

INDEX SYNODICAL DECISIONS 1857–2000





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PREFACE

After a hiatus of twenty years, we are very pleased to be able to present a new *Index of Synodical Decisions of the Christian Reformed Church in North America*. This updated version of the *Index* covers decisions of synod from 1857 through 2000. The purpose of the *Index* is to indicate where decisions on various matters can be found in the *Acts of Synod*, the official minutes of the denomination. A secondary purpose is to provide access to significant studies and reports in the *Acts of Synod* and the *Agenda for Synod*.

The user of the *Index* should be aware of the following conventions observed in the making of this book:

- The material in the *Index* is arranged alphabetically by subject matter. Material derived from overtures and study-committee reports is best accessed by subject heading.
- 2. Page numbers appear in ascending order after each entry. Through 1982, the lower numbers in each entry are from the minutes of synodical action (the *Acts*), and the higher numbers are from agency reports and study-committee reports (the *Agenda*). Beginning in 1983, the higher numbers indicate material from the *Acts*, and the lower numbers indicate material from the *Agenda*.
- 3. As a rule, the names of individuals do not appear as subject entries in this *Index*. Exceptions to this rule have been made for some persons of historical significance as well as for special appointees of synod, such as the presidents of Calvin College and Calvin Theological Seminary, the editors of the church papers, the stated clerks/general secretaries of synod, the executive director of ministries, and others appointed for executive responsibilities. The names of individual congregations appear as subject headings only in cases of unusual historical significance.
- 4. Where references are made to the Church Order in this *Index*, the article numbers are those of the revised Church Order adopted in 1965 and currently used in the CRC. The numbers in parentheses in references to Church Order articles are the corresponding numbers in the previous Church Order, which was in use from 1857 to 1965. The user should bear in mind that in all *Acts* and *Agenda* before 1965 all Church Order citations will use the numbers of the old Church Order.
- 5. Another significant alteration of the Church Order occurred in 1991, when Articles 78-82 were condensed to become Articles 78-80, Articles 83-87 were condensed into Article 81, Articles 88-94 became Articles 82-84, and Articles 95 and 96 were renumbered as Articles 85 and 86. These changes are also taken into consideration in this revised *Index*.
- 6. In this *Index*, the distinction between *f.* and *ff.* was not consistently observed before 1985. This inconsistency has not been corrected because of the amount of time required to research the matter. After 1985, the exact span of page numbers is used rather than *f.* and *ff.*
- 7. The list of acronyms following this preface should help the user navigate through the many abbreviations used in the *Index*.
- 8. In 1937, the synodical decisions from 1857 through 1880 were compiled in a single volume. *Index* references for these years refer to the page numbers of that volume, not to the actual minutes of synod.

The compilation of this *Index* has gone through many stages during the past twenty years. One major attempt was begun in the late 1980s and early 1990s by former general secretary Rev. Leonard J. Hofman with the assistance of Mrs. Wilma Kloostra (now deceased). For a variety of reasons, those efforts never bore the fruit of a finished product. In 1995, at the urging of synod, the current project was begun. We are all indebted to Mrs. Jan Walhout, who has patiently and persistently devoted herself to the accurate and thorough compilation of this *Index*. Working with her have been Mrs. Alice Damsteegt and Mrs. Diane Recker, whose careful typing and production oversight have assisted greatly.

We offer this *Index* in the hope that it will be of assistance to churches, officebearers, students, scholars, and all others who are interested in discovering anew the decisions of the Christian Reformed Church and how those decisions were made.

David H. Engelhard General Secretary Christian Reformed Church in North America 2850 Kalamazoo Avenue SE Grand Rapids, MI 49560

Note: Because there are myriads of opportunities for error in a book like this, we request your help in making corrections. Please report any errors to the Denominational Office. Thank you in advance for your assistance.

ACRONYMS USED IN THIS INDEX

ACRL Association of Christian Reformed Laymen

BOT Board of Trustees of the Christian Reformed Church in North

America

BWM Board of World Missions

CCRCC Council of the Christian Reformed Churches in Canada
CEACA Committee for Educational Assistance to Churches Abroad

CGI Consolidated Group Insurance

CGKN Christelijke Gereformeerde Kerken in Nederland CRASM Christian Reformed Association of Staff Ministries CRBFM Christian Reformed Board of Foreign Missions

CRC Christian Reformed Church

CRCNA Christian Reformed Church in North America

CRWM Christian Reformed World Missions

CRWRC Christian Reformed World Relief Committee
DFC Denominational financial coordinator
DRCSA Dutch Reformed Church in South Africa

EDM Executive director of ministries EPC Evangelical Presbyterian Church FNC Fund for Needy Churches FSC Fund for Smaller Churches

GKN Gereformeerde Kerken in Nederland (same as RCN)
GKN—V Gereformeerde Kerken in Nederland—Vrijgemaakt
GKSA Gereformeerde Kerke in Suid Afrika (same as RCSA)

HM Christian Reformed Home Missions IRC Interchurch Relations Committee

IRS Internal Revenue Service

MAC Ministries Administrative Council
MCC Ministries Coordinating Council
MIS Ministerial Information Service
NAE National Association of Evangelicals

NAPARC North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council

New American Standard Bible **NASB NCC** National Council of Churches NIV New International Version **NRSV** New Revised Standard Version OPC Orthodox Presbyterian Church Pastor-Church Relations Committee **PCRC RCA** Reformed Church in America **RCC** Roman Catholic Church

RCN Reformed Churches in the Netherlands (same as GKN) RCSA Reformed Churches in South Africa (same as GKSA)

REC Reformed Ecumenical Council RES Reformed Ecumenical Synod RSV Revised Standard Version

SCORR Synodical Committee on Race Relations

SIC Synodical Interim Committee

SPMC Special Program for Ministerial Candidacy
TASUM The Apprenticeship School for Urban Ministry

TCNN TEAC TELL WARC WCC YCF	Theological College of Northern Nigeria Translation and Educational Assistance Committee The Evangelical Literature League World Alliance of Reformed Churches World Council of Churches Young Calvinist Federation	

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Prof. J. Broene, 1925-1930, 1939-1940

Rev. R.B. Kuiper, 1930-1933

Dr. R. Stob, 1933-1939

Rev. H. Schultze, 1940-1951

Dr. Wm. Spoelhof, 1951-1976

Dr. Anthony J. Diekema, 1976-1995

Dr. Gaylen Byker, 1995-

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PRESIDENTS OF THE COLLEGE:

Rev. J.J. Hiemenga, 1919-1925

Prof. J. Broene, 1925-1930, 1939-1940

Rev. R.B. Kuiper, 1930-1933

Dr. R. Stob, 1933-1939

Rev. H. Schultze, 1940-1951

Dr. Wm. Spoelhof, 1951-1976

Dr. Anthony Diekema, 1976-1995

Dr. Gaylen Byker, 1995-

PRESIDENTS OF THE SEMINARY:

Rev. L. Berkhof, 1931-1944

Dr. S. Volbeda, 1944-1952

Rev. R.B. Kuiper, 1952-1956

Dr. J. Kromminga, 1956-1982

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Dr. S. Volbeda, 1944-1952

Rev. R.B. Kuiper, 1952-1956

Dr. J. Kromminga, 1956-1982

Dr. James A. De Jong, 1982-

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Rev. M.C. Baarman, 1960-1972

Rev. J.G. Van Ryn, 1974-1986

Rev. J.A. Rozeboom, 1986-

MISSIONARY-AT-LARGE:

Rev. H. Baker. 1937-1946

Rev. J.M. Vande Kieft, 1946-1956

Dr. D.L. Van Halsema, 1956-1959

MINISTER OF EVANGELISM:

Dr. D.L. Van Halsema, 1959-1963

Rev. Wesley Smedes, 1963-1980

Rev. Dirk Hart, 1980-

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- 1873 Rev. F. Hulst
- 1876 Rev. D.J. Vander Werp
- 1878 Rev. J.R. Schepers
- 1882 Rev. I. De Rooy; Rev. W.H. Van Leeuwen
- 1888 Rev. O. Stuit
- 1889 Rev. L. Rietdyk
- 1890 Rev. S. Baron
- 1894 Rev. H. Tempel
- 1896 Rev. P. Bakker; Rev. G. Berkhof; Rev. W. Coelingh; Rev. Isaac De Baun; Rev. John De Baun; Rev. G.A. De Haan; Rev. R.T. Kuiper; Rev. A. Van Houten, 48
- 1898 Rev. S. Broekstra; Rev. K. Vanden Bosch; Rev. C. Vorst, 41
- 1900 Rev. H. Beuker; Rev. H. Bode; Rev. E.R. De Haan; Rev. S.B. Sevensma; Rev. J. Stadt. 18
- 1902 Rev. K. Kreulen; Rev. W. Veenstra, 30
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- 1914 Rev. R. Drukker; Rev. J.A. Kett; Rev. M.J. Marcusse; Rev. K. Van Goor; Rev. J.H. Vos, 26
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- 1920 In 1918: Rev. P. Ekster; Rev. P. Van Vliet In 1919: Rev. G. Broene; Rev. J.H. Greussing; Rev. J.B. Jonkman; Rev. F. Stuart; Rev. L. Van Dellen; Rev. D. Vander Ploeg, 48, 205
- 1922 In 1920: Rev. W.P. Heeres; Rev. G.K. Hemkes; Rev. B. Post; Prof. Wm. Rink
 - In 1921: Rev. E. Breen; Rev. C. Cooper; Rev. M. De Boer; Rev. I.J. Fles; Rev. H. Heyns; Rev. K. Kuyper, 81, 255
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 - In 1925: Rev. G.L. Hoefker; Rev. M. Vander Heide; Rev. H. Walkotten In 1926: Rev. T. Jongbloed; Rev. P. Yff, 77
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- 1930 In 1928: Rev. P. Schutt
 - In 1929: Rev. H. Gelderloos; Rev. J.C. Kruithof; Rev. B. Nagel; Rev. S.S. Vander Heide; Rev. H. Van Wesep
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- 1932 In 1931: Rev. N. Gerdes
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1934 Rev. J.L. Heeres; Rev. W. Heyns; Rev. H.J. Heynen; Rev. W. Kuipers; Rev. A.W. Meyer; Rev. F.M. Ten Hoor; Rev. E.J. Tuuk; Rev. R. VandeKieft; Rev. J. Vander Mey; Rev. H.M. Vander Ploeg; Rev. D. Weidenaar; Rev. B. Zwaagman; 106 In 1934: Rev. N. Fokkens 1936 In 1935: Rev. A. Keizer; Rev. J. Manni; Rev. J. Plesscher; Rev. P. Steen In 1936: Rev. L.P. Brink; Rev. A.B. Voss; Rev. J. Wyngaarden, 75 In 1936: Rev. K. Poppen 1937 In 1937: Rev. H. Schultz; Rev. T. Vander Ark, 93 1938 In 1937: Rev. J.B. Vanden Hoek; Rev. J.O. Vos; Rev. F. Welandt In 1938: Rev. H.J. De Vries; Rev. J. Noordewier, 33 1939 In 1938: Rev. P. Kosten; Rev. H.J. Mulder; Rev. H.E. Oostendorp; Prof. K. Schoolland; Rev. E. Van Korlaar In 1939: Rev. J.A. Gerritsen; Rev. H. Kamps, 23 Rev. M. Botbyl; Rev. P.W. De Jonge, 88 1940 In 1940: Rev. J. De Haan, Sr. 1941 In 1941: Rev. W. Kole, 62 1942 In 1941: Rev. W. Bode; Rev. W. Stuart In 1942: Rev. P. Bloem; Rev. S. Eldersveld; Rev. J. Gulker, 141 1943 In 1942: Rev. G.W. Hylkema; Rev. J.A. Rottier In 1943: Rev. T. De Boer; Dr. J. Dolfin; Rev. E.J. Krohne; Rev. L. Ypma, 1944 In 1943: Rev. R. Karsten; Rev. W.P. Van Wyk In 1944: Rev. S. Bouma; Mr. H. Hekman; Rev. A.H. Kort, 73 In 1944: Rev. P. Jonker, Sr.; Rev. I. Westra 1945 In 1945: Rev. G. Hofmeyer; Rev. D. Hollebeek; Rev. T.W.R. Van Loo; Rev. G. Westenberg, 114 1946 In 1945: Rev. J. De Haan, Jr.; Rev. R. Diephuis; Dr. L.S. Huizenga; Rev. W.C. Steenland: Rev. M. Van Vessem In 1946: Rev. D. Zwier, 69 1947 In 1946: Rev. H. Ahuis; Rev. M. Borduin; Rev. J.C. De Bruyn; Rev. J.J. De Jonge; Rev. J. Timmerman In 1947: Rev. D.H. Kromminga, 75 In 1947: Dr. H. Beets; Rev. H. Fryling; Rev. F. Schuurmann 1948 In 1948: Rev. J.W. Brink; Rev. J.H. Monsma, 98 In 1948: Rev. J. Homan; Rev. A. Van Dyken 1949 In 1949: Rev. B.H. Einink; Rev. L.J. Lamberts, 87 1950 Rev. K. Bergsma; Rev. J.P. De Vries; Rev. H. Guikema; Dr. R.L. Haan; Rev. J.B. Hoekstra; Rev. W. Terpstra; Rev. L. Trap; Rev. H. Vander Woude; Rev. A. Wassink, 32 In 1950: Rev. J. Keizer; Rev. G. Lyzenga 1951 In 1951: Rev. R. Bolt; Rev. W. Groen, 70 1952 In 1951: Rev. H. Bode; Dr. J.C. De Korne; Rev. C. Groot; Rev. A. Guikema; Rev. D.H. Plesscher; Dr. M. Van Dyke; Rev. J.A. Westervelt In 1952: Rev. W. Bajema; Rev. W.D. Vander Werp; Rev. L. Veltkamp, 61 In 1952: Rev. P. Jonker; Rev. S. Struyk; Rev. G. Vande Riet 1953 In 1953: Rev. M. Huizenga; Dr. S. Volbeda, 109 In 1953: Rev. J. Geerlings; Mr. G.E. Lucht; Mr. A. Vander Wagen 1954 In 1954: Rev. J.S. Balt; Rev. W. Borgman; Rev. J. Bruinooge; Rev. W.

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 - In 1962: Rev. A. Bratt; Rev. A. Haalboom; Rev. A. Huls, 81
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 In 1965: Rev. H.K. Beute; Dr. H.H. Bruinooge; Dr. L. Flokstra; Rev. J. Mulder; Rev. J. Putt; Dr. R. Stob; Dr. J.P. Van Haitsma, 97
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 - In 1968: Rev. È. Broene; Rev. C. Holtrop; Rev. M. Monsma; Rev. Z.J. Sherda, 115.
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- 1976 In 1975: Rev. J.D. De Jong; Rev. J.H. Groenewold; Rev. V. Vanden Brink In 1976: Rev. S.G. Brondsema; Rev. R.J. Frens; Rev. E.H. Smith; Rev. W. Swierenga; Rev. J.J. Weersing, 64-66
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- 1988 In 1987: Rev. H.A. Dykstra; Rev. P.J. Niewiek; Rev. T. Yff; Rev. J. Dykstra; Rev. D. Mellema; Rev. J. Breuker; Rev. R.H. Tjapkes; Rev. G.J. Bosma; Rev. P. Plug; Rev. B. Bruxvoort; Rev. E. Henry, 187
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- 1991 In 1990 (data from Yearbook): Rev. John H. Bergsma; Rev. Donald J. Negen; Rev. Clarence J. Nyenhuis; Rev. Louis F. Voskuil; Rev. Arnold Brink; Rev. Guy Corvers; Rev. Edward G. Cooke; Rev. John Hanenburg; Rev. Fred F. Bakker; Rev. Clarence De Haan; Rev. Henry Petersen; Rev. Harold E. Botts; Rev. William Van Rees; Rev. Rolf L. Veenstra
- 1992 In 1991 (data from Yearbook): Rev. Hessel Kooistra; Rev. Paul L. Vermaire; Rev. John W. Dykstra; Rev. Marvin C. Baarman; Rev. George Gritter; Rev. Renze O. De Groot; Rev. Hiram Vander Klay; Rev. Harry Vanderaa; Rev. Andrew Cammenga; Rev. Sebastian T. Cammenga; Rev. Marten H. Woudstra; Rev. Donald J. Drost; Rev. John Van Harmelen; Rev. C. William Flietstra; Rev. Charles Greenfield; Rev. Oliver Breen; Rev. John F. Hollebeek; Rev. Martin Gritters
- 1993 In 1992 (data from *Yearbook*): Rev. J. Pott; Rev. Christian Ter Maat; Rev. D. Scholten; Rev. Lubbertus Oostendorp; Rev. Vincent Licatesi; Rev. J. Herbert Brink; Rev. Gerrit Vander Ziel; Rev. Henry Lamsma
- 1994 In 1993 (data from Yearbook): Rev. Frank De Jong; Rev. Allan H. Dykstra; Rev. Ralph Heynen; Rev. Arthur W. Hoogstrate; Rev. Bartel N. Huizenga; Dr. John E. Meeter; Rev. Leonard T. Schalkwyk; Dr. Gordon J. Spykman; Rev. Christian Vanden Heuvel; Rev. Clarence Van Slooten; Rev. Simon Vroon
- 1995 In 1994 (data from Yearbook): Rev. Louis Bouma; Rev. Henry Bruinooge; Rev. Peter Dekker; Rev. Ellsworth Dykstra; Rev. Bernard Haan; Rev. Dewey Hoitenga; Dr. Theodore Jansma; Dr. John Kromminga; Rev. Kermit Rietema; Rev. Sieds Vander Meer; Rev. Fred Van Houten; Rev. Cornelius Van Schouwen

- 1996 In 1995 (data from Yearbook): Rev. Alfred Hannink; Rev. Henry Evenhouse; Rev. Abe Koolhaas; Rev. Louis Vos; Rev. Elbert Kooistra; Rev. Juan Boonstra; Rev. Bernard Den Ouden; Rev. John Steenwyk; Rev. John Zwaanstra; Rev. Henry Guikema; Rev. Gordon Mouw; Rev. John Scholten; Rev. George Yff; Rev. Jacob Geuzebroek; Rev. Arie Leegwater; Rev. Paul Ouwinga
- 1997 In 1996 (data from *Yearbook*): Rev. Henry Vander Kam; Rev. Walter Dubois; Rev. William Verwolf; Rev. Henry Stob; Rev. Abel Poel; Rev. Floris Vander Stoep; Rev. George Whyte; Rev. Richard Rienstra
- 1998 In 1997 (data from *Yearbook*): Rev. Cornelius Abbas; Rev. Eelco Vander Woude; Rev. Jacob Van Bruggen; Rev. Johannis Hanegraaff; Rev. Calvin Bolt; Rev. Bernard Kok; Rev. Peter Jonker; Rev. Harlan Roelofs; Rev. Bruce Hemple
- 1999 In 1998 (data from Yearbook): Rev. Scott Redhouse; Rev. John Mulder; Rev. A. Harold Hollander; Rev. J. Bernard Ibershoff; Rev. John Entingh; Rev. John Kenbeek; Rev. Harmon Kuizema; Rev. Anthony Rozendal; Rev. Paul Schrotenboer; Rev Clarence Vander Plate; Rev. Carl Toeset; Dr. Harvey Smit; Rev. Ralph Wildschut; Rev. Leonard Van Drunen
- 2000 In 1999 (data from Yearbook): Rev. Robert Vermeer; Rev. Henry De Moor; Rev. Marinus Goote; Rev. Peter Honderd; Rev. Paul Boertje; Rev. Harry Boer; Rev. Ring Star; Rev. Peter Brink; Rev. Edward Masselink; Rev. Peter De Jong; Rev. Simon Viss; Rev. William Brink; Rev. Menzo Dornbush; Rev. William Van Peursem; Rev. Leonard Verduin

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1999. Its ministries either continued independently or were merged with other denominational entities. Beginning in 2000, see Abuse Prevention and Race Relations under the Board of Trustees of the CRCNA; see also Chaplaincy Ministries; Disability Concerns; Pastor-Church Relations.)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS: Ms. Beth Swagman, 1996-1998 Rev. Duane Visser, 1998-1999

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- **B.** ABUSE PREVENTION
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(This church was formed on April 6, 1965, by a union of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America General Synod and the Evangelical Presbyterian Church [not to be confused with the EPC that began in 1981]. It subscribes to the Westminster Confession of Faith and the Westminster catechisms as its doctrinal standards, subordinate to Holy Scripture.)

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(Also known as the Church of the Covenanters. Origin dates back to Reformation days in Scotland, when they signed their "covenants" in resistance to the king and the Roman Church in the enforcement of state-church practice. The church in America has signed two covenants, those of 1871 and 1954.)

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- B. CALVINIST CADETS CORPS
- C. EARLY TEEN MINISTRY
- D. YOUNG CALVINIST FEDERATION/YOUTH UNLIMITED (became United Calvinist Youth in 1966)
- E. UNITED CALVINIST YOUTH
- F. YOUNG CALVINIST SERVICEMEN'S MINISTRY

A. CALVINETTES/GEMS

Organized as division of Young Calvinist Federation in 1959. Merged in United Calvinist Youth in 1966. Name changed to GEMS Girls Clubs in 1996. Accredited for support 1955-2000.

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Rev. G. Hemkes, 1878-1884

Rev. L.J. Hulst, 1884-1888

Rev. A. Keizer, 1894-1918

Prof. B.K. Kuiper, 1918-1922

Rev. H. Keegstra, 1922-1948

Rev. E. Van Halsema, 1948-1964

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Rev. Merle Den Bleyker, 1997-2000

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- CHINA

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- CUBA
- DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
- ECUADOR
- EL SALVADOR
- FRANCE
- FRANCOPHONE AFRICA
- GUAM
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- HAITI
- HONDURAS
- HOSPITAL CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP (AFRICA)
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- INDIA
- INDIAN (Native American)
- ISRAEL
- INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP OF EVANGELICAL STUDENTS (CIEE)
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- KENYA
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- MEXICO
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- SOUTH AMERICA AND CEYLON
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