

DRAFT MOTION

The Parliament of Sint Maarten in its meeting of today, October 21, 2020

Considering:

- That based on the Honorable Minister of TEATT's presentation October 21st, 2020 we can expect an economic contraction of 25%, unemployment rise to at least 14% and a drop of tourism in more than 50% for 2020.
- That the presentation to parliament does provide various short, medium and long term plans for creating a "Path to Economic Recovery
- That various members of parliament, however, have taken note of the need for even more immediate-term measures to reopen the economy
- That many travelers and thus our tourism industry is hamstrung by the testing requirement for entry into St. Maarten, while other destinations such as Mexico and Dominican Republic and now Costa Rica have removed the testing requirements in lue of local testing and travel insurance, and have not seen a drastic rise in cases correlated to this new policy.
- That the 5 day requirement of PCR testing was established due to a drastic decline in arriving passengers that were not able to receive results in time (72hours) from their country in which they disembarked.
- That the Netherlands' RIVM in October approved various Antigen-Rapid tests
- That the average cost of a PCR test in the United States of America is \$100-\$200 (Average \$150) according to Quest Diagnostics and LabCorp, the 2 largest lab chains in the United States

- That the country is currently serving dozens of cruise ships each month, with many of them housing well isolated and monitored crew who would likely be extremely thrilled to be able to leave the ship and spend on the island

Resolves:

- For the Minister of VSA to immediately explore the possibility of adjusting the admittance policy to the country as follows:
- Implement the use of Antigen- rapid test on St. Maarten's port of entries.
- Travelers are encouraged to have themselves tested before traveling, but it is not a requirement as the Antigens rapid test can be administered locally delivering same time results.
- Travelers will need to pay a fixed fee to the government of St. Maarten as a contribution towards the cost of testing, insurance and covid treatment capabilities in St. Maarten
- This fee should be below the average cost of a PCR test in the United States of America.
- Travelers who violate physical distancing and other guidelines will be subject to a fine, to be stipulated by legal instrument (MB, MR and/or LB/LBHAM)
- - The Ministers of TEATT and VSA create a policy for a safe and responsible way of allowing the crew members of the cruise ships docked at the harbor, to disembark as visitors.
- The Minister should seek advice on this from the Ministry of VSA, The American Advanced Medical Integration Group (AMI) and any other local healthcare professionals regarding stringent measures, protocols and the implementation of the measures regarding antigen testing.

- That the government allow businesses to reopen at their regular opening hours but with strict adherence to the health code and biweekly inspection by controllers.
- To report back to Parliament with these advices within 1 week, seeing the urgency and the immediate need for action

And goes over to the order of the day.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'D. H. H.', is written over the text 'Copies of this motion to be sent to:'. The signature is stylized and somewhat illegible.

Copies of this motion to be sent to:

The Government of Sint Marten

The Governments of Aruba, Curacao and the Netherlands

The Parliaments of Aruba and Curacao

The First and Second Chamber of the Netherlands



PARLIAMENT OF SINT MAARTEN

Friday, October 23, 2020, at 14.00 hrs.

Public meeting no. 04 (Urgent) (Continuation)

Voting list

motion # 1

NO.	NAME	VOOR/FOR	TEGEN/AGAINST
1.	Rolando Brison	✓	
2.	Akeem E. Arrindell	✓	
3.	Sidharth M. Bijlani	✓	
4.	Claudius A. Buncamper	✓	
5.	Solange L. Duncan	✓	
6.	Christophe T. Emmanuel	←	
7.	Melissa D. Gumbs		✓
8.	Grisha S. Heyliger-Marten	✓	
9.	William V. Marlin	✓	
10.	Omar E.C. Ottley	✓	
11.	George C. Pantophlet	✓	
12.	Raeyhon A. Peterson		✓
13.	Hyacinth L. Richardson	✓	
14.	Angelique J.G. Romou	✓	
15.	Sarah A. Wescot-Williams		✓

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