Parliament of Sint Maarten
Statens van Sint Maarten

To the Hon. Minister of Finance
Mr. A.M.R. Irion
Government Administration Building
Philipsburg

UV/381/2019-2020

Philipsburg, July 27, 2020

Re: Questions from MP S.A. Wescot-Williams regarding conditions liquidity assistance

Hon. Minister Irion,

Herewith I submit to you questions posed by Member of Parliament, Mrs. S.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,

R. Brison
President of Parliament
To:
Parliament of Sint Maarten
Attention: President of Parliament
Wilhelminastraat #1
Philipsburg, St. Maarten

Philipsburg, July 23, 2020

Dear Honorable President of Parliament,

I hereby submit to you questions directed to Minister of Finance, Honorable Ardwell M.R. Irion, regarding Conditions Liquidity Assistance.

I kindly ask that these be forwarded.

Respectfully,

Sarah A. Wescot-Williams,
Member of Parliament
United Democratic Party
Sarah A. Wescot-Williams
Member of Parliament
Sint Maarten

Minister of Finance
Honorable Ardwell M.R. Irion
Government Administration Building
Philipsburg, Sint Maarten

Philipsburg, July 23, 2020

Honorable Minister of Finance,

Via media reports, the CFT has made it known that the Government of St. Maarten has presented the pension reform (LV herziening pensioen overheidsdienaren) as approved by Parliament, as partial compliance with the condition of a 12.5% reduction in personnel cost.

The CFT has also made it known that they cannot agree with this position of the Government of St. Maarten.

I’ve consistently asked the Finance Minister to share with Parliament how the Government is complying with the conditions for the second tranche of liquidity assistance for the Covid-19 pandemic. The answers from Government have been evasive, while the public exchanges between the Government, its employees and their representatives and (semi-)government entities have been acrimonious, to say the least.

To better understand where we stand presently, I hereby pose the following questions:

1. What is the complete presentation by Government to qualify for the second tranche of Covid-related liquidity assistance? Please specify and include the measures taken by all semi-public entities (foundations, government-owned companies etc.). Please list these entities.

2. Has Government received the CFT’s evaluation of the measures taken by Government in compliance with the Kingdom Government’s conditions? Please provide this correspondence.

3. In how far are Government’s measures considered to be compliant by the CFT? Please specify.

4. What will be Government’s approach to the unacceptable measures? What changes, if any, does the Government foresee?
5. What are the changes to the vacation allowance payment and in how far are these changes part of the 12.5% reduction, required for the liquidity assistance?

6. What is Government’s projected liquidity through December 2020?

I look forward to your prompt response and remain,

Respectfully,

[Signature]

Sarah J. Wescot-Williams,
Member of Parliament
United Democratic Party