



Parliament of Sint Maarten

Staten van Sint Maarten

To the Hon. Minister of Finance
Mr. A.M.R. Irion
Government Administration Building
Philipsburg

UV/299/2019-2020

Philipsburg, May 28, 2020

Re: Questions from MP S.A. Wescot-Williams regarding “negotiations” between the Government and the Unions representing government workers

Hon. Minister Irion,

Herewith I submit to you questions posed by Member of Parliament, Mrs. S.A. Wescot-Williams 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,

R. Brison
President of Parliament



Sarah A. Wescot-Williams

Member of Parliament Sint Maarten

To:
Parliament of Sint Maarten
Attention: President of Parliament
Wilhelminastraat #1
Philipsburg, St. Maarten

STATEN VAN SINT MAARTEN	
Ingek.	27 MAY 2020
Volgnr.	15/072/19-20
Par.	A B GR

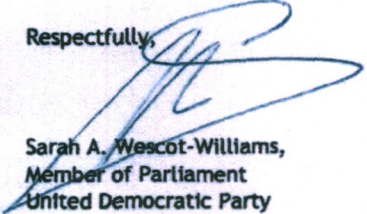
Philipsburg, May 27, 2020

Dear Honorable President of Parliament,

I hereby submit to you questions directed to Minister of Finance, Honorable Ardwell M.R. Irión, regarding "negotiations" between the Government and the Unions representing government workers.

I kindly ask that these be forwarded.

Respectfully,


Sarah A. Wescot-Williams,
Member of Parliament
United Democratic Party



Sarah A. Wescot-Williams

Member of Parliament Sint Maarten

Minister of Finance
Honorable Ardwell M.R. Irion
Government Administration Building
Philipsburg, Sint Maarten

Philipsburg, May 27, 2020

Honorable Minister of Finance,

Through media reports I have learned of the "negotiations" between the Government and the Unions representing government workers.

From these same reports, it appears that Government has made several proposals to the unions. Proposals that suggest replacing the reductions in civil servants' salaries etc. as proposed by the Kingdom Government, with other measures to equal the amount of reduction in salaries etc.

These observations prompt me to ask the following:

Has the Kingdom Government formally presented to the Government of St. Maarten its approval of the "COVID-19 loan" to St. Maarten and the conditions attached thereto? If so, please share this communication from the Kingdom Government.

Does the Kingdom Government leave it open to replace their stated conditions with other cost cutting measures? In other words, can the Government of St. Maarten fill in how they apply these conditions?

What is the latest offer on the table for the unions that represent government workers?

Is this a realistic and doable offer?

How much negotiating space does the Government of St. Maarten have?



Has the Kingdom Government demanded an overall quantitative reduction in the budget of the country or a reduction in specific items such as salaries and related benefits?

When will the necessary (emergency) legislation be presented to parliament to effectuate the changes as proposed by Government, including the budget amendments?

I look forward to your prompt response.

Respectfully,

Sarah A. Wescot-Williams,
Member of Parliament
United Democratic Party