



# Translation of: Reaction to the fourth implementation report of 2025 of Sint Eustatius

Original title: Reactie op de vierde uitvoeringsrapportage 2025 van Sint Eustatius

*In case of differences in interpretation between the English translation and the Dutch version of the text, or in legal proceedings or escalation procedures pursuant to applicable regulations, the original Dutch version shall always be leading.*

Dear Ms. Francis,

On February 3, 2026, the Board of financial supervision of Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba (Cft) received Sint Eustatius' implementation report (UR) on the fourth quarter of 2025.<sup>1</sup> In Annex 1 to this letter you will find further clarification and substantiating figures for this reaction.

## **Conclusion**

The Cft's judgment on Sint Eustatius' fourth UR is positive. Based on this report, the Cft anticipates that the Public Entity will close the 2025 budgetary year with a surplus, thus meeting the central budgetary standard set forth in the FinBES Act. The Cft observes further improvement of financial management. The administrative processing of the special benefits does need some attention.

## **Subsequent steps**

The Cft recommends Sint Eustatius to:

1. To add – in addition to the presentation of the regular budget in functional structuring – a functional structuring of the total budget to the implementation reports.
2. To keep adequate accounts of the realization of the expenses of special benefits, based on the payments made and the obligations entered into in a totals column.

## **Explanatory statement**

### *Ad. Conclusion*

The fourth implementation report shows that Sint Eustatius closes 2025 with a preliminary positive result of approximately USD 3.3 million.<sup>2</sup> In 2025, Sint Eustatius realizes approximately USD 28.9 million in regular income (excluding special benefits).

This means the realization of the income is 100 percent of the adopted regular budget, which is an indication of a very realistic estimate of the regular income. The regular expenses (excluding special benefits) in 2025 amount to approximately USD 25.6 million which means the realization is 93 percent of the adopted budget. Sint Eustatius expects the realization to be higher due to the administrative processing of a number of invoices.

The fourth implementation report shows that Sint Eustatius is taking further steps in the professionalization of financial management, specifically with regard to the regular budget (meaning the budget excluding the special benefits). The estimates are more in line with the realization, and the content of the explanatory statements has become more robust. This improvement of financial management is also reflected in the liquidity position and improved administrative processing of the interest-free loans.

*Ad1: Functional structuring*

At current, Sint Eustatius only presents the functional structuring at the level of the regular budget. The Cft recommends Sint Eustatius to split the budget presentation in the functional structuring in the implementation reports into an overall picture and a column for the regular budget from now on. Such distinction increases transparency and improves the insight into structural financial development. It was agreed with the Public Entity that this distinction will be made as from the first implementation report of 2026.

*Ad 2: Special benefits*

When receiving special benefits, Sint Eustatius records the special benefit not only as realized income, but also as realized expenses, which led to the realization of the income and of the expenses to be equal. Therefore, an adequate insight into the actual realization of the special benefits is lacking.

It was agreed with the Public Entity that from now on, the realization of the special benefits shall take place based on payments made and obligations entered into, which increases transparency and enhances management information.

Furthermore, Sint Eustatius received special benefits late in the year, which it could not incorporate into the latest approved budget amendment.

This means the realization of the special benefits has increased to 149 percent of the 2025 budget on the income side (and, due to the working method used, also on the expenses side). The Cft will gladly engage the Public Entity and BZK in conversation in order to reach agreements on the working method when receiving special benefits towards the end of the budgetary year.

Trusting to have provided you with sufficient information.

Sincerely,

The Chair of the Board of financial supervision of Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba

[signature]

Hans Hoogervorst

A copy of this letter was sent to:

The Island Council of the Public Entity Sint Eustatius

The Head of Finance of the Public Entity Sint Eustatius

## Annex 2: Endnotes

---

<sup>1</sup> Pursuant to Article 22 of the Act on Finances of the Public Entities Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba (*Wet financiën openbare lichamen Bonaire, Sint Eustatius en Saba* – FinBES Act), the Cft responds to the fourth UR of 2025. The FinBES Act, supplemented by the criteria set out in the Decree on Budget and Justification Public Entities BES (BBV BES), forms the framework for the assessment of the UR.

<sup>2</sup> The final balance becomes known upon adoption of the 2025 annual accounts.