



ST. MAARTEN

**MINISTER VAN TOERISME, ECONOMISCHE  
ZAKEN, VERKEER EN TELECOMMUNICATIE  
SINT MAARTEN**

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STATEN VAN SINT MAARTEN	
Ingek. 31 MAR 2022	
Volgnr. 151738/21-22	
Par. J&	GR

To: Member of Parliament  
Honorable MP Christophe Emmanuel  
Present

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Philipsburg, 31 MAR 2022

**Subject: Response to your letter of February 17, 2022 re: PJIA questions UV/189/2021-2022**

DIV no.: 22765A/2022

Dear Honorable MP Emmanuel,

In response to your letter dated February 17, 2022 regarding the Princess Juliana International Airport Operational Company N.V., we, together with PJIAE, have prepared the following answers to your questions. We would like to apologize for the delay in answering your questions. This is partly due to us being dependent on PJIAH and PJIAE for sharing of information, documents and answers to (some of) your questions.

Please find the answers to your questions below.

1. We are not in the possession of the findings of the airport/BDO investigation into the use of the CEO credit card. According to PJIAE, this is an internal matter but as conclusion of the review, there were no irregularities found. PJIAE also had a credit card policy implemented.
2. We refer to our answer on the first question. We do not have the report and are therefore unaware of the recommendations. We did note that a policy was put in place. PJIAE states the report is an internal report, it was recommended to follow the credit card policy the company has, which was done.
3. We refer to our answer on the first two questions. PJIAE states the spending amount is an internal matter, it can be mentioned that the transactions did not only include spending for the CEO but also for the organization such as travel, online purchases, Covid related equipment, travel arrangements and others. Also, the transactions identified were for the purpose of the company.
4. PJIAE informed us that the local CFO counterpart has not been appointed yet.

5. A forensic expert was engaged to review the dismissal process of the statutory Director. This was to confirm the validity of the steps taken for the proposed dismissal.
6. No, the forensic expert was engaged to perform an independent review of the validity of the findings and reasoning for the proposed dismissal. PJIAH wanted an independent review of the situation to conclude the matter.
7. The review is concluded.
8. The members of the SBoD PJIAE are:
  - a. Kamla Besancon, chairman
  - b. Clarence Derby
  - c. Helma Etnel
  - d. Alain Maca
9. Their terms are ending on:
  - a. Kamla Besançon: July 2022
  - b. Clarence Derby: August 2022
  - c. Helma Etnel: August 2022
  - d. Alain Maca: August 2022
10. We requested PJIAH to provide a succession plan for the SBoD of PJIAE in a letter dated February 3, 2022.
11. The extra \$20M was for the purpose of contingency the details were for:
  - a. Adjusted contingency level to reflect the industry best practice: going from 4.5% on the main works to 15% and to 10% on the equipment packages (impact +13,5M).
  - b. Price increases over time on the main works and on the equipment packages (+4,3M)
  - c. Additionally, bank charges were added (1% on every amount paid in USD from the local NRPB managed bank account (+1,2M)
  - d. Cost for a Dispute Avoidance and Adjudication Board (DAAB) were added, a FIDIC Red Book requirement. FIDIC Red Book is the contract form that the World Bank works with for construction work (+0,5M)
12. Due to the extensive preparatory works and planning a project overview can be given. To date the contractor has performed all the provisions and demolitions to start the flooring and assembly of the departure hall which should be completed as planned this year 2022. The Airport will bring the departure hall online this year in December.  
Ballast Nedam International Projects BV has invoiced PJIAE for a value of \$12,5M (until 28 Feb 2022) of which \$10,9M has already been paid and an additional \$1.6M will be paid this week. All for work done until 28 February 2022, this includes the Advance Payment of \$8,9M. The invoice for work over March 2022 has not been received yet by PJIAE as the month has not finished.
13. PJIAE informed us the project is on budget, taken into account the USD 20 million increased which is detailed under question-and-answer number 11, bringing the total budget to USD 152 million.
14. As mentioned in question 11, the adjusted contingency level to reflect the industry best practice: going from 4.5% on the main works to 15% and to 10% on the equipment packages (impact +13,5M). Price increases over time on the main works and on the equipment packages (+4,3M) Additionally, bank charges were added (1% on every amount paid in USD from the local NRPB managed bank account (+1,2M) The costs for a Dispute Avoidance and Adjudication Board (DAAB) were added, a FIDIC Red Book requirement. FIDIC Red Book is the contract form that the World Bank works with for construction work (+0,5M). Additionally, USD 0,5M is requested for additional costs regarding specialists e.g., the hiring of a Procurement Officer, IT services and project audits.

15. PJIAE informed us that the total project budget is set at \$152M and that this is enough as final budget.
16. We met with PJIAH on January 22, 2022. They informed us that legal advice was sought on the suspension and proposed dismissal of the COO, Mr. Hyman. The preliminary advice from that law firm was to extend the suspension with two more months, for PJIAH to do an independent investigation. A forensic expert was engaged to perform the investigation. We were also informed that all credit card levels were reduced.
17. We were not informed by PJIAE/PJIAH what they are doing with the information contained the dossier of Mr. Hyman. We were informed that they consider this as leaking of confidential information which was one of the reasons to dismiss him at the EGSM of March 14. We were informed of this on March 17, 2022.

Sincerely,



Minister of Tourism, Economic Affairs, Transportation and Telecommunication  
Mr. Roger A. Lawrence