

Parliament of Sint Maarten

Staten van Sint Maarten

To the Hon. Minister of Finance Mr. P.F.M. Geerlings Administration Building Clem Labega Square **Philipsburg**

UV/351/2018-2019

Philipsburg, June 26, 2019

Re: Questions from MP F.G. Richardson requesting additional information from the Minister of Finance pertaining to tax contribution

Hon. Minister Geerlings,

Herewith I submit to you questions posed by Member of Parliament, Mr. F.G. Richardson 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,

S.A. Wescot-Williams
President of Parliament

President of Parliament of St. Maarten Honorable S.W. Wescot-Williams Wilhelminastraat #1 Philipsburg St. Maarten



June 25, 2019

RE: Letter requesting additional information from the Minister of Finance

Mrs. Wescot-Williams,

Please find attached a letter directed to the Minister of Finance dated June 25th 2019. Kindly forward this request on behalf of the USP Faction in Parliament to the minister relevant minister.

Sincerely Yours,

F.G. Richardson

Member of Parliament of St. Maarten

USP Faction

Minister of Finance – Government of St. Maarten Honorable P. Geerlings Government Administration Building Soualiga Road 1 Greatbay St. Maarten

June 25th 2019

Minister Geerlings,

Let me start by thanking you for having responded to our letter of May 23rd 2019. I would like to make the following remarks:

- a. Our question 2:" The number of persons collecting AOV and AWW 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019" was responded to with the number of persons paying AOV and AWW premium. As such the answer is still pending.
- b. Unanswered questions 4,5 and 6:
 - i. "4.The amount of Income Tax paid by pensioners (former) civil servants or their widows/widowers or minor children in 2015, 2016, 2017;
 - ii. 5.The number of persons on St. Maarten, currently filing their income tax in St. Maarten, that collect an income from any pension plan, savings plan and any other similar sources which were established during the period these persons were working and for which cost were associated such as premium, finance and administrative expenses etc.;
 - iii. 6.The amount of wage tax and or income tax or any other income related tax is collected by government based on income collected by St. Maarten Taxpayers who receive an income from former employment or any other savings or pension plan for 2015,2016,2017,2018 and April 2019", were responded to by your office as follows: "A data analyst will be required to extract such

from the database. The data analyst can use the wage tax summary from APS and the SZV with which a script can be written to extract the requested data of the Gefis software of the Receivers office and the SIAH software of the Inspectorate of taxes. Regretfully, the data analyst function does not exist in the function book of the Tax administration, so we are unable to hire someone in that function. Since 2015 we have been requesting for function book to be revisited to include amongst others a data analyst but to no avail".

The USP faction would not like to conclude that the Minister of Finance has not already made the necessary arrangements to employ a data analyst directly or indirectly to be able to extract the information necessary to answer the balance of the questions posed. If not, the USP faction fears that the Minister of Finance may not be able to introduce tax reform as promised, because the ability to calculate the estimated income, for government, based on amended tax legislation, is not available.

Thank you in advance for the information and I urge you to submit this information prior to the completion of the debate of the 2019 budget debate in parliament.

F.R. Richardson

Member of Parliament of St. Maarten

USP Faction