

To the Prime Minister of Aruba
Her Excellency Mrs. mr. Evelyn C. Wever-Croes
L.G. Smith Boulevard 76
Oranjestad, ARUBA

July 23, 2020

Your Excellency,

In representation of Aruba's business community, we would like to express our concern relating to the difficult decision Aruba is facing which will determine the course of our economy and country.

We applaud the fact that dialogue is taking place with The Netherlands. However, we regret that after promoting transparency in sharing the documents on the conditions for financial aid from The Netherlands, the government has not shared the counterproposal sent to The Netherlands on Thursday, July 16th, 2020. To create support from stakeholders and the community, it is important to practice transparency in sharing documents and provide all necessary information throughout the entire negotiation process.

Therefore, we kindly request that the counterproposal is shared, as well as any new developments during the negotiation process. In addition, we request to receive a copy of the Master Plan Aruba prepared via the National Platform, and what elements of the proposed reform have already been set in motion. The reforms proposed by the Dutch government have in large part already been proposed by many different (international) organizations as well as local stakeholders. In Your Excellency's speech on July 15th, 2020, you mentioned that we (Aruba) can help ourselves and take the necessary actions to help our country overcome this crisis. Consequently, having a transparent process for the content and implementation of a Master Plan, would show our willingness for and discipline in actions that create a more resilient Aruba.

We would like to emphasize that without the subsidies currently provided to the business sector the economy would crash. Therefore, we support the path of dialogue and hope an agreement between Aruba's government and The Netherlands shall be finalized soon.

As representatives of the business community, we are always available and more than willing to assist in any way possible to make sure that Aruba overcomes this crisis in a stronger position.

We look forward to receiving the requested information and to continued participation in the process.

Sincerely,

San Nicolas Business Association
Aruba Trade & Industry Association
Aruba Hotel & Tourism Association

Aruba Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Aruba Food & Beverage Association
Aruba Car Dealers Association
Aruba Jewelers Association
Aruba Timeshare Association
Comerciantenan Uni Aruba
Werkgeversvereniging Arubaanse Bouwnijverheid
Insurance Association Aruba