

### Parliament of Sint Maarten

### Staten van Sint Maarten

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

UV/010/2021-2022

Philipsburg, September 20, 2021

Re: Questions from MP S.L. Duncan regarding OECS membership for Sint Maarten

Hon. Prime Minister,

Herewith I submit to you questions from Member of Parliament, MP Ms. S.L. Duncan, according 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



# Solange Ludmila Duncan

# Member of the Parliament of Sint Maarten

Ingek. 1 4 SEP 2021

September 13, 2021

Rolando Brison President of Parliament Wilhelminastraat #1 Philipsburg, Sint Maarten

RE: Questions to Prime Minister re: OECS Membership

Dear Mr. Chairman,

Pursuant to article 69 of the Rules of Order of Parliament, I hereby request that you forward the attached questions regarding OECS membership to the Prime Minister; Honorable Silveria Jacobs.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Solange Ludmila Duncan

Member of Parliament



## Solange Ludmila Duncan

#### Member of the Parliament of Sint Maarten

September 14, 2021

Hon. Silveria Jacobs Prime Minister Government Philipsburg, Sint Maarten

RE: Inquiry - OECS Membership

Dear Prime Minister,

As we continue to forge ahead during the worst economic and health crisis our people have faced, it is imperative that as a country we seek out new and impactful relationships and partnerships especially within the region.

The Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) is an international inter-governmental organization dedicated to regional integration in the Eastern Caribbean. The organization has driven and supported sustainable development through collective action and cooperation.

It is my belief that becoming an associate member of this economic union and adopting a shared approach to trade, health, education and the environment, as well as receiving assistance for the development of critical sectors such as agriculture, tourism and energy will strategically reposition St. Maarten in the region and offer our people an array of new social and economic opportunities.

In connection with the above-mentioned, I hereby ask the following questions;

- 1. Has there ever been any engagement with the OECS in connection with membership in the past 10 years and if yes, what was the outcome?
- 2. Is the Government currently open to and interested in becoming an associate member of the OECS?
- 3. If yes, what is the process or known trajectory for associate membership and can mission be organized over the next few months?
- 4. How much will associate membership cost and can this be budgeted for within the current fiscal climate?

I have direct contact with the Director General of the OECS, Dr. Didacus Jules, if you would like to connect with him personally. He is quite enthused about engaging with St. Maarten.

I look forward to receiving the answers at your earliest convenience. Thank you for your cooperation.

With kind regards,

Solange Ludmila Duncan, MSc.

Member of Parliament