Annexure B – Statute of the Macedonian Orthodox Church Diocese of Australia and New Zealand

STATUTE

OF THE MACEDONIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH DIOCESE OF AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

1. BASIC REGULATIONS

Article 1

The Macedonian Orthodox Church, Diocese of Australia and New Zealand (MOCDANZ or Diocese) is an integral part of the Mother-Macedonian Orthodox Church (hereinafter referred to as "the MOC") whose seat is in Skopje, Macedonia and is within its canonical jurisdiction.

The MOCDANZ is a religious, charitable and non-profitable institution.

Article 2

Its religious teachings and government is according to the Holy Canons, Constitution of the MOC, more particularly in Articles 6, 10 & 11. It is administered according to the Statute of MOCDANZ, the By-laws, the church laws, regulations and rules approved by Holy Bishop's Synod (HBS) of the MOC, which the whole of the MOC is governed.

Exceptions can only be found in the local specifications, which are formulated according to the local social circumstances and occurrences and are in conformity with the acts of the Orthodox Church.

Article 3

The jurisdiction of the Macedonian Orthodox Church, Diocese of Australia and New Zealand includes the whole of the territory of Australia and New Zealand.

Article 4

Ecclesiastical language of the liturgy of the Macedonian Orthodox Church, Diocese of Australia and New Zealand is old church Macedonian and the Macedonian literature language.

Where necessary the English language may be used.

For purpose of administration, the Macedonian language and the Cyrilic Alphabet is to be used, with use of the English language if necessary.

Article 5

All diocesan bodies and organs of the Macedonian Orthodox Church, Diocese of Australia and New Zealand have their own round seal. The sealis comprised of the crest of the MOC in its centre. In its outer circle the text shall be **Macedonian Orthodox Church**, in the second circle **Diocese of Australia and New Zealand** and in its centre circle the title of the particular body or organ.

Seals and stamps of the Diocese, churches, monasteries, parishes and church communities are bi-lingual in the Macedonian and English languages and for the purpose of uniformity and accuracy shall be designed by the Diocesan Ruling Committee (DRC).

II. DIOCESAN GOVERNING

Article 6

The Bodies and Organs of the Diocese are:

- (a) Church-hierarchical, and
- (b) Church-Governing.

Article 7

For administrative purposes the Macedonian Orthodox Church, Diocese of Australia and New Zealand is divided into Diocesan Provinces, Church Communities, Parishes, Churches and Monasteries.

Article 8

Any change to the church administration and other character or form of the Macedonian Orthodox Church, Diocese of Australia and New Zealand shall be determined by the Holy Bishop's Synod of the Macedonian Orthodox Church, by proposal of DRC and with the consent of the competent Diocesan Bishop.

Article 9

Except for the members of the clergy, all members (lay people) of bodies and organs of the Diocese when taking office shall take an oath. The text of the oath is as follows:

"I... elected member of this church body (or organ) swear in the name of the Almighty God that i will be trustworthy and devoted to the Macedonian Orthodox Church and to my fatherland and that I will preserve the Holy Canons, Constitution of the Macedonian Orthodox Church and the Statute of the Macedonian Orthodox Church, Diocese of Australia and New Zealand as well as all of the Church Acts, rules and norms brought by the MOC. I shall live and work according to the Holy teachings of Orthodoxy, I shall undertake my duties conscientiously and responsibly and I shall keep the official secrets of the Church.

As I am fulfilling this, may I be helped by the Almighty God, God, Holy Mother of God our first Holy apostles Paul, Guy and Artistarch, our Holy equal to Apostles and Teachers the brothers from Salonica St. Cyril and St Methodius and their Holy disciples Clement and Naum of Ohrid Miracle makers, Macedonian and all other Saints".

Article 10

The Diocesan authorities independently decide on all issues within their competence and which are in accordance with the Constitution of the Macedonian Orthodox Church and this Statute. The decisions are binding.

If confirmed that these decisions are not in compliance with the laws of Australia and New Zealand, then it is possible to seek assistance.

A. CHURCH HIEARARCHICAL GOVERNING

DIOCESAN BISHOP - METROPOLITAN

Article 11

The head of the Macedonian Orthodox Church, Diocese of Australia and New Zealand, is the Diocesan Bishop-Metropolitan, who is elected and appointed by the Holy Bishop's Synod of the

Macedonian Orthodox Church in accordance with Articles 71, 72 & 73 of the Constitution of the Macedonian Orthodox Church, His seat, in accordance with the Constitution shall be within the Diocese.

Article 12

The Diocesan Bishop of the Macedonian Orthodox Church, Diocese of Australia and New Zealand has all the rights and obligations as contained in the Holy Canons and the Constitution of the Macedonian Orthodox Church, and in accordance with all other church regulations.

The competent Diocesan Bishop is the spiritual and administrative elder-Head of the Diocese. As head of the Diocese he represents and administers the whole of the Diocesan church and spiritual life and governance within the Diocese.

The Diocesan Bishop executes his Church-ecclesiastical authority and deals with all ecclesiastical, dogmatical and liturgical issues independently, with the cooperation of the clergy and the monastic orders. He carries out his Church-administrative material and financial duties with the cooperation of the DRC and the other bodies and organs of the Diocese.

In the Administration and general activities of the Diocese, the Diocesan Bishop will be assisted by: the Diocesan Assembly (DA), the Diocesan Ruling Committee (DRC), the Diocesan Church Court (DCC), the Diocesan Religious Education Council (DREC), the Diocesan Committee of Trustees (DCT), the Diocesan Administration (Dad), the Organ for auditing (OA), Church Community Parish Council (CCPC), Deputy Bishop, Bishop's Prelates, Church Elders and Parish Administrations.

Article 13

THE RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE DIOCESAN BISHOP ARE:

- 1. To teach and enlightening the clergy, monastic orders and parishioners of the Diocese with words, deeds and epistles;
- 2. To direct and authorise the clergy, monastic orders and parishioners under his jurisdiction to establish and organise welfare, religious educational, charitable and like institutions for the furtherance of the faith and morality;
- 3. Authorises and blesses the formation and building of churches, monasteries, church communities, parishes, chapels and graveyards where necessary and is concerned with their upkeep. He authorises the manufacture of icons, frescoes and other sacred church objects for churches, monasteries, chapels and the Diocese;
- 4. Makes endeavours to ensure all churches and monasteries are provided with vestments, religious ceremonial objects, religious books and libraries and that ceremonies, religious rights, liturgy and holy sacraments are completed within appropriate times;
- 5. Consecrates temples new churches, monasteries, the antimins (alter-cloth) and religious objects etc. in the Diocese;
- 6. Authorises all building works in church communities and the Diocese; ensures buildings are constructed in a Macedonian Orthodox style and that the churches and the faithful are provided with orthodox icons with Macedonian script;
- 7. He ordains worthy persons with the necessary theological preparation, in to the ranks as subdeacons, deacons, priests, and hieromonks, directs them in their duties and provides them with certificates for their positions;

- 8. Gives them canonical reception and dismissal from service and appoints and dismisses the same;
- 9. Appoints and dismisses his own Deputy Bishop from both orders and notifies the Holy Bishop's Synod of appointments or dismissals;
- 10. Appoints religious school teachers, orators, confessors for the clergy and monastic orders of the Diocese;
- 11. Upon the nomination of the Abbots or Abbesses or of his own initiative ordinates worthy persons into monastic orders;
- 12. Appoints and dismisses elders of Church Communities, churches and monasteries;
- 13. Through its own prelates, he obliges and frees from obligation with the whole church administration, with a daily protocol, registries (protocols) for: baptised, married, deceased etc. as well as with saintly antimins (alter-cloth) and a Holy Chrism which are the property of the MOC or the Diocesan Bishop.
- 14. Gives dispensation or revalidation in matrimonial matters where breaches or disputes occur against the canons and regulations;
- 15. Gives leave of absence to officials and clergy within or out of his Diocese;
- 16. Directs the formation of religious, culturally educational and welfare groups for the development and welfare of orthodox Macedonians in the Diocese;
- 17. Sends out representatives specifically for the inspection of Diocesan and prelates offices, monastic administrative bodies and church community and parish offices;
- 18. Nominates replacements for absent clergy and officials in his Diocese;
- 19. Conducts overall supervision of the clergy and officials;
- 20. In cases of temporary closure of a church, determines the place for the storing of its holy relics and objects;
- 21. Conducts canonical visits in his Diocese;
- 22. Confirms and authorises the elected members of the monasteries custodianship, church administrations and Church Community councils and committees in the Diocese;
- 23. In cases of neglect or violations of the canons by a greater than fifty (50) percent majority of members of the Diocesan Assembly (DA), DRC, of the general ordinary/extraordinary and election assemblies, Church Communities, church-community councils, the church and monastery committees, and the executive committees, has the right to dismiss church administrators and to call for an electoral Church Community meetings, and under his supervision or the supervision of the deputy, to have elected a new church administration or Church Community council;
- 24. Until the election of new bodies and organisations, the Diocesan Bishop appoints a temporary administration and organisations;
- 25. Endeavours to ensure that all decisions and resolutions of the higher organs and bodies of the Macedonian Orthodox Church are executed within a reasonable time;
- 26. Passes judgement over summary offences committed by the clergy of both ranks and imposes sentences for disciplinary offences by oral and written warning, reproach, suspension (epythymy) of

fifteen days and prohibition from clerical duties for one month and, for more serious disciplinary offences delivers them to the Diocesan Church Court; he adjudicates and pronounces sentences for the temporary excommunication from the church community and denial of some rights and honours in the church to layman and clergy. These are all executive decisions.

- 27. Removes from clerical duties clergy of both orders found guilty by the Diocesan church Court and appoints replacements;
- 28. In cases of serious and demonstrable liability within his Diocese, he may suspend from function any church personnel from any order, even prior to the commencement of an inquiry, which inquiry, must commence no later than thirty (30) days from the date of the suspension;
- 29. Convenes and presides over bodies and organs of the Diocese and is concerned with the execution of their resolutions;
- 30. As to the constitutionality and regularity of his own work he is answerable to the Holy Synod;
- 31. For his own work and the state of the Diocese he provides to the Holy Bishop's Synod an annual report;
- 32. He rewards and honours clergy, those in monastic orders or the laity, and nominates clergy and those in monastic orders for honours of the highest rank in accordance with the Holy Canons and the constitution of the Macedonian Orthodox Church; and
- 33. Carries out all other duties arising from this Statute, the Constitution of the Macedonian Orthodox Church and church regulations and other duties arising from his membership of the Holy Synod.

Article 14

The Deputy Bishop, with the authority and blessing of the competent Diocesan Bishop may represent the Bishop in relation to church administration. With written authority, he may represent the Bishop in relation to judicial matters.

Article 15

The Diocesan Bishop appoints and dismisses Deputy Bishop, Bishop's Preludes, a secretary, office assistant, archivist, bookkeeper, treasurer and other office and technical personnel in the Diocese.

The Diocesan Secretary may be a cleric of both orders who fulfils the necessary qualifications in accordance with the Constitution of the Macedonian Orthodox Church.

B. CHURCH-RULING BODIES AND ORGANS

DIOCESAN ASSEMBLY

Article 16

The Diocesan Assembly of the Macedonian Orthodox Church, Diocese of Australia and New Zealand is a body comprised of clergy and faithful; representatives from each of the Macedonian Orthodox Church Communities and Elders of Monasteries of the Diocese. It is the highest legislative and church-ruling body in jurisdictions given to him by the Constitution of the MOC and church-administrative body for all administrative and material tasks in the Diocese.

The Members of the Diocesan Assembly are:

- (a) by title: the Diocesan Bishop, Deputy Bishop, Monastic Elders and all regular parish clergy and presidents of Church Communities.
- (b) By election: one lay member elected as a delegate from each Parish Council from the parish, or committee of the community, if the priest is a president, then two elected persons.

Article 18

Macedonian Orthodox Church communities which do not have a regular parish priest are represented in the Diocesan Assembly only by the president and elected member. If such a parish does not commence normal spiritual activity (does not have its own priest, does not build or commence to build a church, or does not conduct regular services) within a period of four (4) years from entry into the canonical jurisdiction of the Macedonian Orthodox Church, it loses the right to be a full member of the Diocesan Assembly.

In that case, they are obligated to renew their request for acceptance under canonical jurisdiction of MOC.

Article 19

The Diocesan Bishop is the President of the Diocesan Assembly. Should the Bishop be unable to attend a sitting of the Assembly, on his authority the Assembly will be presided over his Deputy Bishop.

The Deputy President of the Diocesan Assembly is elected from the laity present at the Assembly.

The mandate of the Deputy President shall be four (4) years. It may be extended a further four (4) years by the Assembly by a greater than fifty (50) percent majority vote of delegates present.

The Deputy President is by title a regular member of the Diocesan Ruling Committee.

The Diocesan Secretary is the secretary of the Diocesan Assembly.

Article 20

The mandate of the members of the Diocesan Assembly shall be four (4) years in accordance with Article 79 of the Constitution of the Macedonian Orthodox Church.

Article 21

The Diocesan Assembly is convened by the Diocesan Bishop or his Deputy, on the territory of this Diocese, annually for a regular sitting, or for an additional sitting as necessary. The sitting must be called on at least a fourteen (14) days notice.

Article 22

Once a member of the Diocesan Assembly ceases to be member of a Church Committee or the Parish Council he immediately ceases to be a member of the Assembly and the Parish Council shall delegate a newly elected member. Any Priest or member of the clergy who is a member of the Diocesan Assembly and ceases to be a member upon dismissal from his duties of a particular church community, parish or monastery is replaced by the newly appointed priest or a member of the clergy by virtue of his position.

Any member who ceases to be a member of the Diocesan Assembly and was a member of a body or organ of the Diocese, the Diocesan Assembly at its next sitting, in his place from its own ranks elects a new member.

Article 23

Each member of the Diocesan Assembly has a right to one vote.

In case of a tie, the President shall have a casting vote.

Article 24

The Diocesan Assembly has a quorum when greater than fifty (50) percent of members are present and passes resolutions by a majority vote of members present.

Article 25

The Diocesan Assembly makes decisions in relation to all matters that are within its competence and are related to church administrative and material/financial workings, church assets, and funds of the Diocese, as well as other matters which arise from the Constitution of the Macedonian Orthodox Church, this Statute and all directions and resolutions, rules and By-Laws of the bodies and organs of this Diocese, the Holy Synod, the Archbishopric Ruling Committee and the Archbishopric Church and Lay Assembly of the Macedonian Orthodox Church.

Article 26

AUTHORITY OF THE DIOCESAN ASSEMBLY

- 1. Delegates one (1) clerical and two (2) lay persons for the regular Archbishopric Church-lay Assembly (hereinafter referred to as "ACLA") in accordance with Article 41 of the constitution of the Macedonian Orthodox Church and Article 27 of the Statute of the Diocese;
- 2. Selects two (2) clerical and two (2) lay persons for the election of the Archbishop, in accordance with Article 19, item 2 of the Constitution;
- 3. Selects the members of the Diocesan Ruling Committee;
- 4. Selects and dismisses members of the Diocesan Church Education Council;
- 5. Receives and approves reports from Diocesan bodies;
- 6. Ratifies the annual accounts of the Diocese, its institutions and funds;
- 7. With the agreement of the Diocesan Bishop, makes proposals for the foundation, abolition and the fixing of territorial boundaries of Bishop's Prelates and presents the same to the Holy Bishop's Synod for ratification;
- 8. Determines the assistance to be granted to financially disadvantaged churches. Provides loans or assistance for the construction of churches;
- 9. Where necessary, makes up the financial difference for the salary of the clergy;

- 10. Determines the level of parish contributions to the Diocese;
- 11. Establishes, that is, authorises, the Diocesan Ruling Committee to establish diocesan funds: basic fund, for humanitarian purposes, public benevolence, social, supportive, religiously-educational, for the acceptance of donations, fund to stimulate the birth rate of families and other Diocesan funds, memorial donations and other institutions;
- 12. Is concerned with the advancement of the Diocese and the organisation of the metropolitanate; and
- 13. Reports to the Archbishopric Church and Lay Assembly in relation to its own work.

The Diocesan Assembly elects delegates for the Archbishopric Church and Lay Assembly of the Macedonian Orthodox Church.

The Bishop is by title a member of the Archbishopric Church and Lay Assembly, the Deputy Bishop and the deputy president of the Diocesan Assembly also are by title a members, the Diocesan Assembly also elects one member of the clergy and two laity.

Elected members have their own substitutes.

From the membership of the ACLA the Diocesan Assembly elects members-delegates for the Archbishopric Ruling Committee (hereinafter referred to as "ARC").

Article 28

The term of the elected members of the ACLA shall be four (4) years.

Should a member cease to be a member of the ACLA, the Assembly shall delegate another member in his place, on the first annual ordinary/extraordinary DA.

Article 29

A person is eligible to be a member of the Assembly if he is a person of distinguished faith and morality and is a congregant of the Macedonian Orthodox Church.

Persons who do not conduct their duties in good conscience and do not fulfil their obligations towards the church and families; who are under investigation or are convicted of a criminal offence, or offence against public morals, who live in sin, or in a marriage not blessed by the church, who are members of some group or organisation whose activities are directed against the orthodox faith and interests of the Macedonian Orthodox Church, who are in blade relationship to forth degree or spiritual relationship to third degree are not able to be members of the Diocesan Assembly or other organs or bodies of the Diocese, Church Community and parishes.

In case of blasphemy of the canons by a greater then 50 % majority of the members of the assembly, the president has a right to dismiss the assembly, and if there is particular members, to dismiss them.

The members of the Diocesan Assembly are honorary. To the same, from the local church communities, parishes, churches and monasteries shall be paid travelling and daily expenses when they attend the meetings of the Diocesan Assembly.

DIOCESAN RULING COMMITTEE

Article 30

The Diocesan Ruling Committee (hereinafter referred to as "the DRC") is the executive, governing and controlling body of the working of the Diocese, in administrative and material - financial aspects and is the executive body of the Diocesan Assembly.

Article 31

The DRC is comprised of:

- 1. Diocesan Bishop, President;
- 2. His Deputy Bishop;
- 3. One (1) Monastic Elder;
- 4. Two (2) clergy;
- 5. Deputy President of the Diocesan Assembly;
- 6. Three (3) lay members of different Church Communities, and
- 7. The Secretary of the Diocese.

The members of the DRC from items 4 and 6 inclusive are permitted proxies, who are elected by the Diocesan Assembly.

The members of the DRC are honorary, but when attending sittings their travel and accommodation expenses in the time of sittings, are borne by the Diocese.

Article 32

The term of the members of the DRC shall be four (4) years.

In circumstances of inactivity or destructive behaviour, or breaches of the canons by a member or the whole of the DRC, the president may remove their mandate and dissolve the Committee.

Article 33

The DRC is convened by its president, or on his authority, the Deputy Bishop. Its regular sittings shall be convened every six (6) monthly and extraordinary sittings when ever necessary.

The DRC brings down resolutions by a majority of votes of members present (in cases of an equal division of votes the President shall have a casting vote). A majority of all members is required for a quorum.

Article 34

The DRC is the authorised and accredited representative of each Macedonian Orthodox Church, Monastery, Parish and Church Community before religious cultural-educational organisations and other like institutions in Australia and New Zealand.

Article 35

The President and other members of the DRC for their work are answerable to the Diocesan Assembly.

In the event of financial losses and other material damage to the Diocese, caused as results of unconscientiously work or negligence on the part of any member of the DRC, that person shell be personally held responsible and shall be liable for the damage.

Any member, who is unable to attend a sitting, is obliged within a reasonable time, to notify the president, or his deputy, who in those circumstances shall invite that member's proxy.

Article 37

Issues of an urgent nature which are impossible to postpone, shall be resolved by a special Executive Committee of the DRC, which is comprised of:

The Bishop; (a)

His deputy or one (1) member of the clergy; (b)

One (1) member of the laity from the seat of the Diocese and is by location geographically (c). close to the President or his deputy.

Decisions of this type must then be brought before the DRC for approval.

Article 38

The DRC, as the executive body of the Diocesan Assembly has the right to submit proposals to the HBS of the MOC in accordance with the Diocesan Bishop for amendments or additions to this Statute.

It has the right to present a uniform By-Law for all churches within the Diocese which may be ratified by the Holy Bishop's Synod of the Macedonian Orthodox Church.

It has the right to found funds mentioned in Article 26 Item 11.

Article 39

The DRC presents a report of its work to the Diocesan Assembly.

Article 40

The DRC conducts its work in accordance with Regulation as determined by the Diocesan Assembly pursuant to Article 91 of the Constitution of the Macedonian Orthodox Church.

Article 41

AUTHORITY OF THE DIOCESAN RULING COMMITTEE:

- Prepares a budget for the income and expenditure of the Diocese; 1.
- Prepares annual financial report relating to the income and expenditure of the Diocese and submits the same for approval by the Assembly;
- Approves the budgets and annual financial reports of the Church Communities, churches, 3. monasteries, funds and other bodies of the Diocese and no later than 30 September (each year), when approved sends them back;
- Prepares annual reports relating to the overall workings to the Diocese relating to financial, material and culturally-educational activities;
- Submits motions for projects for the Diocesan Assembly; 5.

- 6. Conducts audits and generally oversees all churches and monasteries committees and parish councils and their executive bodies about the tasks and obligations from an administrative and material-financial nature as well as the funds: basic fund, a fund for humanitarian purposes, public benevolence fund, social, supportive, religiously-educational, for the acceptance of donations, fund to stimulate the birth-rate of families, other diocesan funds, memorial donations (legacies) and other institutions;
- 7. Maintains inventories in relation to church assets of the Diocese and evidence of ownership of real property as well as fire and other insurance relating to such assets;
- 8. Determines the writing-off of Diocesan assets, taxes and funds which cannot be paid by those who owe them and the writing-off of depreciated items. Advertises the sale of church assets and objects by auction;
- 9. Holds meetings to settle disputes/conflicts relating to Diocesan, church and monastic assets and chattels or may determine that such meeting be held by some other and lesser Diocesan body, and decides for settlement of disputes about assets;
- 10. Authorises the building of new Diocesan buildings, buildings for church ruling bodies and organs of the Diocese and major repairs to churches and sacred objects;
- 11. Undertakes direct superivision over the material and financial workings of the Church Communities and monasteries and may send representatives and committees in its place;
- 12. Where a monastery does not have a monastic order, with the consent of the Diocesan Bishop, may elect a committee of four (4). The Bishop shall appoint a member of the clergy as an elder for that monastery and that committee. The DRC does not elect a committee for monasteries which do have monastic orders;
- 13. Proposes to the Diocesan Church Court the salaries and sums to top up the salaries of: the Bishop, Deputy Bishop, parish priests and other parish office bearers;
- 14. Moves motions for the assistance of financially weaker churches as well as the educational institutions of the Macedonian Orthodox Church;
- 15. Decides about obtaining loans from financial institutions for purchasing any asset, movable and immovable for the Diocese, MOCC, parishes, churches and monasteries in the Diocese;
- 16. It concerns itself with the welfare and interests of the churches, Church Communities, parishes and monasteries of the Diocese. It receives and investigates applications for new churches and Church Communities and provides its advice to the Bishop. The Bishop thereafter refers such applications for approval by the Holy Bishop's Synod of the Macedonian Orthodox Church;
- 17. Proposes motions for the level of the material obligations of the churches to the Diocese; and
- 18. Undertakes other work relating to material/practical administration of the Diocese and undertakes tasks allotted by the Diocesan Assembly and other bodies and organs of the Diocese.

DIOCESAN CHURCH COURT

Article 42

The Diocesan Church Court (DCC) of the Macedonian Orthodox Church, Diocese of Australia and New Zealand is the highest church court body of first instance.

The Diocesan Church Court is comprised of:

- 1. The Diocesan Bishop President or his Deputy;
- 2. Two (2) members of the clergy and
- 3. The Secretary of the Court who shall be the Secretary of the Diocese (he shall have an advisory capacity).

The members in item 2 shall have their own deputies/substitutes.

Article 44

The members of the Diocesan Church Court and their deputies are named by the Diocesan Bishop and ratified by the Holy Synod.

The term of the DCC shall be four (4) years.

Article 45

AUTHORITY-RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DIOCESAN CHURCH COURT:

- 1. Adjudicates on the guilt or liability of the clergy of both orders;
- 2. Adjudicates in relation to the liabilities of the faithful, whose liabilities withdraw temporary or final excommunication from the Church Community or membership;
- 3. Adjudicates in relation to, church divorce;
- 4. Announces and executes the rulings and orders of the Archbishopric court organs;
- 5. Determines taxes for works and commitments, the salaries and sums to top up the salaries of: the Bishop, Deputy Bishop, parish priests and other parish office bearers, as well as disputes in relation to parish income and property given for the use of the clergy;
- 6. supervises the parish priest's for the correctness in the carrying out of their spiritual and canonical obligations;
- 7. In circumstances of sudden change, death or other sudden happenings relating to the Bishop, together with the DRC is concerned with the inventory and property of the Diocese; and
- 8. Collates evidence of activities against the Constitution and Canons within the territory of the Diocese and informs the competent Diocesan Bishop and the Archbishopric Church Court. It submits an annual report to the competent Diocese Bishop and the Archbishopric Church Court.

Article 46.

Special rules and regulations for the procedure of the Diocesan Church Court are prepared by the Holy Bishop's Synod of the Macedonian Orthodox Church.

Article 47

For sentences relating to disciplinary and canonical offences submissions are made by the Diocesan Church Prosecutor. He is appointed by the Diocesan Bishop from the order of clergy, has a completed theological or law degree and a minimum of ten (10) years clerical experience or five (5) years administrative or teaching/educative service.

The Diocesan Church Prosecutor evidences the non constitutional and illegal acts of the clergy and laity in the Diocese and brings about a prosecution of his own volition or as a result of a report.

DIOCESAN CHURCH-EDUCATIONAL COUNCIL

Article 48

Within the Macedonian Orthodox Church, Diocese of Australia and New Zealand there exists a Diocesan Church-Educational Council (hereinafter referred to as "DCEC" or "the Educational Council").

Article 49

The Educational Council is an organ of the Diocese under the control of the Diocesan Bishop, the DRC and the Diocesan Assembly.

Article 50

The Educational Council is concerned with the carrying out of the programs of the Holy Bishop's Synod of the Macedonian Orthodox Church and this Diocese, in the area of church education, church-cultural publishing, education of the faithful, developing publishing and information activities, welfare, social and charitable institutes.

The Educational Council is answerable to the Diocesan Bishop, the Diocesan Ruling Committee and the Diocesan Assembly.

Article 51

The Diocesan Church-Educational Council is comprised of:

- 1. The Diocesan Bishop President or his deputy;
- 2. Three (3) clerical; and
- 3. The Secretary of the Educational Council the Diocesan Secretary.

Appropriately qualified persons who due to their knowledge and qualifications are able to assist the Educational Council may be consulted or actively involved in the activities of the Council.

The Educational Council operates according to The Regulation authorised by the Diocesan Assembly.

Article 52

The Educational Council has the task by its activities to enrich spiritual, cultural and educational life as well as the publishing activities of the Diocese.

For its annual activities in the area of religious education and publishing, the Educational Council in co-ordination with the department of religious education and culture and the Archbishopric Church-Educational Council prepare its annual programme.

The Educational Council also proposes programs for the schools, including religious instruction, culturally-educational and sport and recreational activities of the Church Communities and the Diocesan Ruling Committee.

The Education Council examines the moral fitness and educational qualifications of church teachers and instructors who are then ratified by the Diocesan Bishop.

Article 54

Periodically the Educational Council shall send an inspector/supervisor to inspect the work of the schools of the Church Communities, a person who is appropriately academically qualified to carry out such inspections and to provide the necessary pedagogical advice.

The inspector/supervisor is obliged to furnish a written report to the Educational Council as to the result of inspections undertaken.

DIOCESAN PROVINCE

Article 55

A Diocesan Province is comprised of a set number of Church Communities-parishes which in relation to spiritual matters are under the spiritual supervision of a Bishop's Prelate.

Article 56

The Bishop's Prelate is the diocesan ruling and monitoring organ of the parishes and clergy within his Province. He is an assistant to the Diocesan Bishop and the Diocesan Authorities and as a spiritual elder of the Province is called upon in their name, and at their direction, to undertake the spiritual supervision of the clergy, the faithful and all religious activities within his Province.

Article 57

The Diocesan Bishop appoints and dismisses a Bishop's Prelate.

Article 58

The Bishop's Prelate has his seat within the Province.

Article 59

For the successful carrying out of his duties a Bishop's Prelate receives instructions, either personally or through the Bishop's Deputy.

Article 60

A Bishop's Prelate is able to give a leave of absence for up to a total of seven (7) days in a year to parish priests in the Province of which he must notify the competent Diocesan Bishop. For a greater absence from the Province and the Diocese, responsibility lies with the Diocese Bishop or on his authority, the Bishop's Deputy.

Article 61

A Bishop's Prelate is obliged to visit all parishes, Church Communities and the churches in the Province at least once per year and provide a report on the state of the Province to the Diocesan Bishop. The level of his travel and daily expenses are determined by the DCC.

Article 62

The Diocesan Assembly, with the consent of the Diocesan Bishop, makes proposals for the establishment, territorial boundaries, number, cessation and alterations to provinces. These are presented to the Holy Bishop's Synod for determination.

PRELATES CLERICAL ASSEMBLY

Article 63

The Prelates Clerical Assembly is comprised of all clerical members of the Province, clerics of the Macedonian Orthodox Church, Diocese for Australia and New Zealand.

The Assembly has two (2) regular sittings per annum, a greater number if necessary. Sittings are called by the Bishop's Prelate who for each sitting seeks the blessing of the Diocesan Bishop to whom he provides a report on the work of the Assembly.

PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY

Article 64

The Provincial Assembly is comprised of parish clergy and the presidents of all Church Communities within a Province.

The Provincial Assembly, with the prior consent of the Diocesan Bishop and the invitation of the Bishop's Prelate as necessary, meets at the seat of the Province, at which are examined questions relating to the Province. It provides a written report as to its work to the competent Diocesan Bishop.

CHURCH COMMUNITY, CHURCH COMMITTEE AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Article 65

Each Macedonian Orthodox Church in its own area represents a Church Community.

If a church (temple) has two (2) or more parishes, together they make up one Church Community.

Church Communities represent all clergy and all orthodox Christians -Macedonians and others who belong to and attend a Macedonian Orthodox Church.

Article 66

Each Macedonian Orthodox Church Community (hereinafter referred to as "MOCC") is an integral part of the Macedonian Orthodox Church, Diocese of Australia and New Zealand and the Macedonian Orthodox Church whose seat is in Skopje, Macedonia, and, as such is subject to the rules of the Constitution of the Macedonian Orthodox Church, this Statute, the By-Laws of the Macedonian Orthodox Church and this Diocese.

Each Church Community has a Church Community Elected Assembly which is comprised of all adult Orthodox Christian-Macedonians who are of Macedonian descent and are under the jurisdiction of the parish church (the parish) who meet the spiritual, moral and material obligations of the church and its institutions.

Article 68

Members of the Church Communities, who have attained the age of maturity and have met the conditions of Article 107 of the Constitution of the Macedonian Orthodox Church and Articles 67, 69, and 75 of this Statute may elect and be elected to the church council, except honorary members of the Church Community meeting (Article 69 of this Statute).

The right to elect and be elected will be lost by those persons mentioned in the second paragraph of Article 29 of this Statute.

Article 69

Any orthodox faithful believer may be a congregant in the temples and a member of the Macedonian Orthodox Church Community, i.e. MOC. Those believers, who are not Macedonian or of Macedonian descent, may be honorary members of the Church Community Electoral Meeting.

Regular members of the Church Communities Electoral Meeting of a Church Community which is under the canonical of the Macedonian Orthodox Church cannot simultaneously be members of another Macedonian Orthodox Church Community.

CHURCH COMMITTEE (CC)

Article 70

The Church Committee of the Macedonian Orthodox Church Communities of the Macedonian Orthodox Church, Diocese of Australia and New Zealand is elected at the Church Community Electoral Meeting. Every second year one half of the members of the Committee whose term has expired is elected.

Article 71

The Church Committee is comprised of seven (7) to eleven (11) members, depending upon the number of members in the Church Community. Prior to taking their oath, they complete a questionnaire. Both the questionnaire and oath are contained in the By-Laws of the Church Community.

The members of the Church Committee are represented by three age groups comprising in number one third in each category/group from twenty-one (21) to thirty five (35) years of age, from thirty five (35) to sixty (60) years, and over sixty (60) years of age.

It is compulsory that the Church Committee is comprised of the Presidents or elected members from organisations, welfare associations, cultural-artistic associations and other associations, institutes and institutions which comprised the Church parish.

The Church Committee hold regular meetings every two months, and extraordinary seating when ever is necessary.

The Church Committee elects an executive from its members - The Executive Committee.

The term for each member of the Church Committee and the Executive Committee is two (2) years. By a vote of greater than fifty percent (50%) majority, their terms may be extended for a further two (2) years.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Article 72

The Executive Committee is the executive organ of the Church Committee.

It is comprised of:

- 1. President priest or lay person;
- 2. Two (2) Deputy Presidents;
- 3. Secretary;
- 4. Assistant Secretary;
- 5. Treasurer; and
- 6. Assistant Treasurer.

The Parish Priest is by title a member of the Executive Committee. He may participate in the work of the Church Community and is one of the obligated Signatories for documents and matters of finance (Article 195 Rule 2 of the Constitution of the Macedonian Orthodox Church).

The parish priest has the right to veto all decisions, resolutions, solutions, positions and conclusions, which are against the Holy Canons, the Constitution of the MOC and all church rules and regulations brought on the sessions of the church-community councils, the church and monastery management and committees and the general meetings of the churches, parishes and the Church Communities.

In the case where there is an established suspicion about a breach of the legal regulations and getting out of the framework of the Holy Cannons and the establishment of the Macedonian Orthodox Church, the parish priest as a member of the Executive Committee is obliged through the Church Prosecutor of the Diocese to commence a canonical-legal proceedings before the Diocesan Church Court. The decision of the Diocesan Church Court will be final in relation to the canonical-legal statute of these types of decisions and solutions.

The Executive Committee meets once per month and additionally as necessary.

Article 73

PURPUSES AND TASKS OF THE CHURCH COMMUNITY

- 1. Educate its members in the spirit of Holy Orthodoxy;
- 2. Strengthen and deepen ties and co-operation with the Macedonian Orthodox Church;
- 3. Foster and strengthen church-folk traditions and practices and spread Christian love and understanding;
- 4. Elevate its members faith, morals, ethnicity and cultural education;
- 5. Deepen and strengthen the knowledge and ties with the fatherland Macedonia through its activities in its Sunday Schools, folkloric activities, theatre and recreational activities. Introduce or deepen knowledge relating to the history of the church and national history generally;
- 6. Care for new arrivals from Macedonia; and

7. Is responsible for those employed by the Church Community.

Article 74

Each Macedonian Orthodox Church Community, parish, church and monastery is a an integral and inseparable part of the Macedonian Orthodox Church and through the competent Diocesan Bishop is within the canonical jurisdiction of the mother Macedonian Orthodox Church. This right is lost to any Church Community if within four (4) years of being admitted to the canonical jurisdiction of the Macedonian Orthodox Church does not commence a regular church life, i.e. does not acquire its own church. It must then recommence the procedure for admission to the canonical jurisdiction of the Macedonian Orthodox Church.

The Church Committee does not have the right to release/dismiss its priest and appoint another. The dismissal and appointment of parish priest is carried out by the competent Diocesan Bishop, i.e. of the Holy Bishop's Synod of the Macedonian Orthodox Church.

The uniform By-Laws about the workings of the parishes in the MOCDANZ are brought by the HBS of the MOC, by the proposal of the Constitutional Commission of the HBS, and in conformity with the Diocesan Bishop and the Diocesan Ruling Committee.

PARISH, PARISH CHURCH, PARISH MEETING

PARISH COUNCIL AND CHURCH COMMITTEE

Article 75

The Parish is an association of members of the orthodox faith which is under the spiritual leadership of the parish priest. One area may have more than one parish and several areas may constitute one parish.

Article 76

The faithful participate in the life of the church through their participation in the life of the parish in which they belong and through it the life of the Diocese in which the parish belongs.

Article 77

Any baptised Orthodox Christian is a congregant of a parish church who goes to the parish church and his/her name is entered in the registry of the parish priest (Article 119, item D, of the Constitution of the Macedonian Orthodox Church) and who has donated at least \$1 per annum to the Macedonian Orthodox Church, Diocese for Australia and New Zealand.

Article 78

Any Macedonian Orthodox belongs to the parish in whose vicinity he/she lives, and has all the rights and obligations in accordance with the Statute and the By-Laws of the Church Community.

Article 79

The Diocesan Bishop, by the proposal of the Diocesan Ruling Committee or by his own initiative may decide to establish new parishes as well as regulate the existing ones.

Article 80

Any parish church in its region is a parish.

If in the context of one church there are two or more parish churches, all together they are one church community.

If at one place there are two or more parish churches, with a mutual agreement between the two churches committee, and in accordance with the Diocesan Ruling Committee and the competent Diocesan Bishop, may be organised in one parish.

Article 81

Any parish has its own parish office, its own protocols and other written parish books as well as its own parish stamp, which is the executive obligation and responsibility of the parish priest.

The parish priest is obliged by the competent Diocesan Bishop and by all the parish materials, registry – protocols: business, for baptised, married, deceased, registry of housing, with all the materials and books for the regular and normal functioning of the parish as well as by the Holy Antimins (Altar-cloth) and the Holy Chrism (mentioned in Article 13, section 13 of this Statute).

In the case where more churches constitute one parish, or where in the context of one church there are more parishes, with more parish priests, then they all have a joint office, registers, protocols and other parish materials and only one of the parish priests will be appointed by the Bishop as an elder of the parish and the parish church.

PARISH ELECTORAL MEETING

Article 82

Each parish has a Parish Electoral Meeting (PEM) which is comprised of all adult Christian Macedonians and those of Macedonian descent within the territory-jurisdiction of the Parish Church (Parish) who fulfils the faithful, moral and material duties and responsibilities towards the church and its institutions.

The right to elect and be elected in a Parish meeting will be lost by those faithful, mentioned in article 29, item 2 of this Statute, as those faithful, which continuously and unjustifiably are not present at the Sunday and saints days liturgies for one month and those who during the four great fasts have not received Holy Communion and have not confessed.

Article 83

The Parish Meeting is convened by the parish priest. Where there are several priests in a united parish, the Meeting is convened by the Parish elder, after the Liturgy in the church.

A regular Parish Meeting is convened once in four (4) years. It elects the members of the Parish Council from the most regular attendees and participants in the services, particularly the Liturgy and who distinguish themselves by their personal faith and understand the fundamental truths of the faith.

Article 84

For the election of members of the Parish Council, the Parish Meeting is called fifteen (15) days prior to the meeting by the placing of a notice on the entry door of the church.

The Meeting has a quorum and may elect members for the Parish Council if five (5) percent of the members as entered in the register of the parish priest are present.

PARISH COUNCIL

Article 85

The Meeting elects eleven (11) to fifteen (15) members for the Parish Council.

Article 86

The parish Council is a body which assists the priest and the Bishop in Christian education, Christian charities and in presenting spiritual life, morals, spiritual and material development as well as the financial status of the parish. The Council works under the direction of the priest.

When there is an election of the Council by the Parish Meeting the Bishop or his emissary is present.

In addition to Article 107 of the Constitution of the Macedonian Orthodox Church and Articles 67, 69 and 75 of this Statute, each member of the council must meet the following conditions:

- (a) Be registered in the parish and be over twenty one (21) years of age;
- (b) Not owe any debts to the church or its organisations;
- (c) Be an honourable faithful who attends church frequently and enjoys a good reputation among the faithful; and
- (d) Have the capabilities to undertake all his tasks/duties in the parish.

Article 87

Membership of women is welcome in the Council.

Article 88

Rights and Obligations of the Council:

- (a) Elects 5-7 members of the Church Committee;
- (b) Controls the activities of the Church Committee;
- (c) Delivers the church budget and adopts the annual financial accounts of the Church-parish which it presents for approval to the Diocesan Ruling Committee at the commencement of the year;
- (d) Delivers resolutions for the building, renovation and restoration of churches and other parish buildings for which it seeks final approval from the Diocesan Ruling Committee;
- (e) With the consent and blessing of the Bishop determines the establishment of foundations with religious, spiritual and charitable aims and approves the method of fundraising;
- (f) May purchase and dispose of real property only with the consent of the Diocesan Ruling Committee, ARC and HBS of the MOC;
- (g) Is concerned for the livelihood of the parish priest and the clerical assistants of the Alter and maintaining the prosperity and upkeep of the church and parish buildings in accordance with the directions and decrees of superior church organs and bodies;
- (h) Oversees and protects gifts and donations to the parish and the contents of the church i.e. icons, relics, vestments, religious books, etceteras; and
- (I) Executes and realises the resolutions and determinations which relate to the parish brought by superior church authorities, bodies and organs.

Article 89

The Council holds monthly meetings under the leadership of the Bishop or his delegate, deputy, his prelate or the parish priest.

The mandate of the members of the Council is four years.

CHURCH COMMITTEE

Article 90

The Church Committee is responsible for the carrying out of ordinary/regular aspects of the life of the parish church and the parish.

The Church Committee is comprised of the following members:

- (a) Parish priest elder of The Church, The Parish, The Council, The Committee and the spiritual leader of the Church Community i.e. all parish priests of larger parishes and Church Communities;
- (b) From 5-7 committee members, who are elected by the parish Council from its number;

The members of the Church Committee have a term of four (4) years.

With the expiration of their term in the Church Committee and Parish Council the term of the elected members ceases/expires in any superior church bodies and organisations.

The work/tasks of the Church Committee shall be governed by a separate By-Laws, which is brought by the HBS of the Macedonian Orthodox Church.

MONASTIC COMMITTEE - MONASTERY

Article 91

A Monastery is a holy place with its own church and other necessary buildings, i.e. a community of persons of a monastic order who are united in a spiritual community and who by their formal oath have undertaken to live according to monastic rules.

Monasteries are divided into male and female; they are separate complexes with their own monastery churches and other related property.

Monasteries are for the special spiritual and charitable purposes.

Article 92

On the motion of the competent Diocesan Bishop, the establishment of new, or the combining of more than one monastery into one monastic community, is determined by the Holy Bishop's Synod of the Macedonian Orthodox Church.

Article 93

The Monastic Committee is comprised of the elder of the Monastery and the brothers (monks) or sisters (nuns) of a monastery in the Diocese. In relation to spiritual matters, the canons and monastic rules, it is responsible to the competent Diocesan Bishop.

The Diocesan Bishop is the head and overseer of all male and female monasteries and orders of monks and nuns in the Diocese.

Article 94

The Elder of a Monastery is selected and appointed by the competent Diocesan Bishop.

Monastic orders, male and female, are regulated in accordance with separate monastic rules.

ASSETS AND FUNDS

Article 95

Diocesan properties, funds, memorials, legacies and funds of churches, monasteries, parishes and Church Communities are an integral part of the Diocese, i.e. they are assets of MOC (clergy and faithful). They are necessary to meet the needs of the Church Communities, parishes, schools, church-educational and humanitarian organisations and purposes of the parishes and Diocese.

Supervision of Church Communities and parish church assets and funds, at first instance is undertaken by the Committees of the Church Communities and Parish Councils and their executive bodies. Supervision is conducted by the diocesan bodies and organs.

Diocesan bodies and organs also supervise the diocesan funds: basic fund, for charitable purposes, public benevolent fund, (Public Benevolence), social, helping, church-educational, for the acceptance of gifts (donations), fund to stimulate the birth-rate of families and other funds, and these funds may be supervised by the Archbishopric bodies and organs.

As an integral part of the Diocese, Church Communities and parishes are obliged to register with the Diocese.

So as to avoid divisions, schisms and illegitimate / non-canonical splitting away of the Diocesan, church-community, church, parish and monastery properties, funds and legacies, a Property Trust Act is brought for the properties of the MOC in the Parliaments of the States of Australia.

DIOCESAN COMMITTEE OF TRUSTEES

Article 96

The Diocesan Committee of Trustees (DCT) of assets and funds of the Diocese is a body which is the protector of all assets of the Diocese; assets of the churches, parishes, Church Communities, Monasteries and the Metropolitan (Diocesan) assets.

Article 97

The Diocesan Committee of Trustees is constituted by the members of the DRC of the MOCDANZ, in other words, the DRC performs the function of the DCT.

Article 98

Rights and obligations of the Diocesan Committee of Trustees

- 1. To confirm all the regulations of the organisations (Church) as well as all the amendments;
- 2. To appoint and dismiss temporary trustees to certain church, monastery and diocesan properties up until the enacting of a Trust Act for the properties of MOC;
- 3. To conduct revision of the books (accounts) from the Church Community and the parish councils and to give evidence about their accuracy;
- 4. To give evidence and deliver resolutions to all Church Communities, Monasteries and Parish Councils, that the Head of the Diocese the Metropolitan or whoever is in a position in the Diocese or whichever body or organ in or outside the Diocese, must not sell or otherwise dispose of church property, except by the decree, signed by the Head of the Diocese and approved by a resolution of the Church Community, Parish, Church, Monastery, the Diocesan Committee of Trustees and by the

decision of the , Holy Bishop's Synod of the Macedonian Orthodox Church and Archbishopric Ruling Committee;

- 5. To intervene and solve all conflicts in the church organisations;
- 6. To hold responsible every organisation which breaches the church rules by the avoidance and abolition of the Holy Cannons;
- 7. To advise organisations how to avoid financial deficit;
- 8. To enforce the idea of unifying of the organisations which have the same purpose in one Church Community;
- 9. To dissolve any organisation which distances itself from its purpose and to decide how to distribute their funds; and
- 10. To ensure that all organisations apply and follow the set laws contained in the Holy Cannons.

Article 99

The church organisations include all associations approved by the Diocesan Committee of Trustees.

Article 100

The Head of the Diocese – Metropolitan convenes the Diocesan Committee of Trustees under his governing or under the governing of his delegate.

Article 101

The Diocesan Committee of Trustees convenes annually at a regular meeting, and additionally as may be necessary at the determination of the president or one quarter of the members.

Article 102

A quorum is fifty one (51) percent of the members.

Article 103

Once there is a quorum, Resolutions and the Decisions are brought down by a majority of votes of members present.

Article 104

Voting is not by secret ballot.

Article 105

The meetings of the Diocesan Committee of Trustees are exclusively for members. However, the Committee or the President may invite other persons who may be of assistance to the Committee.

Article 106

The minutes of meetings are signed by all present.

Membership ceases for persons:

- (a) Who resign and the resignations are accepted by the President;
- (b) Whose qualifications cease;
- (c) Who without apology fail to attend three consecutive meetings.

Article 108

The term of the Committee is four years.

Article 109

On the recommendations of the Diocesan Bishop and the DRC, the HBS of the MOC will bring down separate regulations for the material-financial works within the Diocese i.e. the Macedonian Orthodox Church Communities and Parishes.

Article 110

Any matter that is not covered by the Statute shall be governed by the Constitution of the Macedonian Orthodox Church and the regulations there under.

ARCHBISHOPRIC CHURCH AND LAY ASSEMBLY

Article 111

The Archbishopric Church and Lay Assembly (ACLA) is convened by the Archbishop of Ohrid and Macedonia. It is comprised of delegates and members of all the Dioceses of the Macedonian Orthodox Church, including those in the Diaspora.

In the regular composition of the Archbishopric Church and Lay Assembly, from the Macedonian Orthodox Church, Diocese for Australia and New Zealand, apart from the members by title, there are three members by choice, those being: one clergy member and two lay members, which are delegated by the Diocesan Assembly. The members by choice of the Archbishopric Church and Lay Assembly have their own substitutes (Article 41 from the Constitution of MOC and Article 26, item 1 & 2; and Article 27 from this Statute).

Article 112

For the Electoral Archbishopric Church and Lay Assembly two (2) further Clergy and two (2) further lay persons are delegated by the Diocese.

Article 113

One member of the Clergy and one lay person, elected from the body of the regular members of the Archbishopric Church and Lay Assembly of the Diocese shall be members of the Archbishopric Ruling Committee. The term of these members in the Archbishopric Ruling Committee is four (4) years.

III. CONCLUDING REGULATIONS

Article 114

This Statute, which is consistent with the regulations, rules and the Constitution of the Macedonian Orthodox Church, is delivered by HBS of the MOC in agreement with the Diocesan Bishop and the DRC of MOCDANZ.

Article 115

This Statute is in conformity with the Australian, i.e. New Zealand civil laws and is ratified by the relevant authorities in Australia, i.e. New Zealand.

Article 116

Upon the commencement of this Statute any previous Statutes, rules and regulations that are inconsistent with this Statute cease to have effect.

Article 117

Amendments and complementation to this Statute are made by the HBS of the MOC on the advice and with the agreement of the Diocesan Bishop and the DRC of the MOCDANZ.

The amendments and complementation of this Statute are effective on their enacting by HBS of MOC and on publishing in "VESNIK", the official Gazette of the MOC.

Article 118

This Statute comes into force fifteen (15) days after its announcement in "Vesnik" (Gazette), the official Gazette of the Macedonian Orthodox Church.

Article 119

This Statute is passed at the regular sitting of the Diocesan Assembly, held on 14th and 15th September 2001, in accordance with the Constitution of the Macedonian Orthodox Church, passed at the Archbishopric Church and Lay Assembly on 31st October and 1st November 1994, with the acceptance and approval by SAS of the Macedonian Orthodox Church of the last amendments and additions to the Statute of the MOCDANZ at a regular session, held on 10th November 2003, Resolution No. 363/2003 and is approved at ACLA of MOC at a regular session, held on 11th & 12th November 2004, Resolution No. 34 from 04/03/2005.

PRESIDENT
OF THE ARCHBISHOPRIC CHURCH AND LAY ASSEMBLY
ARCHBISHOP OF OHRID AND MACEDONIA

+STEFAN