



# Parliament of Sint Maarten

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## Staten van Sint Maarten

To the Hon. Minister of Public Housing, Spatial Planning, Environment and Infrastructure  
Mr. E.J. Doran  
Government Administration Building  
**Philipsburg**

UV/362/2019-2020

Philipsburg, July 13, 2020

Re: Questions from MP C.A. Buncamper regarding land usage for agriculture

Hon. Minister Doran,

Herewith I submit to you questions posed by Member of Parliament, Mr. C.A. Buncamper 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,

W.V. Marlin  
Vice President of Parliament



# Claudius A. Buncamper BSc.

Member of the Parliament of Sint Maarten

Sint Maarten, July 6<sup>th</sup> 2020

President of Parliament  
Parliament of Sint Maarten  
Wilhelmina straat 1  
Philipsburg, St. Maarten

STATEN VAN SINT MAARTEN			
Ingek. 06 JUL 2020			
Volgnr. 15/1023/19-20			
Par.	15	10	19

Subject: Questions for Minister of VROMI

Dear Honorable President of Parliament:

Pursuant to article 69 of the Rules of Order of Parliament, I hereby request that you forward the attached questions to the Minister of VROMI, the Honorable Minister Egbert Doran.

Thank you in advance.

Respectfully,

Claudius A. Buncamper  
Member of Parliament  
Faction Leader, United St. Maarten Party



# Claudius A. Buncamper BSc.

## Member of the Parliament of Sint Maarten

Minister of VROMI  
Mr. Egbert J. Doran  
Government Administration Building  
Soualiga Boulevard #1  
St. Maarten

Ref: Questions regarding land usage for agriculture

Philipsburg July 6<sup>th</sup> 2020

Honorable Minister Doran,

In 2014/2015 the complete Emilio Wilson estate was given away to the company exploiting the Rain Forest Adventure. Lots of local monies of our pension funds APS was used in said project making the project a must win for the country otherwise we lose our pension monies.

COVID19 spared no one, including the organization in question, but it clearly showed us we need land to grow our own food if we want to be able to survive during these difficult times that lay ahead.

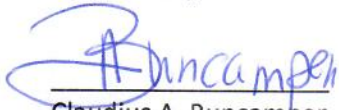
Minister, I strongly believe that much of the land that was granted to the company was not being utilized to its fullest potential and seeing that the country needs the land, I ask that the following be reviewed and adjusted;

1. Using the rights to review the domain fees after 5 years, we should see if the company is paying its fair share compared to the others that also have domain lands?
2. Agreements were made between Rain Forest Adventure and various organizations that were due to receive subsidies/donations from them in the form of payment through their "per passenger payment" method. Has any such payments ever been paid as per their signed documents with groups like the Emilio Wilson Foundation and the Nature Foundation?
3. What happened to the illustrious plans for agriculture/reforestation of the area?
4. Seeing the need to have land available for agriculture and that the property was acquired for such purposes, including natural park, I strongly suggest that we take back at least two thirds of the lands for agricultural purposes?
5. I strongly suggest that the domain fee be adjusted to compare to what others doing commerce in the area are paying.

6. During the recently held IPKO meetings reference was made to funds and expertise being available to assist in making the necessary plans for funding in the agricultural field. I suggest that a cooperative (Co-Op) be established to properly guide and oversee the agricultural development of the country.

I thank you in advance and await your response.

Respectfully,



Claudius A. Buncamper  
Member of Parliament  
Faction Leader, United St. Maarten Party