President of Parliament

Sarah A. Wescot-Williams

Parliament of St. Maarten

October 20th 2018

STATEN VAN SINT MAARTEN

Re: Questions from VSA Committee Meeting #3 – Mental Health Foundation

#### Dear Honorable President of Parliament,

As follow up to the meeting of the committee of VSA that took place on August 30<sup>th</sup> 2018, in which the Mental Health Foundation gave a presentation on the current state of the mental healthcare on St. Maarten, the undersigned Chairman and member of the committee of VSA would like, pursuant to Article 62 of the Constitution and Article 69 of the Rules of Order of the Parliament of St. Maarten, to pose the following questions that have been raised during this deliberation to successively the Ministers of VSA, VROMI, Justice and Finance.

## Questions to Minister VSA:

- The committee would like to be informed why the Minister did not request funding from the trust fund of the World Bank for a structural contribution for the financing of the construction of a new mental healthcare establishment as has been done for the projected new General Hospital of Country St. Maarten, especially being aware of the urgent need of this health sector for a new facility that has additional restricted amount of cells, admission facilities, counseling space, offices, and new guided living facilities for the patients?
- Can the minister seek ways to simplify the procedures to get the reimbursements of services rendered by MHF and covered by AVBZ within the prescribed 90 days?

## Question to the Minister of VROMI:

Why a promised sewer system was never installed in the area of the establishment of the
mental health foundation, considering the amount of water that accumulates on the premises
especially after heavy rains, creating a very unhygienic situation due to overflow of, for example,
the septic tank? And what is the Ministry's short term action plan to improve/correct this
sewage problem around MHF Building?

#### Question to the Minister of Justice:

There is a backlog of Naf 107,000 in reimbursements towards the MHF services rendered to the
justice Ministry. Can the Minister explain this backlog, and can the Minister indicate the
necessary actions to be taken on the short term to assure the payment to MHF considering
liquidity challenges of the MHF.

# Question to the Minister of Finance

Can the Minister please give an overview of the liquidity of the AVBZ fund? We would like to
know what the liquidity of the AVBZ fund was after the dismantling of the Netherlands Antilles
in 10-10-10, versus the liquidity status of that fund
ow. In case there is a difference, how have
those funds been spent over those 8 years.

Kind Regards

MP Luc Mercelina

Chairman of the Committee for VSA

St. Maarten Parliament

MP Rolando Brison

Member of the Committee for VSA

St. Maarten Parliament