 28:18-20; Titus 2:11-14; 2 Peter 3:10-13

ARTICLE IV - MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the Alliance shall consist of those who are members in churches of the Alliance and those holding official credentials with the Alliance.

A. CHURCHES OF THE ALLIANCE

Any church which meets the following criteria may apply to the NLT to become a member church of the Alliance. When such application for membership has been recommended by the NLT and accepted by the General Council of the Alliance, any such church shall be deemed to be a member church. Such membership of a particular congregation or church may be terminated at any time by the Alliance at a General Council meeting.

Criteria for Member Churches

1. Agree with the Alliance Doctrinal Statement which affirms the Four Fold Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ as Saviour, Sanctifier, Healer and Coming King.
2. Support the mission of the Alliance as stated by the NLT.
3. Adhere to the terms of the Alliance Constitution.
4. Agree to make financial contributions to the Alliance as determined by the General Council.
5. Provide annual reports to the NLT which include church statistics, ministry reports and financial reports
6. Participate in the annual Alliance Missionary Convention, or include the Alliance in an established missionary convention of the church.
7. Ensure their Constitution, Trust Deeds, Rules, and ByLaws are consistent with the Alliance "Constitutional Guidelines for Churches"

B. CHURCH PROPERTY

1. Real property

The title to all property shall be held by the Alliance. The NLT shall provide a declaration of trust indicating that the property is held in trust for the church. The church may acquire, sell, convey, exchange or encumber real property by order of the church membership through the executive committee. Where trustees are required, the order of membership shall proceed through them.

2. Personal property

The church may acquire, sell, improve, encumber and convey personal property for church purposes.

C. Dissolution

Should the church cease to exist or cease to be subject to the constitution of the Alliance, then all of its property appurtenances and effects then owned or held by it shall enure to the benefit of, and become the property of the Alliance.

C. ACTIVE MEMBERS OF MEMBER CHURCHES

1. Any member of an Alliance church who is regularly in attendance at the church's meetings of worship, and who is in agreement with the Doctrinal Statement and the objectives of the Alliance.
2. Any such member who, being prevented from periodical attendance by age or infirmity or distance and is deemed to be genuinely interested in the work of his/her church.

ARTICLE V - ORGANISATION AND GOVERNMENT

A. THE GENERAL COUNCIL

There shall be a General Council of the Alliance which shall be the supreme legislative body of the Alliance.

1. Powers of the General Council

- a. The General Council shall have power to make and repeal by-laws of the Alliance provided the same shall not be inconsistent with the objects of the Alliance.
- b. All By-laws of the General Council and alterations or repeals of By-laws shall require a resolution of the General Council passed by a two-thirds majority of the accredited delegates present and voting.
- c. All By-laws of the General Council in force at the date of this constitution shall continue in force hereafter until they are altered or repealed in accordance with this constitution.
- d. The General Council may appoint any committee or committees of the Alliance consisting of such member or members of the Alliance as it thinks fit (whether those members are members of the General Council or not) and may entrust to and confer on any such committee any of the powers exercisable by the General Council upon such terms and conditions and with such restrictions as it may think fit either collaterally with or to the exclusion of its own powers and may from time to time revoke, alter, or vary all or any of those powers.
- e. The General Council shall elect the officers of the Alliance in accordance with the requirements of the constitution.
- f. The General Council may make amendments to the constitution according to the rules set forth in Article VIII – Amendment to the Constitution

2. Membership of the General Council

The members of the General Council entitled to debate and vote at meetings of the General Council (called "accredited delegates") shall comprise:

- a. All members of the NLT;
- b. All official workers of the Alliance;
- c. All national coordinators elected by General Council;
- d. Delegates elected by Churches. Each church shall be entitled to be represented by (1) delegate for every five (5) or fraction of five active members of the church (in accordance with the definition of an active member as decided by General Council from time to time) and every such delegate shall be entitled to attend the General Council of the Alliance as a representative of the church and to vote thereat in respect of any resolution and to report back on the proceedings of such General Council to his/her church at their next regular business meeting. The Secretary of each church shall forward a list of such delegates to the NLT at least 14 days before any Meeting and such list shall be conclusive as to appointments unless otherwise decided by the NLT. No proxy voting is allowed.
- e. Any member of an Alliance church may attend meetings of the General Council and General Meetings and participate in deliberation on any matter.
- f. On the invitation of the NLT, people who are not members of the Alliance may attend meetings of the General Council.

3. Meetings of the General Council

- a. No business shall be transacted at any meeting unless a quorum of twenty (20) accredited delegates of the Alliance (including at least three (3) members of the NLT) are present.
- b. The National Director shall preside or appoint a chairman of every meeting of the Alliance. At any meeting at which the National Director shall not take the chair, the meeting shall appoint its own chairman.
- c. At any meeting of the Alliance every member shall have one (1) vote. In the case of an equality of votes, whether on a show of hands or on a poll, the chairman of the meeting shall be entitled to a second or casting vote.
- d. At any meeting a resolution put to the vote of the meeting shall be decided on a show of hands unless a poll is (before or on the declaration of the result of the show of hands) demanded:
 - i. By the chairman; or
 - ii. By at least three (3) members present in person.
- e. Unless a poll is so demanded a declaration by the chairman that a resolution has on a show of hands been carried or carried unanimously, or by a particular majority, or lost and an entry to that effect in the minutes of the proceedings shall be conclusive evidence of the fact without proof of the number or proportion of the votes recorded in favour of or against the resolution.
- f. No member shall vote on any matter in which he is personally interested whether pecuniarily or otherwise, or debate on such matters without the permission of the majority of the members present, such permission to be given or withheld without discussion.

- g. The proceedings at any meeting shall not be invalidated by reason of any inadvertent or accidental informality or irregularity in the convening thereof or otherwise, or any want of qualification in any of the persons present or voting there-at.
- h. The General Council shall either fix the time and place of the next meeting of the General Council or delegate to the NLT the authority to fix the time and place of that meeting, but so that there shall be one (1) such meeting each calendar year and not more than sixteen (16) months shall elapse between one such meeting and the next.
- i. Except as otherwise provided in this constitution all questions arising at meetings of the General Council shall be decided by a majority of the accredited delegates present and voting thereon.
- j. Any matters, which in the opinion of the NLT are of a special or peculiar interest, shall require a two thirds majority.
- k. All proceedings at any meeting of the General Council shall be valid and effectual notwithstanding that it may afterwards be discovered that any member of the General Council has been informally elected or is not properly qualified.
- l. The Chairman of the General Council shall ensure that minutes are taken of all meetings and that those minutes are filed in a permanent record and distributed to all churches.
- m. Matters not covered by the above Proceedings shall be determined by reference to 'Guide for Meetings and Organisations' Volume 2 by NE Renton (Parliamentary Rules).

4. Special Meetings of the General Council

- a. The NLT may whenever they think fit, convene a Special Meeting of the Alliance and shall do so forthwith upon the requisition in writing of any twenty (20) members of the Alliance stating the nature of the business to be transacted at the meeting. A minimum notification of twenty-eight (28) days shall be given to the churches of the Alliance stating the purpose of the Special Meeting, and no other business shall be transacted at the meeting.
- b. The conduct of Special Meetings shall be governed by the rules set out in Article V: Meetings of the General Council.

B. OFFICERS

The officers of the Alliance and their duties shall comprise:

1. National Director - The National Director (ND) shall be a Christlike leader and shall satisfy the scriptural requirements for church leadership as set out in 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1 and shall provide visionary leadership for the Alliance. The ND shall hold an Official Workers License with the Alliance and shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Alliance. The primary role of the ND is to give leadership to the Alliance, and to enhance leadership capacity in members of the NLT and other national leadership ministries. The National Director shall act as Chairperson of the National Leadership Team (NLT) (or his/her nominee from within NLT members). The National Director shall be a member ex-officio of all committees except the Rules Committee
2. The NLT shall appoint a Secretary and Treasurer to carry out the business of the Alliance.
3. The Chairperson of the Licensing and Ordination Committee (L&O) shall be a Christlike leader who provides visionary leadership for the Licensing and Ordination Committee. They shall oversee the processing of applications for licencing and ordination, assist and support applicants, and provide

4. The NLT shall be elected by a 50% majority of the accredited delegates present and voting at a meeting of the General Council. The National Director's election shall require a 67% majority of those accredited delegates present and voting.
5. Subject to any by-laws made by the General Council relating to such appointments every officer shall be elected for such period and on such terms as the General Council thinks fit and, subject to any such by-laws and to the terms of any agreement in any particular case, the General Council may at any time revoke any such appointment.
6. Those persons who are the officers of the Alliance at the date of this constitution shall remain in office until the expiry of the term for which they were each originally appointed.
7. In the event that any elected office becomes vacant, the NLT shall appoint a person to that office to fill the vacancy. Any person so appointed shall remain in office until the next ordinary meeting of the General Council unless earlier removed by the General Council or the NLT.

C. NATIONAL LEADERSHIP TEAM

1. Functions

- a. The National Leadership Team (NLT) shall be the executive leadership body of the Alliance accountable to the General Council. The members of the NLT shall also be Trustees of the Alliance.
- b. The purpose of the meetings shall be to handle any necessary executive decisions of the Alliance. There should be a constant dependence upon the Lord and prayer in the NLT gatherings.

2. Procedures of the NLT

- a. The NLT may meet for the dispatch of business, adjourn, or otherwise regulate their meetings as they think fit. Questions arising at any meeting shall be decided by a majority of votes.
- b. The quorum necessary for the transaction of the business of the NLT may be fixed by the General Council and unless so fixed shall be one-half of the members of the NLT.
- c. The NLT may delegate any of their powers to committees consisting of such member or members of the Alliance as they think fit; any committee so formed shall, in the exercise of the powers so delegated, conform to any regulations that may be imposed on it by the NLT. A committee may meet and adjourn as it thinks proper.
- d. A resolution in writing signed by all members of the NLT shall be valid and effectual as if it had been passed at a meeting of the NLT duly conveyed and held. Any such resolution may consist of several documents in like form, each signed by one (1) or more members of the NLT.

3. Liability of Officers

- a. All officers and employees shall be chargeable only for such money as they shall actually have received although they may have joined in any receipt for money received by any other of them and shall not be answerable for the acts of any other officer or employee nor for any loss which may arise by reason on any trust funds being lawfully deposited in the hands of a

banker solicitor or agent or for the sufficiency or insufficient or deficiency of any security upon which any trust property or any part thereof may be invested or for any loss in the execution of any trust unless the same shall happen through their own neglect or default.

- b. No member of the NLT or employee hereafter appointed shall be concerned or under any obligation to enquire into the administration of the Alliance prior to the date of appointment or be under any duty or obligation to take any steps or proceedings whatsoever in respect to any breach of trust or default committee prior to such date and every such member of the NLT shall be entitled to accept as correct and in order particulars of the trust property as at such date furnished to him by the other members.

D. OFFICIAL WORKERS

Official Worker: An Official Worker's Licence may be granted by the Alliance to a person who is called of God to ministry in the church or in related ministries. Official workers may have the privilege of ordination, the solemnising of marriage ceremonies, and all such responsibilities necessary to fulfil the duties of their assigned ministry at the discretion of the Licensing & Ordination Committee.

E. ACCOUNTS

1. The NLT shall cause true accounts to be kept with respect to:
 - a. All moneys received and expended by the Alliance and the matters in respect of which such receipts and expenditure take place; and
 - b. The assets and liabilities of the Alliance and in such accounts assets held upon any special trust. Receipt and payments on account of such trust shall be entered separately and apart from all other assets, receipts and payments.
2. The books of accounts shall be kept at such place or places as the NLT thinks fit and shall at all reasonable times be open to the inspection of members of the Alliance.
3. At the Annual Meeting of the General Council the NLT shall present an income and expenditure account and balance sheet containing a summary of the property and liabilities of the Alliance made up to date not more than six (6) months prior to the date of the meeting. Such accounts shall be accompanied by a report of the NLT as to the affairs of the Alliance and all its separate activities.
4. All the assets and funds of the Alliance shall be applied and distributed solely towards the accomplishment of the objects of the Christian and Missionary Alliance of NZ.

F. SEAL

The NLT shall provide for the safe custody of the seal, which shall only be used by the authority of the NLT, and every instrument to which the seal is affixed shall be signed by the National Director and countersigned by one (1) other member of the NLT.

ARTICLE VI - RELATIONSHIP

The Alliance is an integral part of the Christian and Missionary Alliance International through membership in the fraternal organisation of the Alliance World Fellowship.

ARTICLE VII - DISSOLUTION

If upon the winding-up or dissolution of the Alliance there remains after satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the Alliance but shall be given or transferred to some other institution or institutions within New Zealand having charitable objects similar to the objects of the Alliance and which shall prohibit the distribution of its or their income and property among its or their members and which limits the distribution of its or their income and property to within New Zealand. Such institution or institutions shall be determined by the NLT of the Alliance at or before the time of dissolution, and in so far as effect cannot be given to the aforesaid provision then for some charitable object.

ARTICLE VIII - AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION

Amendments may be made to the Constitution when adopted by a 67% majority vote at meetings of the General Council and ratified at the next following meeting of the General Council, provided that no alteration may be made which would be inconsistent with the objectives of the Alliance. Proposed amendments shall be submitted to the NLT three (3) months before its first reading at a meeting of the General Council. Official notice of the meeting for the adoption and ratification of amendments shall be given by the secretary of the NLT to local churches at least two (2) months before the said General Council.

THE BY-LAWS

BL1 - THE GENERAL COUNCIL

A. Duties of Officers and Committees

1. National Director
 - a. The National Director shall survey all the work of Alliance and submit an annual report to the General Council. He shall seek to set the vision and direction for the future of the Alliance in his Report.
 - b. Annual Missionary Convention: The National Director, with the support of the International Missions Chairman, shall plan an annual Missionary Convention which includes all of the churches.
2. Treasurer
 - a. The Treasurer shall submit a financial report to the General Council. The Treasurer shall ensure the financial statements are audited annually.
3. Secretary.
 - a. The NLT secretary shall be the secretary of the General Council. It shall be the duty of the secretary and his/her assistants to keep a proper record of the proceedings of the General Council; to keep copies of all reports presented, and to preserve in the archives of the Alliance such minutes and reports; and to perform such other duties as may be required of him/her by the General Council.
 - b. The NLT secretary shall prepare the annual report of the General Council. He/she shall submit the minutes and the committee reports of the General Council to the NLT, for final editing and approval for publication, at the first regular meeting of the NLT following the General Council. Those minutes and reports shall be published and distributed to all the members of the NLT and one to each of the local churches within two months of General Council.
4. Chairman of Licensing and Ordination Committee
 - a. The Chairman of Licensing and Ordination shall be appointed by the National Director and his term shall run concurrent with the National Director.
5. Committee on Council Arrangements.
 - a. The NLT shall nominate three members for the Committee on Council Arrangements for the following year.
6. Committee on Nominations.
 - a. The Committee on Nominations shall be comprised of two members elected by the Official Workers of the Alliance and two members elected by the National Leadership Team.
 - b. The National Director will ask the Official Workers for nominations and if more than two people are nominated, a secret ballot will be held under the authority of the NLT to determine the elected members.
 - c. Nominating Committee Members must be Official Members of Alliance Churches or Licenced Workers in good standing within the Alliance Churches of New Zealand
 - d. The committee shall present a written report as part of the Council Report Package presented to churches two weeks before the General Council. This report shall include the names of the

people nominated, their positions, terms of office, and current members of the respective teams.

- e. Additional nominations may be submitted by the Church Leadership Teams to the Nominating Committee no later than one week prior to General Council. Any additional nominations received will be reviewed by the Nominating Committee to ensure nominees fulfil the requirements of the relevant guidelines. If necessary, an amended Nominating Committee Report will be presented to the General Council.
 - f. The final report of the committee shall be read and received and then the General Council shall proceed to elections. Changes to this section approved at Council 2020, ratified at Council 2021
7. International Missions Team
- a. The International Missions Team Chairman shall be elected at General Council for a 2 year term and shall be a member of the NLT.
8. Tellers.
- a. The tellers shall be appointed by the Chairman of General Council to be responsible for distributing and collecting the ballots. They shall count the votes and present the results to the General Council.
9. Committee on Rules.
- a. The committee shall consist of at least three members to be elected for a period of three years, one-third of whom shall be elected each year. The National Director is empowered to name the chairman of this committee annually from the members who are commencing their third year of service. This committee shall consider all recommendations and proposals relating to the constitution, by-laws and rules referred to it. Its powers shall be limited only to the question of whether the legislation is in proper form and not in conflict with existing legislation or provisions of the constitution.

BL2 – NATIONAL LEADERSHIP TEAM

- A. The National Leadership Team (NLT) will consist of a National Director, and a minimum of four members elected at General Council. At the first NLT meeting of those elected, they will elect a Secretary and a Treasurer, and delegate responsibility amongst themselves for the roles of Assistant National Director, and other roles as deemed necessary. They will be responsible to the General Council for how this work is carried out. They shall be elected according to the schedule as stated in ARTICLE III - OFFICERS. Election shall be by ballot. The team members shall be seen to satisfy the scriptural guidelines in respect of Holiness of life, spiritual giftedness and abilities required.
- B. The NLT shall designate the auditor.
- C. The NLT shall submit a proposed budget to the General Council.

BL3 - OFFICERS

- A. National Director and National Leadership Team

The National Director and all other members of the National Leadership Team shall be elected for 2 year terms. It is intended that elections are held annually with some elected officials being replaced or re-elected each year. Continuity is provided by the overlapping terms of appointment.

B. Signatories.

Cheques shall be signed by any two of the following: National Director, Treasurer or any other people appointed by the NLT.

BL4 - APPOINTMENT OF MINISTRY SUPPORT PERSONNEL

A. The appointment or employment of all Ministry Support Personnel shall be made by the NLT.

BL5 - DIVORCE AND REMARRIAGE

A. Divorce.

We express our unalterable opposition to divorce on any but biblical grounds.

I. Remarriage.

Divorced persons who are remarried or persons who are married to divorced persons prior to conversion and persons who are divorced and remarried or married to a divorced person on biblical grounds following conversion may be:

1. Elected or appointed to national church office or given credentials in the Alliance of N.Z. when approved by the Licence and Ordination Committee and the NLT on the basis of the "Divorce and Remarriage" guidelines.
2. Elected or appointed to local church office when approved by the pastor and/or elders who will base their approval on the investigative procedures as contained in the "Divorce and Remarriage" guidelines.

C. Divorce and Remarriage Guidelines

1. The Licensing and Ordination Committee shall not appoint a person to office or ministry when that person has been divorced and remarried or is married to a divorced person, until the investigative procedures herein described have been completed.
2. The committee on nominations of the General Council, or a delegate making a nomination from the floor, shall not submit for nomination the name of a person for national office when that person has been divorced and remarried, or is married to a divorced person, until the investigative procedure herein described has been completed.
3. A person applying for service as a licensed worker in the Alliance who has been divorced and remarried, or is married to a divorced person, shall submit the application for service to the Licensing and Ordination Committee. The Licensing and Ordination Committee shall follow the investigative procedures herein described. They shall submit their report to the NLT, whose decision will be final.

a. The Investigative Procedures:

- i. Any person who refuses to see their divorce and remarriage as sin, when it was outside biblical exceptions, and sense no need of repentance shall not be licensed, elected or appointed to any national or local church office.

- ii. The Licensing and Ordination Committee shall endeavour to secure as much information as possible as to the circumstances bringing about the divorce, the grounds upon which the divorce was granted, the subsequent remarriage of the divorced person and the conduct of their Christian living since the remarriage.
- iii. Does the divorce meet the Biblical standards for divorce?
- iv. If the conduct of the applicant was such that it contributed to the conduct of the guilty spouse, has such conduct been corrected in the subsequent marriage of the applicant.
- v. What are the details of alimony, child custody and child support? Is the applicant free of any continuing financial obligations?
- vi. Was church discipline involved in the divorce proceedings? What was the discipline and how did the applicant respond to the discipline?
- vii. Did the applicant submit himself to wise pastoral counsel before entering a new marriage relationship?
- viii. What is the state and strength of the present marriage?
- ix. What is the level of spiritual maturity and emotional stability of the applicant and spouse?
- x. How does the applicant see this divorce or remarriage now in the light of scripture and in retrospect of this experience? What does the applicant believe the scriptures teach relative to divorce and remarriage?
- xi. Has the applicant applied for service with another church or missionary agency? If so, what was their action on the application?
- xii. Has the applicant served with another church or missionary agency? If so, reference letters should be obtained from the particular parties.
- xiii. What is the applicant's relationship to a local church? Reference letters should be obtained from the church.
- xiv. The Licensing and Ordination Committee shall prepare a written report of its findings and shall give prayerful and careful study to the case. If there remains any doubt in the minds of the members of the Committee as to the suitability of the applicant, the applicant may be requested to meet with the Committee for further discussion.

D. When the NLT is satisfied the applicant is suitable for ministry they shall refer the applicant to the Licensing and Ordination Committee for the continuing process of application for credentials, or the approval for the election or appointment to national office. If the Licensing and Ordination Committee denies the request for ministry, this decision shall be given to the applicant by the National Director in a manner to minister to the applicant as fully as possible, to alleviate further emotional trauma.