



Ardwell Irion

Member of the Parliament of Sint Maarten

Honorable President of Parliament
Mrs. Sarah A. Wescott-Williams
Wilhelminastraat 1
Philipsburg, Sint Maarten

September 17, 2025

RE: Request for Question Hour with the Honorable Minister of Finance, Ms. Marinka Gumbs

Honorable President of Parliament,

In accordance with Article 69 and further of the Rules of Order of Parliament, I hereby request the scheduling of a Question Hour with the Honorable Minister of Finance, Ms. Marinka Gumbs. I specifically request that these questions be answered orally, as stipulated under Article 69c of the Rules of Order.

This request concerns the recent appointment process of the Chairman of the Central Bank of Curaçao and Sint Maarten (CBCS). Serious concerns have been raised regarding the transparency, legality, and procedure of the nomination and appointment. For this reason, I deem it necessary to urgently convene a Question Hour with the Honorable Minister of Finance.

Regards,

Ardwell Irion
Member of Parliament
Sint Maarten

Procedure Question Hour

- Question hour on **Mondays from 10 to 11 am (only meeting weeks);**
- Questions to be answered during question hour by the Minister can be submitted from Monday to Wednesday during the so called "reading week or non-meeting week". Deadline is **Wednesday at 5 pm;**
- During the aforementioned period the Member of Parliament submits questions to Parliament in accordance with article 69 and further of the Rules of Order. The Member of Parliament needs to specifically request that the questions submitted be answered **orally** in accordance with article 69c of the Rules of Order. The document containing the questions as submitted by the Member of Parliament is booked in as an incoming document (IS) and is processed as such;
- No later than **Thursday 10 am**, the President of Parliament decides on the sequence of the questions that will be answered during the question hour (article 69d, paragraph 2 of the Rules of Order);
- Seeing the fact that in theory all 15 Members can submit questions for the question hour, a selection needs to be made of which questions of which Member will be allowed for a particular question hour. To make sure the hour is not exceeded taking the maximum on speaking times into account as per article 69d of the Rules of Order, questions from 2 different Members are allowed to be answered each time. These Members are chosen based on date and time the questions were submitted to Parliament. If more Members submit questions, these questions will be scheduled to be answered during the next Question hour. In that case the President will ask the Members if their questions are still relevant and if answering is still necessary;
- The relevant Minister is invited by letter (UV) along with the questions posed by the Member of Parliament no later than **Thursday 12 pm** after which the follow up by the staff will take place;
- The convocation for the Question hour (Public meeting) will be sent out by **Thursday the latest;**
- If the relevant Minister agrees to answer the questions verbally, the Question hour will take place as scheduled on Monday. The Public meeting will commence and the Member of Parliament will get the opportunity to read his/her questions as submitted for a maximum of 2 minutes (article 69, paragraph 3, of the Rules of Order);
- The Minister is then given the opportunity to answer the questions for a maximum of 2 minutes (article 69, paragraph 3, of the Rules of Order);
- The Member of Parliament is then given the opportunity once more to ask additional questions for a maximum of 2 minutes (article 69, paragraph 4, of the Rules of Order);
- The Minister is given 1 minute to answer each question (article 69, paragraph 4, of the Rules of Order);
- The President then can allow other Members of Parliament to ask questions for a maximum of 1 minute per question about the same topic (article 69, paragraph 5, of the Rules of Order);
- The Minister is given 1 minute to answer each question (article 69, paragraph 5, of the Rules of Order);
- During the Question hour no permission can be asked to hold an interpellation nor can motions be submitted;



Ardwell Irion

Member of the Parliament of Sint Maarten

Hon. Minister of Finance
Ms. Marinka Gumbs
Soualiga Road 1
Philipsburg, Sint Maarten

September 17, 2025

RE: Questions regarding the recent appointment process of the Chairman of the Central Bank of Curaçao and Sint Maarten (CBCS)

Honorable Minister Marinka Gumbs,

In light of the recent appointment process of the Chairman of the Central Bank of Curaçao and Sint Maarten (CBCS), I hereby submit the following questions to you for urgent clarification. These questions are aimed at ensuring transparency, legality, and the protection of the credibility and independence of the Central Bank.

I seek answers to the following questions:

1. Did the Council of Ministers follow the proper legal and procedural requirements in approving the appointment of the Chairman of the CBCS?
2. Why have the current board members of the CBCS not yet received their national decrees (landsbesluiten)?
3. Was the required five-sixths majority within the Supervisory Board of the Central Bank obtained prior to the nomination being forwarded for government approval?
4. Does the nominated individual for the position of Chairman have any affiliations or prior connections that may present conflicts of interest or compromise the independence of the Central Bank?
5. What concrete steps is the Government of Sint Maarten taking to guarantee the credibility, independence, and integrity of the Central Bank, particularly in light of these concerns?

Given the importance of this proposal for the future of Sint Maarten and the wellbeing of our people, we trust in your support to ensure that this matter is formally addressed with the urgency and attention it deserves.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and timely assistance with this request.

Regards,

Ardwell Irion
Member of Parliament
Sint Maarten