

Parliament of Sint Maarten

Staten van Sint Maarten

To the Minister of General Affairs The Hon. Mrs. S.A. Wescot-Williams c/o Administration Building Philipsburg

UV/333/2013-2014

Philipsburg, August 5, 2014

Re: Letter MP Johan E. Leonard

Hon. Minister Wescot-Williams,

Herewith I submit to you questions by the Member of Parliament, Mr. Johan E. Leonard, 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.

drs. G.R. Arrindell

President of Parliament



Philipsburg August 5th 2014.

Chairlady of the Parliament of Sint Maarten Drs. Gracita Arrindell Parliament Building Wilhelmina Street # 1 Philipsburg Sint Maarten



Ref: <u>Questions to the Prime Minister as shareholder representative for Windward Islands Airways N.V. d.b.a. WINAIR.</u>

Madame Chairlady,

In accordance with Article 69 of the Rules of Order of the Parliament of Sint Maarten please find enclosed a letter addressed to the Prime Minister of Sint Maarten, the shareholder representative of WINAIR, with 14 questions requesting information on WINAIR.

You are hereby kindly requested to forward the abovementioned letter to the Prime Minister.

With best regards,

Mr. Johan Leonard Member of Parliament U.P.P. Faction



Philipsburg August 5th 2014.

Prime Minister of Sint Maarten Mrs. Sarah A. Wescot-Williams Administration Building Clem Labega Square Philipsburg Sint Maarten

Ref: Making use Article 69 of the Rules of Order of the Parliament to pose questions on Windward Islands Airways N.V. d.b.a. WINAIR

Madame Prime Minister,

According to reports in the press for some time WINAIR operated a flight from Sint Maarten to the Dominican Republic then on to Curacao and return to Sint Maarten via the Dominican Republic.

It was also reported that this flight was carried out with an ATR type aircraft that was wet leased (aircraft and full crew) from a French company in Guadeloupe.

This flight was cancelled in a quiet fashion some weeks ago.

You are hereby requested to provide the Parliament of Sint Maarten with answers to the following questions:

- 1. Was a feasibility study carried out before it was decided to start up the abovementioned flight?
- 2. If the answer to question 1 is YES, what were the findings of the study?
- 3. If the answer to question 1 is YES, can you provide Parliament with a copy of the study?
- 4. If the answer to question 1 is NO, why did WINAIR go ahead and started the flight without a feasibility study in place?
- 5. Is there a strategy plan approved by the shareholders of WINAIR in place, on how to proceed with WINAIR for the short and long term?
- 6. If the answer to question 5 is YES, can you provide Parliament with a copy of the strategy plan?
- 7. If the answer to question 5 is NO, please inform Parliament with which vision and intentions is WINAIR being operated?

- 8. Can you inform Parliament the reason why the abovementioned flight was cancelled?
- 9. Can you confirm if the outstanding bill that WINAIR owes the French company in Guadeloupe for the wet lease of the ATR aircraft is 1.4 million US Dollars as is alleged in the aviation world?
- 10. If the answer to question 9 is YES, how does WINAIR intend to pay this outstanding bill?
- 11. If the answer to question 9 is NO, can you inform Parliament what is the exact amount that WINAIR owes the French company in Guadeloupe?
- 12. Has there been any threat (written or verbal) from the French company on ceasing the assets of WINAIR?
- 13. Is there a "kick the can down the road" strategy in place for the settlement of the abovementioned outstanding bill? Namely deal with the problem after the August 29th 2014 Parliamentary elections?
- 14. Do you agree that the start up and execution of the above mentioned flight appears to have been a suicidal attempt at bankrupting WINAIR?

The answers to the above mentioned questions are expected as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Mr. Johan Leonard Member of Parliament U.P.P. Faction