



One St. Maarten People Party

April 7, 2014

The Government of St. Maarten
The Government Administration
Clem Labega Square
Philipsburg, St. Maarten

Attention: Mrs. Sarah Wescot-Williams
Prime Minister

Dear Prime Minister Mrs. Wescot-Williams,

It is with great interest that we have read the article of your party, the Democratic Party of St. Maarten in both the dailies of St. Maarten of Monday, April 7, 2014 indicating that they favor external observers for the upcoming parliamentary elections of 2014. We also believe that the contents of this article must have had your blessing before it was released to the media.

In a previous press release, your office indicated the need for an investigation into rumors of potential election fraud (Ballot switching) targeting the upcoming 2014 election.

Madame Prime Minister, as Minister of General Affairs responsible for the Census Office we are hereby posing the following questions to you;

1. Do you have evidence of plans for ballot switching to take place in the upcoming election?
2. Are you aware of election fraud that took place in prior elections during the Island Council elections of St. Maarten or during the last election since St. Maarten became a country within the Dutch Kingdom? If yes, have you reported these irregularities and if no, why not?
3. Are you aware of any existing or previous political parties engaging in election fraud? If yes, which political parties?
4. Do you believe that it is fair for St. Maarten (general public) to have to go through this embarrassment of various Integrity Investigations being conducted by the Dutch Government and this present UP/DP government because of suspected corruption and misconduct within our governmental systems?
5. Don't you believe that by a request being made by the government of St. Maarten to have external forces observe our upcoming election in 2014 you are in essence indicating that you are aware of some serious fraudulent acts that have taken place in the last election in 2010 or before? Doesn't our electoral system have enough check and balances to prevent fraud?
6. Can you provide any type of proof that some form of fraudulent acts have taken place during prior elections and that they are about to take place again in this upcoming 2014 election? If yes, what have you done about it Madame Prime Minister and do you seriously believe that external observers is the answer?

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7. Have you discussed with your coalition partner the United People Party this plan to invite external observers to observe our upcoming election in 2014 and what is their response?
8. You must have thought out this idea for some time before releasing that press release. Which observers are you planning to invite and what will they be looking for during the election process?
9. Don't you believe that you will be embarrassing the nation by making such a request giving the entire region the impression that our country is corrupt to the core including our electoral system? We have been the envy of the region regarding our electoral process pertaining to elections and you are about to destroy all of that by a request for external observers without providing the nation with substantiated proof of fraudulent acts that took place in previous elections and are about to repeat again in this upcoming 2014 election.

Madame Prime Minister we are looking forward to your replies to the above mentioned questions for your plans to request external observers is a serious statement regarding our electoral system.

Yours truly,
One St. Maarten People Party

Lenny F. Priest
Leader of the OSPP

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