

Parliament of Sint Maarten

Staten van Sint Maarten

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

Philipsburg

UV/300/2016-2017

Philipsburg, August 31, 2017

Re: Questions from MP F.A. Meyers regarding reduction responsibilities SG VROMI

Hon. Minister Emmanuel,

Herewith I submit to you questions posed by Member of Parliament, Mr. Franklin A. Meyers 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



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Sint Maarten, August 30, 2017

The President of Parliament Sarah A. Wescot-Willams Present

Subject: Letter for Minister of VROMI

Honorable President:

Via you Madame President I will like to pose the following Questions to the Minister of Public Housing, Spatial Planning, Environment and Infrastructure (VROMI), the Honorable Christophe Emmanuel.

I am approaching the Minister in writing subsequent to my article published in the Daily Herald of August 28, 2017. Regarding the Ministers' decision to reduce the Secretary General, Mr. Louis Brown responsibilities from overseeing all but two (2) departments of the Ministry of VROMI.

In the memo sent to the Secretary General, the Minister commented that there will be drastic changes within the Ministry of VROMI. Where the Minister will be taking a more hands-on approach to matters within said Ministry.

As a result I am of the opinion that this is a significant matter that requires urgent clarification from Minister Emmanuel.

My questions to the Minister is as follows:

- 1. What happens now that Mr. Louis Browns' responsibilities have been reduced to just two departments?
- Is there a reduction in Mr. Brown's salary as well?
- 3. What is the formal reason for the reduction of Mr. Brown's responsibilities?
- 4. Is the Minister consequently going to micromanage the departments that will no longer be supervised by Mr. Brown?
- 5. Does political preference take the place of a civil servant's informed advice?



- 6. Is this a political ploy to drive the departments to do what the Minister freely wants without restrictions?
- 7. Are there any structural problems within the departments of VROMI?
- 8. If yes, isn't there a more professional method to find solutions to handle such matters?
- 9. Why has Mr. Brown been the only one targeted or singled out, if there are problems within the Ministry of VROMI?

Thanking you in advance for your kind cooperation, and looking forward to a favorable response, I remain,

Respectfully,

MP Franklin A. Meyers,

Faction Leader

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