

# Presenter's Guide

Slide by slide, this guide tells you **why each slide exists**, **what to say**, and **what to add** if you are asked to say more. Written for anyone picking this up cold — you do not need a legal background.

**The one thing to get right:** tone. Calm authority. This is not a protest and not a panic — it is orderly participation in a public process that is still open. If you are unsure of a fact, say so and point people to the Roadshow Pack rather than guessing.

**The three words to land:** Register. Prepare. Engage.

## The shape of the talk

Slides 1–9 are the briefing: the problem, the dates, the resources, the actions, the ask. Ten minutes. Slides 10–17 are optional and walk through the Roadshow Pack itself — use them for a training session, or stop at slide 9.

Three slides must be localised before you speak: **slide 1** (your name and the meeting), **slide 3** (your province's hearing dates), and **slide 8** (soften the ask if you are speaking to a congregation rather than to senior leaders).

# Part one · The briefing

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## 01 Stop State Regulation of Religion

**PURPOSE — SET THE TONE AND PROMISE A SHORT, USEFUL TALK**

**Say:** Three things in ten minutes: what the Section 22 Committee is proposing, what FOR SA has already built to answer it, and what I need from you. This is not a moment for anxiety. It is a moment for confident, orderly participation.

**Expand:** people arrive either alarmed or indifferent. Naming the three parts up front settles both. Say who you are and why you are carrying this — one sentence is enough.

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## 02 The moment we are in

**PURPOSE — EXPLAIN WHAT IS HAPPENING, AND WHY SILENCE IS COSTLY**

**Say:** The Section 22 Committee has been tasked with recommending a legislative framework for our sector, and hearings are now running in every province. Two things matter. It is still a proposal under consultation, so our voice genuinely counts. And in a public participation process, silence is read as consent.

**Expand:** the CRL Chair signed the Terms of Reference in June 2025; the Committee's draft framework followed in December 2025. Between them they propose a council for the sector, a public register of institutions and leaders, certification, investigations and sanctions including deregistration. Both documents are on the campaign page — encourage people to read them for themselves rather than take anyone's word for it.

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## 03 The hearings, province by province

**PURPOSE — TURN CONCERN INTO A DIARY ENTRY, IN THE ROOM**

**Say:** Here is what is in front of us. In the Western Cape: Tuesday the eighteenth of August, structured institutional engagements; Wednesday the nineteenth, the open provincial summit. Put the dates in your diary today. Scan the code on the right to register, and the hearings continue province by province.

**Expand:** this is the slide to pause on. Ask people to take out their phones and scan while the code is up — a diary entry made in the room is worth more than a promise made at the door. Explain the difference between the two Western Cape days: the institutional engagement is for organisations and denominations; the summit is open to anyone.

**Localise:** replace the dates panel with your own province's dates and venue before you present.

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## 04 Everything you need, in one place

### PURPOSE — REMOVE EVERY EXCUSE: THE WORK IS ALREADY DONE

**Say:** Here is why you can act with confidence: the work is done. One website holds all of it. The registration link, the Roadshow Pack with a ready-made verbal submission and answers to the misleading claims, a template submission, a presentation, a video for your Sunday service, and the source documents. Scan the code, or simply go to [forsa dot org dot za](https://forsa.org.za).

**Expand:** do not read the list of six aloud — point at it and pick the two that fit your audience. For a fraternal, that is usually the Roadshow Pack and the template submission. For a congregation, it is the video and the online submission. Everything is free, and everything may be forwarded.

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## 05 Three actions every leader can take

### PURPOSE — THE MEMORABLE CORE OF THE TALK

**Say:** If people remember nothing else, let them remember three words. Register for the hearing in your province. Prepare by completing the template submission beforehand and handing it in on the day, because that puts your position on the record. Engage your members with the video so they submit online. One leader doing all three becomes a hundred voices.

**Expand:** stress *prepare*. Anyone can hand in a written submission, whether or not they get to speak, and a written submission must be recorded. That is the single highest-value action for someone who is nervous about speaking in public.

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## 06 The Sunday Service Video

### PURPOSE — GIVE PASTORS ONE SMALL, CONCRETE THING TO DO

**Say:** Most of your members will never get to a hearing. They do not have to. FOR SA has produced a two-minute Sunday Service Video, presented by Michael Swain, our Executive Director, which explains what is being proposed and points people straight to the online submission. It is on the campaign page, and it can be downloaded to play offline. Play it in one service. That is the whole ask.

**Expand:** the online submission is made through Dear South Africa and takes about two minutes. The video ends with the QR code on screen, so a congregation can act while it is still up. If the room has a screen and sound, consider playing the video here rather than describing it.

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## 07 Play it, then share it

### PURPOSE — TURN THE VIDEO INTO A THREE-STEP INSTRUCTION

**Say:** Three things. Play it in one service this month. Put the link in your newsletter and your WhatsApp groups. Then ask people to submit there and then, on their phones, before they leave the building. Scan the code and the video is in your hand.

**Expand:** “before they leave the building” is the point. Submissions promised for later are rarely made. Suggest a specific Sunday, and suggest the person in the room who will make it happen.

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## 08 What we are asking of you

### PURPOSE — ASK LEADERS FOR WHAT ONLY LEADERS CAN GIVE

**Say:** My ask of you is four things. Endorse the campaign, because when you back it your networks pay attention in a way they never would from us alone. Cascade the resources through your denomination. Commit your body to a formal institutional submission, not only individual ones. And endorse the Charter and Code in your own governance.

**Expand:** an institutional submission carries the weight of everyone the body represents, which is why it is asked for separately. On the fourth point: the Religious Freedom Charter and the 2019 Code of Conduct already exist, were developed by faith communities themselves, and demonstrate that accountability does not require State control. Both are on the campaign page.

**Localise:** presenting to a congregation? Reframe as “what we are asking of this church”.

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## 09 Let us stand up and speak out

### PURPOSE — CLOSE ON COURAGE, NOT FEAR

**Say:** Let me end where I began. This is not a moment for fear. It is a moment for courage and order. We have the arguments, the resources and the constitutional high ground. What we need is your voice and your networks. Register, prepare, engage. Let us stand up and speak out while there is still time.

**Expand:** stop here if the slot is ten minutes. Otherwise say: “that is the briefing — let me show you the pack itself”, and go on to slide 10.

## Part two · Walking through the Roadshow Pack

Optional. Read the Roadshow Pack once before presenting this section — you are describing a document people will hold in their hands.

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### 10 The Roadshow Pack

**PURPOSE — MARK THE BREAK BETWEEN BRIEFING AND TRAINING**

**Say:** Everything that follows is already written and free to download. I will take you through the six tools in the pack, and show you what each one looks like, so you know exactly what your people will be holding on the day.

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### 11 What is in the pack

**PURPOSE — ORIENTATE PEOPLE TO ONE DOCUMENT, NOT SIX**

**Say:** Six tools in one document, thirteen pages. How to take part, the Field Guide, the Companion, the verbal submission, the Key Questions, and a submission template to leave behind. Recognise this cover, so you know you have the right file.

**Expand:** point at the cover image. Every page carries the same dark banner and a QR code to the online submission, so any single printed page still gets someone to the right place.

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### 12 Spot the claim. Ask the question.

**PURPOSE — THE ONE PAGE TO CARRY INTO THE ROOM**

**Say:** The Field Guide is one page. Keep it in front of you. When you hear a claim in the room, find its row and read out the Point of Information beside it. One question at a time, and ask that it be minuted.

**Expand:** walk the three columns left to right — the type of reply, the claim to listen for, the courteous response. Stress *courteous*: a Point of Information asks for the authority or evidence behind a statement; it does not accuse anyone.

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### 13 When you are challenged, here is the evidence

**PURPOSE — SHOW THERE IS DEPTH BEHIND EVERY ONE-LINER**

**Say:** The Field Guide gives you speed. The Companion gives you depth. Every issue is built the same way: the myth, the evidence with dates and quotations, the fully worded Point of Information, why it matters, and the sources.

**Expand:** the sources are named so nobody has to take FOR SA's word for anything — the Committee's own Terms of Reference, the CRL Act, the parliamentary record and the Constitution.

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## 14 Worked example: “This is self-regulation”

### PURPOSE — SHOW THE THREE TOOLS WORKING ON ONE CLAIM

**Say:** Here is how the tools work together on one claim. You hear it, you find it in the Field Guide, you back it up from the Companion, then you press it with Key Question twelve. Ask that both the question and the reply be minuted.

**Expand:** this is the most useful slide in part two — give it time. The underlying point: a body that the CRL creates, funds, empowers and can dissolve is not the sector regulating itself.

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## 15 Your three to four minutes, written for you

### PURPOSE — REMOVE THE FEAR OF SPEAKING

**Say:** If you get a speaking slot it will be short. Follow this order. Open under protest, introduce yourself, make the five objections, close by handing up your written submission, and use any time left on the Key Questions. Every word is written out for you.

**Expand:** the five objections in one breath — what is proposed is State regulation rather than self-regulation, and it is unnecessary, unconstitutional, unfair and unaffordable. Handing up the written submission matters even if the speaking slot is cut short.

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## 16 Nineteen questions they must answer

### PURPOSE — EQUIP PEOPLE TO PRESS, POLITELY AND ON RECORD

**Say:** Nineteen forensic questions grouped by theme. You do not need them all. Choose a theme, cite the clause, ask one question at a time, press politely for a direct answer, and ask that both question and reply be minuted.

**Expand:** the five themes are unconstitutional, unnecessary, unworkable, unaffordable and unfair. Encourage people to pick two before they arrive rather than improvising in the room.

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## 17 Download it, and pass it on

### PURPOSE — END WITH THE CODE ON SCREEN AND PHONES OUT

**Say:** That is the whole pack. Scan the code, download it, print it, and forward it to your leaders and your members. Register, prepare, engage. No participation, no voice.

**Expand:** leave this slide up while people scan, and while you take questions. Do not advance to a blank screen.

## After the meeting

- Send the campaign link to everyone who was in the room, the same day.
- Name the date the video will be played, and who will play it.

- If the body agreed to an institutional submission, agree who drafts it and by when.
- Tell FOR SA what was committed, at [info@forsa.org.za](mailto:info@forsa.org.za), so it can be counted.

One submission may be a whisper. Tens of thousands become a voice that cannot be ignored.

[forsa.org.za/crl-regulation-of-religion](https://forsa.org.za/crl-regulation-of-religion) · [info@forsa.org.za](mailto:info@forsa.org.za) · +27 (021) 556-5502