



Parliament of Sint Maarten

Staten van Sint Maarten

To the Hon. Minister of Public Health, Social Development and Labor
Mr. R.J.J. Panneflek
Government Administration Building
Philipsburg

UV/109/2020-2021

Philipsburg, January 26, 2021

Re: Questions from MP M.D. Gumbs and MP R.A. Peterson regarding COVID-19 vaccination Deployment

Hon. Minister Panneflek,

Herewith I submit to you a request by Members of Parliament, Ms. M.D. Gumbs and Mr. R.A. Peterson 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



Members of the Parliament of Sint Maarten

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| STATEN VAN SINT MAARTEN | |
| Ingek. 19 JAN 2021 | |
| Volgnr. 15/306/20-21 | |
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Sint Maarten, 19 January 2021

President of Parliament
Mr. Rolando Brison
Wilhelminastraat 1
Philipsburg, St. Maarten

Subject: Questions to the Minister of VSA regarding COVID-19 Vaccination Deployment

Mr. Chairman:

The PFP Faction hereby requests your assistance in forwarding questions, as per article 69 of the Rules of Order, to the Minister of VSA, the Honorable Minister Richard Panneflek.

Thank you in advance for your assistance in this matter.

Respectfully,

Melissa D. Gumbs, M.I.B.
Member of Parliament
Faction Leader, Party for Progress

Mr. Raeyhon A. Peterson
Member of Parliament
PFP Faction



PFP Faction

Members of the Parliament of Sint Maarten

Sint Maarten, 19 January 2021

Minister of Volksgezondheid, Sociale Zaken en Arbeid
Mr. Richard Panneflek
Souliga Road 1
Philipsburg, St. Maarten

Subject: Country St. Maarten COVID-19 Vaccination Plan

Honorable Minister Panneflek:

On 5 January 2021, the Parliament of Sint Maarten received a COVID-19 status update from Collective Prevention Services (CPS), for use during the IPKO presentations on January 6th and 7th.

The three page document outlined the St. Maarten COVID-19 statistics since the pandemic's start in early 2020, and contained minimal information regarding the planning for a COVID-19 vaccination roll-out. The document mentioned that the Dutch Ministry of Public Health, Welfare and Sport (VWS) would be receiving a preliminary batch of vaccines in early 2021. It also stated that a tranche of these, including materials related to logistics and administration, would be made available for the Dutch islands, including St. Maarten.

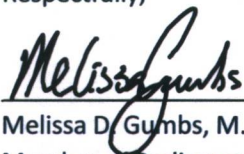
The document further mentions that the first working group session was held on 8 December 2020, with the aim of contributing to the development of an Implementation Plan for St. Maarten's COVID-19 vaccination program. Considering we are beyond the one-month mark from this initial meeting, and a full eighteen days into 2021, we hereby submit the following questions:

1. What is the update from the Dutch Ministry of VWS regarding:
 - a. Which vaccine we will be receiving (Pfizer or Moderna)?
 - b. How many vaccines will be made available for St. Maarten?
2. What is the status update on the Implementation Plan for St. Maarten's COVID-19 Vaccination Program?
3. What logistical scenarios have been mapped out for vaccine deployment, i.e., registration for vaccination, human resources for deployment, refrigeration for doses, etc?
4. What priority lists have been developed, keeping in mind the exposure vulnerability of frontline healthcare workers, first responders, immigration and justice personnel, 65+ citizens, etc?
5. Has any discussion been held with regards to making vaccination mandatory for travelers coming to St. Maarten and, if any, what has been the outcome of these discussions?

Whatever side of the vaccination debate we may personally fall on, the global trend seems to be leaning towards strong recommendations and even mandatory requirements for vaccination before travel, whether domestically or internationally. This could have an as-yet-unknown impact on our recovering economic situation, so it is important that we, as Country St. Maarten, have a feasible and sustainable plan in place.

We request that the answers to the above be provided by the end of this week (22 January 2021) if possible, considering the deployment plans announced by our neighboring islands Saba and St. Eustatius. Thank you for your attention.

Respectfully,



Melissa D. Gumbs, M.I.B.
Member of Parliament
Faction Leader, Party for Progress



Raeynon A. Peterson, LL.M.
Member of Parliament