



Decision List BC Meeting May 12, 2026

Subtitle	Weekly BC meeting
Date	05/12/2026
Time	9:00 – 12:00
Location	Courtroom
Chair	Governor Johnson
Attendees	Eviton Heyliger, Jonathan Johnson and Bruce Zagers

1.0.0 Welcome

2.0.0 Minutes

Attachment:

BC Meeting Minutes 05-05-2026

Decision:

BC Minutes Approved

3.0.0 Discussion Papers

3.0.2 Approval for “Freedom Lives in Our Culture” Emancipation Day Celebration 27th June to 1st July

The Department of Community Development & Culture, in collaboration with the Saba Heritage Center (SABARC), the Saba Association of Caribbean States (SACS), and Elements of Saba, proposes the organization of a five-day Emancipation Day program from June 27 to July 1, 2026.

The Saba Heritage Center will serve as the lead coordinating organization, responsible for the overall planning and execution of the program, in close collaboration with the aforementioned partners.

The proposed Emancipation Day celebration seeks to achieve the following objectives:



- To formally commemorate Emancipation Day in a respectful and culturally appropriate manner.
- To enhance public awareness and understanding of Sabas historical and cultural heritage.
- To promote active participation of youth and adults in heritage-related activities.

To strengthen institutional collaboration between the Public Entity Saba, cultural organizations, and the education sector.

Decision:

BC Proposal Approved.

3.0.4 Attending Week van de Crisisbeheersing

The Ministry of Justice and Security organizes the “Week van de Crisisbeheersing” twice a year. The seventh event, this summer, will be organized from June 1 until June 4 in The Hague, The Netherlands. For this week, the Island Secretary, the Department Head of Public Order and Safety and the Advisor on Crisis Management and Public Order and Safety have been invited to attend.

The Executive Council is asked to approve participation for Department Head and Crisis Advisor. The Island Secretary will not attend.

Decision:

BC Proposal Approved.

3.0.6 BIA Sar Exercise Attendance

A Search and Rescue (SAR) at-sea exercise is scheduled for June 4, 2026, organized by Bonaire International Airport. Saba has been formally invited to attend this exercise as an observer. This is particularly relevant as Saba is currently in the process of further developing its SAR procedures and integrating response coordination into the Airport Emergency Plan and the wider island crisis management framework.

BIA in collaboration with KLM Royal Dutch Airlines and Tourism Corporation Bonaire, is hosting a joint celebration marking 90 years of aviation on Bonaire and 90 years of KLM’s route to Bonaire on May 31, 2026.



The Executive Council is requested to approve attendance by the airport Manager at SAR and the anniversary celebration with travel dates from May 30 to June 5.

Decision:

BC Proposal Approved.

3.0.8

Participation in CN Communications Week 2026

CPR seeks approval for 2 people to attend the CN Communications Week 2026, organized by RCN Communications Department. The training takes place May 25th – May 29th in Bonaire. This training week focuses on strengthening communication expertise, enhancing collaboration across the BES islands, and equipping communication departments with practical tools in strategic communications, advisory roles, and behavioral change methodologies (CASI).

The Executive Council is asked to approve the attendance of two communication employees.

Decision:

BC Proposal Approved.

3.0.9

Q2 Tourism Travel

During the second quarter of 2026, the Tourist Office will participate in several important events/tradeshows. These are outlined below:

- **Mice Planners Welcome Dinner**

Caraibes Incentive is organizing a FAM trip for 20 MICE planners from North America, scheduled from May 30 to June 4. The event, titled *SXM Incentive Experience*, is being developed in partnership with the St. Martin Tourism Board.

As part of the program, Saba has been invited to participate by hosting a dedicated day trip for a select group of 6–10 planners. During their visit, the group will enjoy an island tour, hotel site inspections, lunch, and a short hike, offering a well-rounded introduction to the destination.

The program also includes a welcome dinner on May 30, to which the Director of Tourism has been invited. As this coincides with travel for CTO Caribbean Week, it presents a valuable opportunity to connect with the group in advance.



- **Caribbean Tourism Organization (CTO) Caribbean Week**
From June 1st-4th, CTO is organizing their annual Caribbean Week in New York City. The week has a series of events, meetings and showcases that brings together tourism ministers and government officials from Caribbean islands, media and influencers, destination marketing organizations. The event creates a platform for networking and knowledge sharing. Since Saba is not a member of CTO yet, attending this event would give Saba a practical, first hand experience to evaluate whether membership in the CTO is worth the investment. Participating will be the Director of Tourism and Commissioner of Tourism.
- **SMART**
Smart is a major tourism industry event and tradeshow held on St. Maarten annually. The event brings together hotels and resorts, tour operators and travel agents and regional tourism boards. Saba Tourism participates in the event each year and it is a strategic opportunity to stay visible, build partnerships and drive tourism growth. This year's event is taking place from June 22nd-26th. Saba tourism will be present from June 22nd-24th. Head of Tourism will attend.

Attending these events is essential for strengthening Saba's visibility, building valuable industry relationships, and positioning the island for sustainable tourism growth in an increasingly competitive market.

Decision:

BC Proposal Approved.

- 4.0.0 **Formalities & Action list**
- 5.0.0 **Incoming request/pieces (on paper)**
- 6.0.0 **Announcements**
Governor Johnson
Commissioner Zagers
Commissioner Heyliger
Island Secretary Streppel
- 7.0.0 **Signing**



8.0.0

Closing