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AIRPORTS REMAIN CLOSED, P. 24

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Sachs
Charged
With
Fraud
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**Heineken
Official Beer
of St. Maarten
Carnival
2010**
A green Heineken beer bottle is shown next to the Heineken logo, which consists of a red star above the word "Heineken".

Utilise Charter more, says Council of State

THE HAGUE—More use should be made of the opportunities that exist in the Kingdom Charter when it comes to relations and organs, said the Council of State in its annual report of 2009.

The Council said in 2009, much energy in the different governments, as well as on the level of the Parliaments and the public, was invested in the discussion on new structures, tasks, and authorities of the constitutional process.

"That is why the opportunities that exist, based on the current Charter, have remained somewhat under-explored. The Committee Democratic Deficit, established in February 2009 by the three Parliaments in the Kingdom, also pointed

Two hurt in crash

SIMPSON BAY—Two persons were hurt in a collision in Simpson Bay on Thursday.

Paramedics rushed to the ambulance in separate ambulances two victims who crashed on Airport Boulevard. The crash happened near the Red Cross building in Simpson Bay about 4:00pm.

this out, for example where it concerns the input of the Antillean and Aruban Parliaments in the realisation of Kingdom Laws," stated the Council report, which was presented on Wednesday.

"It makes little sense to create new responsibilities when the existing ones remain unutilised. It is not very efficient to create new organisations if the possibilities of existing institutes are insufficiently used," it said.

With all the efforts to create new countries and public entities, there is insufficient attention to the functioning of the joint Kingdom itself. The coordinating structure in which all countries should be able to recognise themselves becomes more important as more participating countries are created and the diversity and visions deviate more.

The Council said the constitutional reform process is often referred to as the restructuring of the Netherlands Antilles while it is in fact a restructuring process of the Kingdom which also affects Aruba, the Netherlands, and the Kingdom in general.

In its annual report, the Council, which is the highest advisory body in the Kingdom, seeks special attention for a more optimal use of a number of Kingdom organs,

including the governor and the Kingdom Council of Ministers.

When it comes to the BES islands of Bonaire, St. Eustatius, and Saba, the Council said custom-made measures are necessary. "For these three small islands, the crucial question that keeps arising is, 'What is the problem? Is legislation the answer? Will the chosen solution work there and what do the local residents think of that?'"

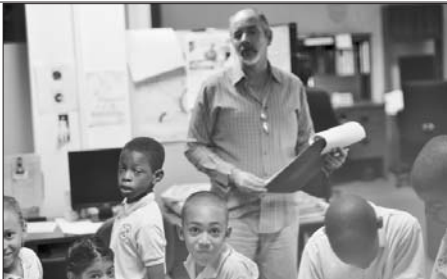
The Council concluded that contacts of governments of the different countries with the Kingdom and, especially among the countries, have intensified over the last decennia and this will remain a fact in the coming years because of the constitutional reform.

"Political tensions and disputes are part of a multiform constitutional structure like the Kingdom. To solve these disputes quickly and satisfactorily, it is important to have an effective, generally accepted arrangement for administrative disputes."

In earlier advices, the Council had made suggestions regarding this dispute arrangement. These advices second the arrangement in the Kingdom Consensus Law Financial Supervision for Countries Curaçao and St. Maarten, a form of Crown appeal. The financial supervision law was approved by the Second Chamber on Thursday.

"This week, the Kingdom Council of Ministers announced it would request the Council of State to render an advice on establishing a dispute arrangement that could judge disputes on the interpretation of the Charter.

Members of Aruba's Parliament Juan Yrausquin and Rene Herd had submitted a motion earlier this week, requesting the Kingdom Government to come with a proposal on such an arrangement. The Kingdom Government said it would come with a proposal before January 1, 2011. The Second Chamber carried this motion.



The Daily Herald Publisher Paul De Windt gave the Sister Regina Primary School pupils a breakdown of operations at the newspaper during their visit to the company on Friday. The pupils listened enthusiastically and took many notes to make a report on their return to school. (D. Robin photo)

Métimer meeting to discuss grievances

MARIGOT—Marine Trades Association Métimer will hold a consultative meeting at a location to be announced on Thursday May 6 at 5:00pm to discuss grievances brought up by several marine businesses, commercial operators and charter boat excursion operators, mainly on regulations and regulations pertaining to employment in the marine sector.

Representatives from Affaires Maritimes have been invited to the meeting to answer questions that

will be posed and to take into account the ideas and wishes of the marine community.

"I believe after this meeting we should create a commission to follow up on what was discussed," said association president Bileent Gülay in a release. "If everyone stays in a corner we will never be strong enough to defend our interests, and interests of our businesses and mariners, who are finding themselves increasingly caught up in the chaos of new regulations, conditions

of employment and salaries etc. If you are an employer or a vessel operator paying social security to ENIM, and involved in maritime affairs, it is important you attend this meeting."

A separate meeting will be held to discuss organisation of the Fête du Nautisme and used boat show. For more information and to confirm attendance at the meeting contact Brigitte Delaitre bdelaite@caribserve.net or the association metimer@wanadoo.fr

The Montessori Children's House School is seeking

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Local winner Viviane Loeb (right) receiving her prize from Marketing & Sales Coordinator for Porto Cupecoy Esdra Richardson.

Porto Cupecoy awards Cartier watch to opening event guest

CUPECOY—On the heels of a successful January 29 Grand Opening Event, Porto Cupecoy recently presented one lucky event attendee, island resident Viviane Loeb, with a top-of-the-line Cartier watch. Loeb was selected at

random from the event's 750 participants. Loeb is currently the editor of the popular all-things-Caribbean Website www.Lifestyle-Caribbean.com.

Porto Cupecoy, a 182-residence luxury seaside village developed by Orient-Express Hotels Ltd., continues to enjoy unprecedented sales success, with more than 75 percent of phases one to four now sold.

Homeowners continue to move into their new residences and the marina. Commercial components (Grand

Marché, boutiques and restaurants) will be opening in the coming weeks. Porto Cupecoy homeowners will enjoy high-end shopping, dining, services and amenities, in addition to residences and a luxury marina capable of accommodating both mega yachts and pleasure craft.

The architectural inspiration for the property is a Mediterranean seaside village such as Portofino, and the community is similarly anchored around a marina, the most exclusive and upscale on the island.

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