

Parliament of Sint Maarten

Staten van Sint Maarten

To the Hon. Minister of Tourism, Economic Affairs, Transport and Telecommunication Ms. L.N.L de Weever
Government Administration Building
Philipsburg

UV/101/2020-2021

Philipsburg, January 12, 2021

Re: Questions from MP S.A. Wescot-Williams regarding letter Airport Holding requesting Mr. B. Mingo to resign as CEO

Hon. Minister de Weever,

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

Philipsburg, January 11, 2021

Honorable President of Parliament,

STATEN VAN SINT MAARTEN

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Kindly find attached a letter to the Minister of Tourism, Economic Affairs, Transport and Telecommunication (TEATT) Honorable Ludmila N.L. de Weever with the request to forward same.

Respectfully

Sarah A. Wescot-Williams, Member of Parliament

United Democratic (UD) Party



Sarah A. Wescot-Williams

Member of Parliament Sint Maarten

Minister of Tourism, Economic Affairs, Transport and Telecommunication (TEATT) Honorable Ludmila N.L. de Weever Government Administration Building

Philipsburg, January 11, 2021

Honorable Minister de Weever,

I have taken note of the letter to the Managing Director/CEO of the Princess Juliana International Airport, Mr. B. Mingo from the members of the Airport Holding Board, which supposedly was copied to Parliament. This letter has not (yet) come to Parliament. My first question therefore would be, why not, since it seemingly was the intention of the Holding Board to do so?

Secondly, it is lamentable that a corporate matter such as this plays out in this fashion in the public domain. I have also subsequently learned of Mingo's response as publicized in the local media.

This matter is all the more regrettable, knowing how the airport, St. Maarten's gateway, has until not too long ago, been a political football, before at long last being able to secure the funding for its reconstruction.

In the letter from the Holding Board, several allegations are being made, supposedly also on behalf of the shareholder, the government of St. Maarten.

This prompts me to ask the following questions:

- Please provide me with the Service Agreement between the Airport Operating Board and Mr. Mingo. To whom is Mr. Mingo accountable?
- What is the vision of this government for the airport? Please provide this in writing.
- Please provide a time line of the airport reconstruction funding, the players in the process and the activities undertaken.
- Provide all correspondence with respect to Mr. Mingo's functioning from "key" stakeholders.
- Who has assessed Mr. Mingo's functioning? Please provide.



- Also provide the airport latest financial data.
- Was Mr. Mingo offered a payout? If so, how much and under what conditions? Please provide.
- And finally, please provide all information to support government's claims against the MD
 of the airport, as verbalized in the letter from the Holding Board.

Respectfully,

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



PJIAH/MD/VDD-2020-0033

BY HAND DELIVERY AND E-MAIL

Princess Juliana International Airport Exploitatiemaatschappij N.V. (PJIAE) Attn. Mr. Brian Mingo, Managing director/CEO Skyport Building Airport Road Simpson Bay Sint Maarten

Sint Maarten, December 3, 2020

Re: Request for your resignation

Dear Mr. Mingo,

We refer to your appointment as Managing Director of the Princess Juliana International Airport Exploitatiemaatschappij N.V. and the resulting Service Agreement (SA) signed between yourself and Princess Juliana International Airport Exploitatiemaatschappij NV (PJIAE) on November 30, 2018, with commencement date of January 7, 2019.

During the almost 2 years of your engagement, as well as several meetings with the Shareholder Princess Juliana International Airport Houdstermaatschappij NV (PJIAH), the Council of Ministers (COM) and St. Maarten Parliament on the progress of the PJIA reconstruction project amongst other projects and issues, regretfully it must be stated that none of these key stakeholders are pleased with your functioning as CEO within the organization. Your lack of ability to move the reconstruction project of the airport forward has become more than evident as we are now over three years since the terminal building has been severely damaged by Hurricane Irma and there is no consistency in your projected completion date for the reconstruction of the terminal building. This is quite alarming seeing the fact that it has been more than a year since the funds have been made available for the reconstruction.

As the project timelines continue to shift under your leadership, all stakeholders (both locally as internationally) continue to express their concern in your ability to align your vision with those

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of the Shareholder and other stakeholders involved in terms of getting the airport up and running before possibly being faced with yet another catastrophe.

The current general sentiment expressed by all is that PJIAE is failing under your leadership tenure thus far and by extension the economy on the whole of this island, which solely depends on tourism.

The general sentiment which is also shared by the undersigned can be summed as follows, which list is not exhaustive:

- 1. Lack of real progress of airport terminal reconstruction;
- Your vision for PJIA not aligned with vision of Shareholder and Government;
- 3. Non-cohesive relationship with fellow Managing Board members;
- 4. Strained relationship with Employees resulting in the employees' issuance of a letter of non-confidence in you;
- 5. Your latest presentation to the Shareholder and COM (November 12, 2020) outlining the increase in reconstruction budget cost from USD \$107 to \$119 Million or an increase of USD \$12 million allegedly due to indexation rates and additional project costs, that will continue to be an issue seeing the delay in the reconstruction;

Furthermore, you have shown a lack of interest in pursuing the necessary steps in realizing the much-needed US Pre-clearance for the airport, the relocation of the Fuel Farm has not been effectuated, the establishment of a New Fuel Farm has not been done, the much needed Fixed Based Operations (FBO) building for which a contract was already signed has not been done and the list goes on.

Regretfully, we must inform you that this situation can no longer be sustained. Based on the preceding points and a growing lack of confidence in your ability to move the company forward, lack of progress on the reconstruction of the terminal building, your failure to foster a good working atmosphere with your colleagues, employees and the stakeholders amongst others, we strongly request that you tender your resignation by the end of today's date December 4, 2020 effective January 4, 2021. Failure to comply with this request will ultimately lead us taking the necessary legal measures to terminate the relationship.

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Trusting that you will be guided accordingly, and that you honor the request outlined afore and do the honorable thing and submit your resignation,

Sincerely,

V.D.A.D. Doneher, Managing Director

Princess Juliana International Airport Houdstermaatschappij N.V.

A.G. Daniel, Chairman

Supervisory Board of Directors

Princess Juliana International Airport Houdstermaatschappij N.V.

R.D. Hodge, Secretary

Supervisory Board of Directors

Princess Juliana International Airport Houdstermaatschappij N.V.

C.c Supervisory Board of PJIAH
Supervisory Board of PJIAE
Council of Ministers
Parliament of St. Maarten