



Parliament of Sint Maarten

Staten van Sint Maarten

To the Hon. Minister of Public Housing, Spatial Planning, Environment and Infrastructure
Mr. E.J. Doran
Government Administration Building
Philipsburg

UV/336/2019-2020

Philipsburg, June 19, 2020

Re: Questions from MP M.D. Gumbs and MP R.A. Peterson regarding actions undertaken by ministry during caretaker period

Hon. Minister Doran,

Herewith I submit to you questions posed by Members of Parliament, Ms. M.D. Gumbs and Mr. R.A. Peterson 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



PFP Faction

Parliament of Sint Maarten

STATEN VAN SINT MAARTEN	
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Sint Maarten, 16 June 2020

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

Subject: Questions to Minister of VROMI

Dear Chairman Brison:

Pursuant to article 69 of the Rules of Order of Parliament, the PFP faction hereby submits to you, questions directed to the Honorable Minister of Public Housing, Spatial Planning, Environment and Infrastructure (VROMI) Egbert C. Doran.

We kindly ask for these to be forwarded.

Respectfully,

Ms. Melissa D. Gumbs, M.I.B.
Member of Parliament
PFP Faction Leader

Mr. Raeyhon A. Peterson, LL.M
Member of Parliament



PFP Faction

Members of the Parliament of Sint Maarten

Minister of Public Housing, Spatial Planning, Environment and Infrastructure (VROMI)
Honorable Egbert C. Doran
Government Administration Building
Philipsburg, Sint Maarten

Philipsburg, June 16th 2020

Honorable Minister Doran,

On February 26th 2020, the PFP faction submitted question to then caretaker Minister of VROMI Christopher Wever, concerning the actions undertaken by the Ministry during the period of caretaker status of the last Council of Ministers. To date no answer has been received by the Ministry, and Mr. Wever is no longer Minister of VROMI. However, the PFP faction would still like to receive the answers to these questions. These were as follows:

1. How many building permits have been issued by the Minister of VROMI from November 2019 through to February 2020 and what has been the resulting revenue throughout this same period?
2. Given the fact that there are citizens with requests regarding long lease land that are outstanding for over ten years, what are the plans of the Minister and Policy department of VROMI to address the lack of a policy on the issuance of long lease land?
3. In the past we have seen several Ministers of VROMI issue questionable instructions through the last months of their tenure, while they were in a caretaker status. Some of these cases have reached the courts. In light of transparency, and given the caretaker status of the Minister, have there been any instructions for cases to be prioritized given to the department of Domain Affairs through the months of November 2019 to February 2020 to issue long lease land to specific persons? If so, what is the reason for the urgency of the instruction and who are the proposed recipients of long lease land and where are these parcels located?
4. In the past, when a Minister is leaving office at the end of his tenure, there have been several attempts to place (non-civil servant) cabinet members in the departments within the Ministry, without going through the regular interview procedure. In light of transparency, are there any plans to place current cabinet staff members in the department of the Ministry of VROMI? If so, are those individuals going to go through the normal interview process and have those vacancies been published so other persons who wish to apply can do so?

These were the 4 questions posed to the past Minister. In light of these questions and recent developments, the PFP faction has two additional questions to the Honorable Minister. These are:

5. Has the Ministry issued or is it the intention of the Ministry to issue a parcel of water with the size of approximately 14.000 m2 in long lease in the area of Maho Bay and Sunset Bar and Grill? If the answer is yes, then;
 - 6a. Given the size of the parcel, was this decision taken in consultation with the Council of Ministers?
 - b. What is the intended purpose of the activity in the area of the prospective water rights? What was the advice from the relevant departments in VROMI on this?
 - c. Have the Nature Foundation and the Airport also been approached for their views on the issuance? If so, what was their view on this case?

Given the fact that the PFP faction to date has not received the answers to the questions posed on February 26th 2020 to the previous Minister Wever, we would like to receive the answers to all of the questions posed at the Ministers earliest convenience, if possible within two (2) weeks.

Respectfully,



Ms. Melissa D. Gumbs, M.I.B.
Member of Parliament
PFP Faction Leader



Mr. Raeyhon A. Peterson, LL.M
Member of Parliament