DRAFT MOTION

PARLIAMENT OF ST. MAARTEN

In its meeting of today, September 28, 2017

Considering:

The devastating impact of hurricane Irma, a category 5-plus hurricane, which battered St. Maarten on September 6, 2017 on the political, social and economic and financial fabric of St. Maarten;

The subsequent declaration of a state of emergency by the government of St. Maarten;

That extra-ordinary times as we are in as a country, demand extra-ordinary measures and approaches;

That the parliament of St. Maarten in its role as the supervisor of the government has an extra-ordinary burden to ensure that accountability and checks and balances remain in place, even in these trying times;

DECLARES THAT

Government and parliament shall immediately activate a weekly question and answer hour;

Government shall institute regular consultation with French St. Martin and inform parliament of these consultations regularly as well;

The government, in consultation with French St. Martin, will work post haste on cleanup of the Simpsonbay Lagoon, making use of the proposal which formed part of the Operational Program of the EU; and the plan of the Nature Foundation;

The government will examine the creation of a guarantee fund to protect mortgage debtors in consultation with the banking sector;

The government will enlist the assistance of the UN Population Division to address the population shifts, experienced in the aftermath of hurricane Irma, making use of the social mapping which has already been developed on and for St. Maarten

That the government will post haste propose a framework law to formalize the structure and profile of community and district councils, making these organizations a mandatory part of the social development plans;

That a review of the disaster management structure in all its facets will take place;

That government will open and strengthen the lines of communication with the Kingdom government to ensure that no delay or loss of aid results from a lack of communication; and to that end presents a formal and request to the Kingdom Government.
That a (new) formal dialogue structure with the business sector on St. Maarten will be established;

AND GOES OVER TO THE ORDER OF THE DAY,

COPIES OF THIS MOTION TO BE SENT TO

THE GOVERNOR OF SINT MAARTEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF SINT MAARTEN
THE PARLIAMENT OF ARUBA
THE PARLIAMENT OF CURACAO
THE GOVERNMENT OF ARUBA
THE GOVERNMENT OF CURACAO
THE KINGDOM GOVERNMENT

St. Maarten, September 28, 2017
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