

28 April 2004

All State Secretaries

Dear

Greetings in Jesus' Name!

At a recent National Executive meeting, considerable time was given to discussing our draft Child Protection Policy. A copy of this policy was sent to you following our November meeting and you were asked to arrange for changes to be made to bring it into line with legislation within your particular state.

There has been some discussion in relation to mandatory reporting, as it is included in the draft policy. The National Executive discussed this, and decided that mandatory reporting should be part of our policy as a matter of conscience, regardless whether it is required by a law in any particular state. It is important that we take a proactive stance on this matter of great importance.

I was also asked to write to you explaining the urgency of implementing our Child Protection Policy and requesting a report, from your executive, on its implementation for our next National Executive meeting in November. When informing the churches of the new policy, could you please explain the requirement for mandatory reporting.

Thank you for your help in this matter. I am sure you will appreciate the importance of caring for our children.

Yours in His service

KEITH AINGE
National Secretary