



# Parliament of Sint Maarten

## Staten van Sint Maarten

To the Hon. Minister of General Affairs  
Mr. W.V. Marlin  
p/a Council of Ministers  
**Philipsburg**

UV/229/2015-2016

Philipsburg, April 19, 2016

Re: Request to provide information US Homeland Security website

Hon. Minister Marlin,

Herewith I submit to you a request from Member of Parliament, Mrs. Leona M. Marlin-Romeo pursuant to article 62 of the Constitution and article 69 of the Rules of Order of the Parliament of Sint Maarten.

The letter is self-explanatory.

Yours truly,

S.A. Wescot-Williams  
President of Parliament

STATEN VAN SINT MAARTEN

Ingek. 18 APR 2016

Volgnr. 15/667/15-16

Par. 

From The Desk of Independent Member of Parliament

*Leona Marlin-Romeo*

To the President of Parliament

Sarah Wescott-Williams

Present

Monday, April 18, 2016

It appears that there is a growing concern from citizens about information placed on the US Homeland security website <https://www.dhs.gov/visa-waiver-program-requirements> on the requirements for persons from the former Netherlands Antilles wanting to travel to the USA. Below is a statement from the website.

**NOTE:** The citizens of the new countries of Curacao, Bonaire, St Eustatius, Saba and St Maarten (the former Netherlands Antilles) are not eligible to travel to the United States under the Visa Waiver Program if they are applying for admission with passports from these countries."

There are also talks in the media about the European Union imposing a possible visa requirement for US citizens wanting to visit Europe. By means of this communication I would like the Minister of General Affairs to answer the following questions;

1. Since the issue visa issue was brought to the Minister's attention since April 4<sup>th</sup> 2016 has contact been made with the US Embassy in Curacao to bring clarity to the matter on visas for the former Netherlands Antillens citizens?
2. Will the Minister inform the general public of the findings?
3. Should the European Union decide to place a visa requirement on US citizens what are the repercussions for Sint Maarten, a tourist dependent destination.
4. Will the Minister responsible for Foreign Affairs address these issues with the Kingdom?

I look forward in receiving an immediate response from the responsible minister.

  
Leona Marlin-Romeo  
Member of Parliament