



# Parliament of Sint Maarten

## Staten van Sint Maarten

September						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Meeting Week: Preparation Week: Public Holiday:

### MEETINGS OF THE WEEK

SEPTEMBER 23 - 27, 2024

Orientation Members of Parliament.

### MEETING WEEK RECAP

SEPTEMBER 9 - 13, 2024

#### Monday, September 9, 2024 – OV 22

Public Meeting of Parliament regarding Closing of the Parliamentary Year 2023-2024 by the Chairperson of Parliament.

Status: Meeting closed.

#### Tuesday, September 10, 2024 – POV 1

Solemn Public meeting of Parliament regarding Opening of Parliamentary Year 2024-2025 by the Chairperson of the Parliament of Sint Maarten with a speech by His Excellency the Governor of Sint Maarten.

Status: Meeting closed.

#### Wednesday, September 11, 2024 – CC 02

Central Committee Meeting of Parliament regarding an update by the Minister of Tourism, Economic Affairs, Transport and Telecommunication regarding agriculture on Sint Maarten.

Status: Meeting closed.

#### Thursday, September 12, 2024 – OV 02 (urgent)

Urgent Public meeting of Parliament for deliberations with the Minister of Tourism, Economic Affairs, Transport, and Telecommunication regarding important developments at the Airport and the Harbor.

Status: Meeting adjourned.

#### Friday, September 13, 2024 – CC 03

Central Committee Meeting of Parliament for deliberations with the Minister of Public Health, Social Development and Labor regarding all matters related to the draft National Ordinance and relevant LBHAMS on the Sustainable, Affordable, Access to Health Care Act (SAAHA).

Status: Meeting adjourned.

### MEETING RECAP

(PREPARATION WEEK)

SEPTEMBER 16 - 20, 2024

#### Monday, September 16, 2024 – OV 03

Public meeting of Parliament regarding examination of credentials and admission of Members of Parliament.

Status: Meeting closed.

#### Tuesday, September 17, 2024 – CC 04

Central Committee meeting of Parliament regarding the report on the work visit to a PariAmericas General Assembly in Asuncion, Paraguay and approval composition delegations to several work travels.

Status: Meeting closed.

#### Wednesday, September 18, 2024 – CC 22 Cont.

PY23-24

Continuation Central Committee meeting with the Minister

of General Affairs for an update on all matters related to NV GEBE.

Status: Meeting adjourned.

#### Wednesday, September 18, 2024 – OV 21 Cont.

PY23-24

Continuation Public Meeting of Parliament with the Minister of Education, Culture, Youth and Sport regarding the Draft National Ordinance on Higher Education.

Status: Meeting postponed.

#### Thursday, September 19, 2024 – OV 2 Cont. (Urgent)

Continuation of the urgent Public meeting of Parliament for deliberations with the Minister of Tourism, Economic Affairs, Transport, and Telecommunication regarding

important developments at the Airport and the Harbor.

Status: Meeting closed.

#### Thursday, September 19, 2024 – OV 04

Public Meeting of Parliament regarding associate membership in PariAmericas and Closing of the Parliamentary Term February 2024 – September 2024.

Status: Meeting closed.

#### Friday, September 20, 2024 – OV 05

Public Meeting of Parliament for the appointment of a Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons of Parliament.

Status: Meeting closed.

### THE FIRST MEETING OF PARLIAMENT - PERIOD 2024-2028

Sint Maarten now has a new Parliament for the parliamentary period 2024-2028 which is also the 7th Parliament of Country Sint Maarten since its inception on October 10, 2010.

On September 16, 2024, the credentials of 15 elected Members of Parliament were approved by Parliament. These 15 elected Members of Parliament took the oath of office or declaration and affirmation in the hands of Her Excellency the acting Governor of Sint Maarten on September 20, 2024. These two elements, the approval of the credentials and taking the oath/declaration and affirmation, are required by law for the elected Members to become Members of Parliament and take up their position in Parliament.

Among the Members of Parliament who took the oath of office or declaration and affirmation, are several persons who also hold the position of Minister currently. This exception is allowed based on article 34, paragraph 4 of the Constitution.

In accordance with article 4 of the national decree of May 21, 2024, no. LB-24/401 and as amended by the national decree of May 27, 2024, no. LB-24/406, the first meeting of the new elected Parliament took place on September 20, 2024.

### THE ROLE OF THE PRESIDENT AND THE PRESIDUM OF PARLIAMENT

Based on article 57, paragraph 1, of the Constitution, Parliament elected a President and Vice Presidents amongst its members during its meeting of September 20, 2024.

The main tasks of the President are (article 8 Rules of Order): a) Directing the activities of Parliament and the Presidium; b) Ensuring compliance with the Rules of Order; c) Maintaining order during and the adjourning of deliberations; d) Executing decisions taken by Parliament and; e) Representing Parliament. If the President is not available, the Presidency shall be taken over by one of

the Vice-Presidents in accordance with the sequence of appointment. When acting as the President, the Vice-President has the same tasks and authorities as the President (article 10 Rules of Order).

The President is also authorized to attend every committee meeting (article 8, paragraph 2, Rules of Order). If the President wishes to take the floor, other than to perform his/her task of presiding, he/ she leaves the chair. During a Public meeting the President doesn't return to the chair while the subject is being discussed (article 9).

The President and Vice-Presidents together form the Presidium of the House of Parliament. The Presidium supervises the Secretary General, who is in charge of the day to day management of Parliament (article 15 Rules of Order). Furthermore, the Presidium is responsible for the financial management of Parliament.