To: Local2030 Islands Network Secretariat  
601 East-West Road.  
Floor Burns Hall,  
Honolulu, HI 96848  
United States of America

Subject: Confirmation of membership to the Local2030 Islands Network

Dear Local2030 Islands Network Secretariat,

On behalf of the Government of Sint Maarten, I am pleased to convey our interest in becoming a valued member of the Local2030 Islands Network. After learning of the ongoing exchange between your network and technocrats within the Government of Sint Maarten, I was pleased to participate in and convey the perspective of non-independent SIDS and the unique challenges we face during the last Leader’s meeting, held in the margins of UNGA 2022. Our nation is committed to advancing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through local island solutions, and we believe that joining your network is a significant step towards achieving these objectives.

We understand the pressing need to address the challenges of climate change, enhance sustainability, and foster socio-economic resilience through a people-centric approach. The mission of the Local2030 Islands Network closely aligns with our vision for sustainable development and resilience in Sint Maarten.

Sint Maarten is fully supportive of the Four Principles that underpin the Local2030 Islands Network's mission:

- **Identifying Local Goals**: We are committed to identifying and pursuing local goals that align with the SDGs. We recognize the importance of strengthening long-term political leadership in the realms of climate resilience and net-zero emissions pathways.
- **Strengthening Partnerships**: Sint Maarten places great emphasis on enhancing public-private partnerships. These partnerships are instrumental in integrating sustainability priorities into our policy and planning processes, and we are eager to further develop them.
- **Measuring Progress**: We acknowledge the significance of measuring SDG progress through tracking and reporting on locally and culturally informed indicators. This approach ensures that our efforts are data-driven and accountable.

Philipsburg, September 6th, 2023
Implementing Initiatives: Sint Maarten is enthusiastic about implementing concrete initiatives that promote island resilience and encourage a circular economy. Our particular focus is on the water-energy-food nexus, recognizing the vital role it plays in our sustainable development.

As we express our interest in joining the Local2030 Islands Network, we also wish to outline our top priorities for collaboration:

- **Strengthening Public-Private Partnerships:** Sint Maarten strives to collaborate with partners to enhance local capacity and integrate sustainability priorities into our policy and planning processes. We believe that this collaboration will significantly advance our sustainable development goals.

- **Climate Mitigation and Adaptation:** Sint Maarten is committed towards achieving climate resiliency. In collaboration with Island Resilience Partnership (IRP) and Gridmarket, Sint Maarten recently established a roadmap for the clean energy transition. Our goal is to enhance our resilience to the adverse impacts of climate change by 2030.

- **Disaster Management and Economic Resiliency:** Sint Maarten is vulnerable to socio-economic effects as a result of external shocks, which includes rising sea levels and severe hurricanes. These shocks can be better addressed through proactive and appropriate countermeasures, such as economic diversification and (disaster) risk mitigation.

Sint Maarten’s designated point of contact will be the Patrice Gumbs, Director for the Directorate for Foreign Relations at the Ministry of General Affairs. Mr. Gumbs can be reached at DBB@sintmaartengov.org and Patrice.Gumbs@sintmaartengov.org.

Thank you for considering our application for membership. We eagerly await the opportunity to contribute to and benefit from the vibrant network of the Local2030 Islands Network.

Sincerely,

Silvera E. Jacobs
Prime Minister of Sint Maarten