Government issues ebola travel ban

GREAT BAY — The government has issued a travel ban to everyone who has travelled within the past 21 days to, from and through the countries of Guinea, Liberia, Senegal, Sierra Leone and the Democratic Republic of Congo. The ban is related to the outbreak of the ebola virus in West Africa. Public Health Minister of the National Institute for Communicable Diseases addressed the situation in a press statement that explains the scope of the outbreak and the reason for the travel ban.

The ebola virus disease (EVD) is a severe, often fatal illness that affects humans and non-human primates. The current outbreak is believed originated in Guinea in December 2013. The outbreak has reached 20 countries in 2014, including Liberia and Sierra Leone.

In August 2014, the Emergency Committee of the World Health Organization declared that the ebola outbreak in West Africa constitutes an extraordinary event and a public health risk to other countries; that the possible consequences of further international spread are particularly serious; and ebola is considered a public health emergency of international concern.

“The Government of Sint Maarten has been working to put the necessary plans and protocols in place along with our stakeholders and partners, in order to protect the public health of the Sint Maarten community. These plans are in line with the international obligations to the World Health Organization with respect to International health regulations,” Minister de Weever stated.

On October 23, the West African country of Mali reported its first confirmed case. The WHO has officially declared

Police took drastic measures against the Venezuelan fruit vendors in the Punda district in Curacao last Friday. The area where these vendors stand is popularly known as the floating market. According to the police, the fruits and vegetables were not placed where they were supposed to be, namely on the stands. The vendors usually

Rijna: Donkey-debate damaging to tourism

KRALENBIDJ — Lt. Governor Edison Rijna says that the fierce discussions in Bonaire about the donkey policy and the protection of the island’s reputation. He is going to establish an independent committee that has to find a solution for the controversial donkey policy. Belkis Osepa reports on Caribisch Nieuws.

The donkey-policy has cause a lot of unrest in the community. This is why Rijna has decided to put a stop to the castration program for the time being. The stop will remain in place, and no donkeys will be castrated until a solution has been found.

Since November of last year the Foundation Donkey’s Help - that manages the Donkey Sanctuary - has an agreement with the government to castrate donkeys and to castrate them. The donkeys are a danger to traffic and they are a nuisance.

Speculations and statements made in the media about the donkey-policy have inspired Rijna to intervene. “It is unacceptable that in the course of a public debate individual opinions have been insulted even threatened.”

Dashon Bon Gobem

Budget Aruba must be signed

ORANJESTAD — Aruba’s budget for the fiscal year 2015 must be signed in order to become law. The council states that its earlier objection have been dealt with that the expert report of the governor has been cleared. However, to ratify the budget amendment the council must pass the budget first.

Prime Minister Eman is also of the opinion that Governor Frans Refunjol has signed the budget immediately. There is no reason not to sign now that the Council of Advice has ruled that the budget is not in line with the constitution of the Kingdom.

The budget amendment that was rejected on October 2nd and that contained most of the recommendations from the Board of financial supervision CFT, is on the agenda of the Council of Advice’s next meeting. The council states that its earlier objection have been dealt with that the expert report of the governor has been cleared. However, to ratify the budget amendment the council must pass the budget first.