

# Parliament of Sint Maarten

## Staten van Sint Maarten

To the Minister of Tourism, Economic Affairs, Transport and Telecommunication Ms. L.N.L. de Weever Government Administration Building <u>Philipsburg</u>

### UV/274/2020-2021

Philipsburg, June 17, 2021

Re: Questions from MP S.L Duncan regarding request private meeting proposal creative economy

Hon. Minister De Weever,

Herewith I submit to you a request by 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

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## Solange Ludmila Duncan

### Member of the Parliament of Sint Maarten

June 11th, 2021

Hon. Rolando Brison President Parliament Philipsburg, Sint Maarten

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#### **RE:** Creative Economy and Proposal for Working Group

Dear Mr. Chairman,

I hereby request that you forward the attached letter to the Minister of General Affairs, Minister of TEATT and the Minister of ECYS respectively. It pertains to a request for a private meeting on the creative economy and a prospective inter-ministerial working group.

Thank you for your cooperation.

With kind regards,

Car

Solange Ludmila Duncan Member of Parliament

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## Solange Ludmila Duncan

### Member of the Parliament of Sint Maarten

June 11th, 2021

Hon. Silveria Jacobs, Hon. Ludmila de Weever, Hon. Rodolphe Samuel Ministry of GA, Ministry of TEATT, Ministry of ECYS Government Administration Building Philipsburg, Sint Maarten

#### RE: Creative Economy and Proposal for Working Group

Dear Honorable Ministers,

St. Maarten has long had a history of creative output through dance, theater, song and literature. We are currently experiencing the growth of new economic opportunities in the forms of street art, photography and music. As we rebuild our economy, I believe that it is time to develop our creative and cultural industries.

In November 2020, the UN adopted resolution A/RES/74/198, declaring 2021 the 'International Year of Creative Economy for Sustainable Development.'

While our people continue to cope with their growing economic vulnerabilities, why shouldn't Government promote development through the support of creative and cultural goods and services? I believe that one of the first steps involves creating an inter-ministerial working group and a subsequent roadmap on the development of St. Maarten's orange economy. I believe that the relevant committees in Parliament can also support the creation of a legal framework where necessary.

I hereby request a private meeting with you to present a proposal on a draft structure for the interministerial working group. In my former capacity as senior policy advisor and having worked in multiple ministries I am aware of the lack of policy capacity but also understand the need for collaboration and cooperation across sectors through project coordination. The 'Color Me SXM' project which brightened up Philipsburg with beautiful murals, for example, was a public-private partnership which included the Tourism Bureau and the Department of Culture. Collaborative projects like these should be the norm; they have major implications for the creative economy, cultural identity and nation building.

I look forward to meeting with you on this proposal. Thank you in advance for your support and cooperation and continued dedication to St. Maarten and the development of our people and their livelihoods.

With kind regards,

Solange Ludmila Duncan Member of Parliament

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