



Parliament of Sint Maarten

Staten van Sint Maarten

To the Hon. Minister of Finance
Mr. M.J. Hassink
Government Administration Building
Philipsburg

UV/071/2015-2016

Philipsburg, November 17, 2015

Re: Questions MP Maurice A. Lake

Hon. Minister Hassink,

Herewith I submit to you the questions by the Member of Parliament, Mr. Maurice A. Lake pursuant to article 62 of the Constitution of Sint Maarten and article 69 of the Rules of Order of Parliament.

The letter is self-explanatory.



S.A. Wescot-Williams
President of Parliament



Parliament of Sint Maarten

Staten van Sint Maarten

Sint Maarten, November 12, 2015

President of Parliament
Mrs. Sarah Wescot-Williams
Present

STATEN VAN SINT MAARTEN			
Ingek. 12 NOV 2015			
Volgnr. 15/256/15-16			
Par.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Honorable President of Parliament,

The University of St. Martin (USM) is in need of funding in order to continue with its development in offering education at a tertiary/higher education level.

Promises have been made to increase the annual subsidy in order for USM to be able to offer the programs that it should, which will further enhance the educational institutions position in higher education.

I hereby make use of my right as MP to submit questions via you the President of Parliament to the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Education, Culture, Youth and Sports with respect to the following:

Minister of Finance:

1. Has there been a subsidy increase for USM in the draft 2016 budget?
2. If so, what is this amount?

Minister of Education, Culture, Youth and Sports:

1. Are there non-profit educational institutions that receive more subsidy on an annual basis than USM?
2. If so, please list the institution(s) and the amount of subsidy?
3. The University of St. Martin initially requested subsidy in the amount of NAF 700,000.00. This amount was in line with subsidizing solely the teaching personnel costs. Due to pressure and conversations with the Ministry of Education this was reduced to NAF 300,000.00 yearly.

One should bear in mind that the Teacher's Education Program (TEP) was a request of the Government of St. Maarten (wanting of its native teacher) makes a loss of approximately of

NAF 500,000.00 yearly which has been known for quite some time. Therefore the request for NAF 700,000 would be fair. The University is currently paying the

Government's desire to have local teachers.

What is the amount that Government has provided in the budget for USM?

4. What is the additional increase for USM?
5. What is the motivation for the amount if it is less than the Naf.300.000?
6. Has USM been legally officially recognized?

Looking forward to a speedy response, I remain,

Sincerely,



Maurice A. Lake,
Member of Parliament