



State of Law Enforcement Sint Maarten

2024



The Law Enforcement Council

The Law Enforcement Council (Council) is tasked with the general inspection of the effectiveness, quality and management of the judicial organizations, and the judicial cooperation between the BES islands, Sint Maarten and Curacao.



Youth (Crime) Sint Maarten

Several factors detailed in State 2024:

- Need for cooperation from a cross-ministerial and well-functioning chain approach.
- Causes and consequences of youth problems and youth crime well known and rooted in the social, economic, political and cultural domains.
- Behavior of young people and, by extension, youth crime is a shared problem and largely transcends repressive approach of judicial system.

Integrated chain approach

State 2024:

- Focuses on local circumstances, issues and their consequences for law enforcement, the entire chain and society as a whole.
- Advocates for an integrated chain approach, which goes further than just the judicial law enforcement chain and includes these four pillars and aspects.



PROTECT	TACKLE	COOPERATE	PREVENT
awareness	steering resources	local regional kingdom	human security legal position resilience victim support

Inspections 2024

New theme's: 2

Completed: 1
- Detention of foreigners
Ongoing: 1
- Forensic care



Review inspections: 3

Completed: 3
- Border control on the movement of persons
- Admission and expulsion of foreigners
- Review Miss Lalie Center (MLC)

Review MLC

Year report: 2016
Year 1st review: 2021
Recommendations: 8
Compliance: 43,7% ★

Main points:

- Rehabilitation of underage boys in the age category of 12 to 18 years does not seem top priority.
- Lack of available resources has consequences for: filling critical positions (e.g. behavioral scientist); necessary repairs; full educational program and daytime activities; increasing level of security measures.

Detention & monitoring CPT recommendations



• Forensic care

-Inspection initiated in 2023 and currently limited to monitoring.

• Detention of foreigners

Year report: 2024

Recommendations: 9

Main points:

- Treatment of foreigners in general humane
- Steering on CPT's recommendations by Ministry insufficient.
- Immigration detention center lacking in particular in aspects of security, leading to unacceptable conditions.

• Prison and house of detention

Continuous monitoring of prison and detention center.

General Review: 5th Sub-inspection (IBPS)



• Admission and expulsion of foreigners

Year report: 2014

Year 1st review: 2019

Recommendations: 6

Compliance: 33,3% ★

• Border control on the movement of persons

Year report: 2014

Year 1st review: 2017

Recommendations: 14

Compliance: 40.6% ★

Main points:

- Many recommendations, including important preconditions (personnel policy, organization plan/job classification system, policy and legal framework) still not addressed after almost 10 years.
- Without change, structural improvement not possible.