

Guidelines for travel Members of Parliament

- Based on article 2 of the Regulation Compensation of travel and lodging expenses for Members of Parliament (Vergoedingsregeling reis- en verblijfskosten Statenleden AB 2010, GT 15) a Member of Parliament, when traveling abroad is entitled to travel in first class/business class of the means of transportation used.
- It is the policy of the Secretariat of Parliament to reserve and arrange the shortest and least expensive route to the destination for Members of Parliament travelling abroad. Efforts are made by the Secretariat to purchase tickets well in advance in order to obtain the cheapest prices available;
- If a Member of Parliament so wishes a more expensive ticket can be booked, but the Member of Parliament will be responsible for the payment of the difference in price for the more expensive ticket;
- If a meeting is scheduled for a certain date, arrangements will be made by the Secretariat for the Member to travel 2 days before the date of the meeting. This to ensure that in case of any eventuality (flight delay, emergency, etc.) the Member traveling will still reach the destination in time to attend the meeting and to also make sure the Member has enough time to rest before the start of the meeting;
- If traveling 2 days before the scheduled meeting is more expensive than traveling 3 days before due to the service of an airline to Sint Maarten, arrangements will be made for the Member of Parliament to travel 3 days before the scheduled meeting date;
- For travels to the Netherlands and other European countries an amount of €400 (for budgetary reasons the equivalent amount in NAfl.) per day will be granted as travel allowance to a Member of Parliament. This NAfl. amount fluctuates due to the exchange rate;
- For travels to other countries an amount of NAfl. 720 (\$400) will be granted per day as travel allowance to a Member of Parliament;
- Travel to countries where hotels are very expensive, the possibility of making an exception to grant more travel allowance exists only with prior permission. In that particular case the Member of Parliament has to submit the receipt of the hotel to the Secretariat in order for the difference to be reimbursed.

- In the event the President of Parliament is traveling, the President shall be granted an extra amount of NAfl. 900 for representation costs (representatiekosten). In the event the Vice-President is replacing the President, this same amount will be granted to him/her;
- For the calculation of the travel allowance the day of departure up to and including the day of return to Sint Maarten will be taken into consideration (article 5 of Compensation of travel and lodging expenses Members of Parliament);
- In the event the Member of Parliament does not travel to the event/meeting or returns earlier than the scheduled date, the travel allowance advanced for that period must be returned at the Receiver's office. A copy of the payment must be submitted to the Secretary General (Griffier). In addition to that the ticket price should also be returned in case of cancellation and the ticket is nonrefundable. Costs related to ticket changes are for the Member of Parliament.
- In the event the entire Parliament is invited to an event abroad, the size of the delegation will be determined in accordance with the stipulations of the budget of Parliament for travel. In addition to that each delegation should be reflective of the factions present in Parliament at the time.