



Paramaribo, 14 April 2021

Subject: Raising additional funds for purchasing Covid-19 vaccine

Dear Management, Donor,

The global outbreak of the COVID-19 virus has not only become a medical-social problem but has also severely affected the global economy. The Surinamese economy and health system have not been spared from the effects of this pandemic.

By introducing, among others, the so-called lock-down measures, we have been able in reducing the pressure on the health system. However, the consequences of these drastic measures have severely hurt the economy and thus the business community (employers and employees).

Fortunately, since late last year, vaccines have been approved and made available by the World Health Organization (WHO), which can help humanity to mitigate the negative medical consequences and accordingly the social and economic effects.

The urgent need to adequately vaccinate the Surinamese population has led the Ministry of Public Health, together with its experts, to develop a vaccination plan: The National COVID-19 Deployment and Vaccination Plan, Suriname 2021.

This plan includes the vaccination during two (2) years of more than 400,000 Surinamese citizens all over the country. The budget of this plan is estimated at USD 16 million, and it is for the purchase of vaccines and associated “consumables” as well as the expenditures related to administration. The budget for the implementation of the Vaccination Plan assumes that we purchase all vaccines ourselves. This amount can be significantly reduced if we receive part of the required vaccines as a donation.

Although the purchase of vaccines is primarily the responsibility of the Ministry of Health, the Government lacks the financial means to fully finance the plan, mainly because of the financial-economic situation.

After consultation with stakeholders, including SU4SU and the Suriname Trade and Industry Association (VSB), it was decided to make a joint effort to raise additional funds.

A Fund has been set up for this purpose by means of a Ministerial Order. The Fund is managed by a Fund Committee.

This Committee consists of five (5) members, of which three (3) representatives from the Government and two (2) representatives of the VSB, as follows:

1. Liane Pinas - Halfhide, Representative of Finance and Planning, as Chairman.
2. Diana Koswal, Health Representative, as Secretary.
3. Luziano Truideman, representative of Foreign Affairs, International Business and International Cooperation, as Communications International.
4. Waddy Sowma, representative of the Suriname Trade and Industry Association, as Treasurer.
5. Sandy Kenswil, representative of the Suriname Trade and Industry Association, as Communications Domestic.

The Committee's task is to develop and coordinate activities necessary to raise funds. It is emphasized that this committee is also responsible for the management of the resources in the Fund.

The Committee must report monthly to the Ministers of Health, Foreign Affairs, International Business and International Cooperation, and Finance and Planning. The reports should also be made available to the public. A transparent procurement process has also been formulated to ensure that resources are spent efficiently and effectively.

You have already made your contribution, through SU4SU, to significantly improve the capacity of the healthcare system to treat COVID-19 infected people.

Once again, we urgently need your help. This time, through your financial contribution to the Vaccination Plan, to help fight the pandemic further and to gradually move to the desired normalization of our socio-economic life.

Contributions to the Fund can be deposited into one of the following bank accounts at the Central Bank of Suriname.

SRD: 0313100 / 001-281-968 Fonds voor covid-19 vaccin

USD: 0313100 / 001-163-840 Fonds voor covid-19 vaccin

Euro: 0313100 / 001-077-978 Fonds voor covid-19 vaccin

If you need more information please contact Mr. Kamlesh Ganesh at VSB.

Mob: +597 8584588

Tel: +597 475287

Yours sincerely,

Chairman



Mrs. L. Pinas Halfhide

Treasurer



Mr. W. Sowma