



PRIME MINISTER OF SINT MAARTEN
Minister-President van Sint Maarten

To: The Chairpersons of the Supervisory Board of Directors and Managing Directors of:
Winair;
N.V. GEBE;
TelEm Group;
Port Sint Maarten and;
the Princess Juliana International Airport
Via e-mail

10541

Philipsburg, June 2, 2020

Subject: Informative meeting on May 28, 2020 – All Government Owned Companies with the Council of Ministers of Sint Maarten

Dear Chairpersons and Managing Directors,

On behalf of the Council of Ministers, I hereby thank you and the attending representatives of each of the Government owned Company for the constructive informative meeting held on May 28, 2020. During this meeting, the cost-cutting conditions as established by the Kingdom Council of Ministers in order for Sint Maarten to receive the much-needed Dutch COVID-19 financial support, were elucidated upon and clarity was provided. Queries were posed, which were adequately addressed during the meeting.

Considering that the Government of Sint Maarten needs to inform the Dutch Government of the cost cutting measures by June 15, 2020, it is essential that your package of cost-cutting measure proposals related to below mentioned conditions is to be presented to the Council of Ministers no later than **Thursday, June 4, 2020 at 12 noon:**

- *Personnel cost cuts of 12.5%:* Similar to the condition set for Government Sint Maarten, all Government owned Companies must cut their personnel costs by 12.5%. The personnel costs consist of the total package of remuneration in either cash or in kind and is not limited to salaries of employees, and can include reduction in vacation pay, bonuses, overtime, working hours.
- *Maximum salary of 130% of the new norm salary for the Prime Minister for higher-ranking staff of Government owned companies:* The salary of all higher-ranking staff of Government owned companies (e.g. Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer, Chief Operations Officer) must not exceed 130% of the new norm salary of the Prime Minister of Sint Maarten. Further information on the exact amount will be forthcoming.

As discussed, the importance of communication with the relevant stakeholders in this process is reiterated. Both your employees and your respective union need to be informed on the necessity of applying the measures to be able to receive COVID-19 financial support for Sint Maarten, how employees will be affected and clarify that the conditions are not specifically targeted at salaries of employees. Note has been taken that several of you, were already planning cost-cutting measures prior to the received conditions due to your precarious financial situation. Stakeholders need to be informed about such. Note was furthermore taken that some meetings with the respective unions were already scheduled to take place.

We look forward to your concrete proposal and an elucidation on the steps you have taken thus far. It is needless to state that without your cooperation and support, the much-needed financial support for Sint Maarten as a whole and especially for those that have lost their income due to COVID-19 cannot be honored.

In case you have any questions, kindly direct these to the Secretary General of the Council of Ministers, Ms. Cassandra Janssen, via the Secretariat's main telephone number: +1 721 520 5925 or directly +1 721 520 0602 or e-mail address: secretariat@sintmaartengov.org, cc. Cassandra.Janssen@sintmaartengov.org.

Sincerely,



Prime Minister of Sint Maarten
Ms. Silveria E. Jacobs

Cc. Council of Ministers