



Parliament of Sint Maarten

Staten van Sint Maarten

To the Hon. Minister of Public Health, Social Development and Labor

Mr. E. Lee

p/a Council of Ministers

Philipsburg

UV/272/2015-2016

Philipsburg, June 13, 2016

Re: Questions from MP C.T. Emmanuel regarding the Collective dismissal of Maho Employees

Hon. Minister Lee,

Herewith I submit to you questions posed by Member of Parliament, Mr. Christophe T. Emmanuel 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,

Frans G. Richardson
2nd Vice-President of Parliament

STATEN VAN SINT MAARTEN	
Ingek.	13 JUN 2016
Volgnr.	15185115-16
Par.	<i>[Handwritten initials]</i>

From the Desk of MP Christophe Emmanuel
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Mrs. Sarah A. Wescott-Williams
President of Parliament of St. Maarten
Wilhelmina Straat #1
Philipsburg

Philipsburg, June 13th, 2016

Subject: Collective dismissal Maho Employees

Honorable President Wescott-Williams,


It was recently brought to my attention by a group of concerned employees of the Maho Group of companies, that the management has received the approval from the labor department to proceed with collective dismissal. On June 9th, 2016 the employees received a merged Termination & Labor agreement document accompanied by a memo from the Assistant General Manager Mr. Jack Schultz, informing employees that their current labor agreement would be terminated and they would transition into a new company. In addition Mr. Schultz's, memo further states "All contracts must be signed by Wednesday June 15th, NO EXCEPTIONS".

It is with great dismay, I have taken notice of the actions of the Maho Group of companies with regards to the aforementioned. Therefore I am of the opinion that the management's unilateral decision to terminate the labor agreement of the employees without providing them with the labor department's decision. Goes against the principle of "Collectief Ontslag & Toestemming beëindiging arbeidsovereenkomst" of the civil code.

In light of my abovementioned concerns, through you I would like to submit a formal request to the Minister of VSA, the honorable Mr. Emile Lee to provide me with a response to the following:

- Has a request for collective dismissal been submitted by the Maho Group of companies
- How many employees is the Maho Group requesting to dismiss
- Has the labor department granted permission to the Maho Group for collective dismissal
- As per what date has the collective dismissal been approved

Thanking you in advance for your assistance in the aforementioned.

Sincerely,


Christopher T. Emmanuel
Member of Parliament St. Maarten