



# APARTHEID, RACISM AND 'STATUS CONFESSIONIS'

ASSEMBLY STANDING COMMITTEE, UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA  
Resolution 85.151

Correspondence was received from the World Alliance of Reformed Churches requesting endorsement of the decision of the WARC's 21<sup>st</sup> General Council to suspend two South African member churches from the privileges of membership.

85.151 It was resolved

- 1) To inform the WARC that, on the basis of decisions taken by previous meetings of the Assembly and by our Commission for World Mission, the Standing Committee endorses the action of the 21<sup>st</sup> General Council of WARC in stating that 'Apartheid (Separate Development) is sin and that the moral and theological justification of it is a travesty of the gospel and, in its persistent disobedience to the Word of God, a theological heresy' and that 'we regard it as an issue on which it is not possible to differ without seriously jeopardising the integrity of our common confession as Reformed churches'.
- 2) to refer the WARC letter and the above response of this Standing Committee to our Commission on Doctrine, requesting its advice on the implications for the doctrine and life of the church.