To the Hon. Minister of Public Housing, Spatial Planning, Environment and Infrastructure
Mr. C.T. Emmanuel
p/a Council of Ministers
Philepsburg

UV/294/2016-2017

Philipsburg, August 30, 2017

Re: Questions from MP S.A. Wescot-Williams regarding position SG VROMI

Hon. Minister Emmanuel,

Herewith I submit to you questions posed by Member of Parliament, Mrs. Sarah A. Wescot-Williams 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
To: The President Of Parliament
Philipsburg
St. Maarten

August 26, 2017

Dear President,

Enclosed please find 2 sets of questions to ministers of government regarding the position of Secretary General in the organization of government. Kindly forward these onward and request of the relevant ministers their prompt answers verbally in a meeting of parliament during the week of August 27th.

Respectfully,

Sarah A. Wescot-Williams, MP (DP)
To:
The Minister of Public Housing, Spatial Development, Environment and Infrastructure (VROMI), the Honorable Christopher Emmanuel

Ref: SG VROMI

Honorable Minister Emmanuel,

Following my earlier questions and press reports on this matter, kindly inform me of the following:

Did the Minister obtain legal advice before undertaking this course of action? If so, please share.
Did Personnel Affairs render its advice on this action by the Minister?
Which other instances of this type of action is the Minister aware of? When and by whom?
How does the Minister intend to deal with other legal responsibilities of the SG, such as his role in the decision making process and his responsibilities in accordance with other regulations?
Has there been a performance evaluation of the SG of Vromi? If so, when and what were the results?
Which functions of VROMI are "screened" functions?
Has the civil servant in question been heard?
Please outline specifically what matters have been delayed or retarded or are expected to be due to the function of SG, that lead the Minister to in essence "sideline" this functionary?

Awaiting your prompt answers,

Respectfully,

Sarah A. Wescot-Williams, MP
To
The Minister of General Affairs, the honorable W. V. Marlin

Philipsburg, August 26th 2017

Ref: Sidelining the SG position

Honorable Minister,

In reference to the above in the case of the SG of VROMI, kindly respond to:
Is this a necessary and/or desirous trend within the government organization?
Are there other intentions with respect to the present organizational structure of government?
Have the SGs of government been evaluated? When and what are/were the results?
Have management meetings been held in accordance with the LIOL?
Kindly solicit urgent legal advice and respond to the question whether a minister can relieve a SG of his/her responsibilities as assigned by the LIOL, in particular art 3 of this ordinance.
If this is possible, what are some of the consequences and/or other changes that this decision will make necessary?

Respectfully,

Sarah A. Wescot-Williams, MP (DP)