



MINISTER OF FINANCE - SINT MAARTEN
MINISTER VAN FINANCIËN - SINT MAARTEN

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To: Parliament of Sint Maarten
Attn: Chairlady of Parliament, Mrs. Sarah A. Wescot-Williams
Wilhelminastraat #1
Philipsburg, Sint Maarten

STATEN VAN SINT MAARTEN
Ingek. 08 MAR 2019
Volgnr. 151689/10-9
Par. <u>7</u> <u>16</u> <u>GR</u>

Date: March 7th , 2019
Reference no.: DIV # 3104
Subject: Nota naar aanleiding van het verslag inzake het ontwerp van de Landsverordeningen tot vaststelling van de jaarrekening van Sint Maarten voor het dienstjaar 2014
Annex(es): 1

Dear Chairlady,

Please find attached the note following the final report on the above-mentioned proposal.

I trust to have informed you sufficiently, and in a timely manner.

Respectfully,

Perry F.M. Geerlings
Minister of Finance

Onderwerp: antwoorden naar aanleiding van de behandeling in de centrale commissie van de Landsverordening tot vaststelling van de jaarrekening van Sint Maarten voor het dienstjaar 2014.

Geachte voorzitter,

Hierbij bieden wij u aan de nota naar aanleiding van het verslag inzake het ontwerp van de Landsverordeningen tot vaststelling van de jaarrekening van Sint Maarten voor het dienstjaar 2014.

In de centrale commissievergadering d.d. 25 oktober 2018 waarin het onderwerp werd behandeld zijn vragen gesteld aan de Minister van Financiën. Hierbij ontvangt u, in de bijlage, de schriftelijke reactie op de vragen zoals gesteld.

Bij de vraag staat de fractie van de vraagsteller vermeld. De antwoorden zijn opgesteld in het Engels.

De Minister van Financiën

De Minister van Algemene Zaken

BIJLAGE.

Draft National Ordinance establishing the accounts of Sint Maarten for the service year 2014.

The United Sint Maarten Party Faction.

Question 1: The faction notes that there are a lot of similarities in terms of remarks to the financial statements of 2013. From the financial statements you can assess if there are overruns of the budget. When confronted with an overrun, how does the Ministry handle that? If a particular Ministry has an overrun in expenses, how is that handled? In the structure of our Government, what is it that is done? Based on the report, the impression is that the overruns were discovered after the fact.

Answer 1: The financial information available to government is not real-time. Overruns are usually identified during the compilation of the financial statements. Government through the Improving Financial Management action plan is striving to make the financial information real-time, so that overruns can be headed off in advance. If necessary, a budget amendment will be presented to parliament.

Question 2: How collectable does the Ministry of Finance see study financing repayments? Is it a realistic collectable debt? In the anticipation of receiving the 2015, 2016 and 2017 statements, are we going to continue to see a trend where in actuality the Government was hoping to collect 60 million guilders in study financing but it turns out that that figure is realistically actually much less?

Answer 2: the collection of the outstanding student loans is part of the Improving Financial Management action plan. Legislation has been passed to create a new legal framework for study financing.