UV/302/2019-2020

Philipsburg, May 28, 2020

Re: Questions from MP C.A. Buncamper regarding the flight of currency out of the country during these difficult economic times due to COVID-19

Hon. Minister Irion,

Herewith I submit to you questions posed by Member of Parliament Mr. C.A. Buncamper 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,

R. Brison
President of Parliament
Claudius Buncamper BSc.
Member of the Parliament of Sint Maarten

Sint Maarten, 27 May 2020

President of Parliament
Parliament of Sint. Maarten
Wilhelminastraat 1
Philipsburg, St. Maarten

Subject: Questions for Minister of Finance

Dear Honorable President of Parliament:

Pursuant to article 69 of the Rules of Order of Parliament, I hereby request that you forward the attached questions to the Minister of Finance, the Honorable Minister Ardwell Irion. Thank you in advance.

Respectfully,

Claudius A. Buncamper
Member of Parliament
Faction Leader, United St. Maarten Party
Finance Minister of St. Maarten
Soulalga Road 1
Philipsburg, St. Maarten

Honorable Minister Irion,

The below Member of Parliament has prepared the following questions, after carefully reviewing the issues at hand regarding the flight of currency out of the country during these difficult economic times due to COVID19. Seeing that in March the CBCS placed a stoppage to allow funds larger than Naf 150.000,- to leave the country at once regarding certain conditions like payment of dividends etc. I ask the following questions:

1. Considering we are borrowing money from the Netherlands to keep our economy running and we need to keep our monies circulating in the economy, have you done any inquiries into what effect the remittances to family members abroad presently ongoing at the banks and money agencies like money gram, Punto mio etc. will be having on the programs of the SSRP?
2. Is it a fair practice that we allow monies to leave the country at this point of the economic crises which will hamper our foreign reserves?
3. Can and will any measures be taken to slow down or stop the flight of foreign currency leaving our country in family related remittances at this point in time until further notice?

Given the urgency of the matter, I would appreciate it if the answers can be given by the Minister most soonest, but no later than Friday May 29th 2020.

Respectfully,

Claudius A. Buncamper
Member of Parliament
Faction Leader, United St. Maarten Party