To the Hon. Prime Minister and Minister of General Affairs
Ms. S.E: Jacobs
Government Administration Building
Philipsburg

UV/097/2020-2021

Philipsburg, January 5, 2021

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

Hon. Prime Minister,

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, January 4, 2021

Honorable President of Parliament,

Kindly find attached a letter to the Prime Minister of St. Maarten with the request to forward same.

Respectfully,

Sarah A. Wescot-Williams,
Member of Parliament
United Democratic (UD) Party
Philipsburg, January 4, 2021

Honorable Prime Minister Jacobs,

I wish you a very Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Thank you for your swift response via email to my queries regarding the correspondence between State Secretary R. Knops and yourself pertaining to the agreed upon conditions for the liquidity assistance from the Netherlands (3rd tranche).

While I do appreciate your prompt response, I have to disagree with your motivation for labeling the documents provided to parliament confidential.

While I concur that deliberations and supporting documents of the Kingdom Council of Ministers (RMR) are of a confidential nature, signed agreements on behalf of St. Maarten are not, or are positions/decisions taken by the COM such. Neither is it justifiable to insist on confidentiality from parliament in matters that affect the lives of our people for the foreseeable future.

Given the above, kindly inform me:

When will the agreement and country package, agreed to between the Netherlands and St. Maarten governments be made public?

What are now the precise conditions, the Government of St. Maarten has agreed to and how does the government envisage their implementation without (the) required legislation? Which measures, in the opinion of the government, require legislative approval?

Does the government consider that parliament by “endorsing” the negotiated agreement between the 2 governments, also endorses the measures taken by the government of St. Maarten, without parliament’s legislative oversight?

May I request that these answers be provided post haste, given the upcoming visit by State Secretary Knops and the virtual IPKO meeting on January 6th and 7th.

Respectfully,

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