



Ministerie van Financiën

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Ministry of Finance Iceland  
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**Ons kenmerk**

FM/2009/1538 M

**Uw brief (kenmerk)**

**Bijlagen**

Datum 8 JUL 2009  
Betreft Loan agreement

Dear Steingrímur,

The discussion about the loan document with the United Kingdom and the Netherlands is a complex and sensitive issue. I understand that the debate in Iceland and the Icelandic Parliament has been very intense. I would like to express my appreciation for your hard work and perseverance to explain the agreement to the public and the Icelandic Parliament.

It has come to our attention that there is some confusion in the Icelandic Parliament about the role of the Dutch authorities regarding a possible lawsuit of Dutch deposit holders against Iceland. I have been informed that members of your Parliament erroneously believe that the Dutch authorities would participate in such a lawsuit against Iceland. I hope a correct description of the Dutch position by me will be helpful.

Naturally, every private person has the right to start a lawsuit against any private or governmental organisation. Iceland is a respected member of the international community. And, as a democracy and a state of law, Iceland has an independent judicial system. I have therefore no doubt that if Dutch deposit holders were to initiate judicial proceedings in Iceland, they would get a fair trial. Involvement of the Dutch government is therefore not necessary. We consider this therefore a private matter in which there is no role for the Dutch government.

Kind regards,

Wouter Bos