



ADDENDUM TO THE DIASPORA ENGAGEMENT POLICY

This addendum supplements the Diaspora Engagement Policy-document and reflects the update of the institutional framework and ministerial involvement, as outlined in Section 3.1 and pages 20 to 24, as per July 15, 2025.

Paramaribo, 28 June 2026

Diaspora Institute Suriname (DI)

1. Introduction

This Addendum serves to update and further clarify the institutional framework as set out in Section 3.1 (Institutional Framework) and the working group structures elaborated on pages 22 to 25 of the Diaspora Engagement Policy (DEP).

Since the adoption and publication of the DEP in 2023 changes have taken place in the organization and allocation of responsibilities among ministries within the central government of the Republic of Suriname as per July 15, 2025. These institutional reforms necessitate an update to ensure legal certainty, administrative coherence, and the effective implementation of the diaspora engagement policy.

This Addendum is an integral part of the Diaspora Engagement Policy and is intended to align the institutional references contained therein with the current governmental structure.

2. Update of the Institutional Framework (Section 3.1, pp. 12–15)

2.1 Ministry of Public Health, Welfare and Labour

The former Ministry of Labour, Employment and Youth Affairs has been **replaced** by the ***Ministry of Public Health, Welfare and Labour***. This institutional restructuring establishes an integration of policy domains relating to labour, social protection, and public health.

For the purposes of the Diaspora Engagement Policy, this Ministry shall be designated as the competent authority for matters relating to labour market policy, employment, labour mobility, and social and health-related aspects of diaspora engagement.

2.2 Ministry of Public Health, Welfare and Labour

The Ministry of Health referred to in the original document has been replaced by the ***Ministry of Public Health, Welfare and Labour***, with particular emphasis on the redefinition of the policy domain from “*health*” to “*public health*”. This institutional restructuring constitutes both a change in nomenclature and scope, incorporating labour policy and removing youth affairs from this ministry.

This restructuring further represents a substantive broadening and clarification of the policy domain through the integration of labour-related responsibilities and the exclusion of youth affairs from this Ministry. For the purposes of the Diaspora Engagement Policy, this Ministry shall be designated as the competent authority for matters relating to public health, healthcare, social protection, and labour-related aspects of diaspora engagement.

2.3 Ministry of Youth Development and Sports

The policy domain of youth affairs, previously falling under the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Youth Affairs, has been reassigned following recent institutional restructuring to the newly established ***Ministry of Youth Development and Sports***.

This Ministry therefore constitutes the competent authority for matters relating to youth participation, youth development, and the social engagement of young people. This includes policy initiatives and programs relating to international sports programs, as well as the promotion of youth participation in national and international development processes.

2.4 Ministry of Social Affairs and Public Housing

The Ministry of Social Affairs and Housing has been **renamed** the ***Ministry of Social Affairs and Public Housing***. This amendment constitutes a terminological update without substantive

changes to its policy mandate, while the Ministry remains responsible for social protection and housing policy within the framework of the DEP.

2.5 Ministry of Oil, Gas and Environment

Following the adoption of the Diaspora Engagement Policy, a new Ministry has been established, namely the ***Ministry of Oil, Gas and Environment***. This Ministry has assumed responsibilities previously partially assigned to the Ministry of Natural Resources, with a particular focus on the oil and gas sector and environmental governance.

The Ministry of Natural Resources continues to exist as a separate entity and retains its remaining competences with regard to the broader management of natural resources.

3. Update of Working Groups Structures (Pages 20–25)

3.1 Policy Coordination and Oversight (Page 20)

- The reference to the *Ministry of Labour, Employment and Youth Affairs* is **replaced** by the ***Ministry of Public Health, Welfare and Labour*** and the ***Ministry of Youth Development and Sports***.
- The reference to the *Ministry of Social Affairs and Housing* is **replaced** by the ***Ministry of Social Affairs and Public Housing***.
- The reference to the *Ministry of Health* is **replaced** by the ***Ministry of Public Health, Welfare and Labour***.
- All other ministerial references remain unchanged, provided they are interpreted in light of the current institutional structure of the central government.

3.2 Knowledge Exchange and Skills Transfer Working Group (Page 21)

- The reference to the *Ministry of Labour, Employment and Youth Affairs* is **replaced** by the ***Ministry of Public Health, Welfare and Labour*** and the ***Ministry of Youth Development and Sports***.
- The reference to the *Ministry of Health* is **replaced** by the ***Ministry of Public Health, Welfare and Labour***.
- All other ministerial references remain unchanged.

3.3 Remittances and Investments Working Group (Page 22)

- The *Ministry of Social Affairs and Housing* is **updated** to the ***Ministry of Social Affairs and Public Housing***.
- All other ministerial references remain in force, provided implementation takes place within the current institutional and administrative framework of the Republic of Suriname.

3.4 Policy and Legislation Development Working Group (Page 23)

- The reference to the *Ministry of Labour, Employment and Youth Affairs* is **replaced** by the ***Ministry of Public Health, Welfare and Labour***.
- All other ministries remain unchanged as set out in the original text.

3.5 Philanthropy, Development and Humanitarian Assistance Working Group (Page 24)

- The *Ministry of Social Affairs and Housing* is **updated** to the ***Ministry of Social Affairs and Public Housing***.

- The reference to the *Ministry of Health* is **replaced** by the ***Ministry of Public Health, Welfare and Labour***.
- All other ministries remain unchanged as set out in the original text.

3.6 Communication and Diaspora Profiles Working Group (Page 24)

- The reference to the *Ministry of Labour, Employment and Youth Affairs* is **replaced** by the ***Ministry of Public Health, Welfare and Labour*** and the ***Ministry of Youth Development and Sports***.
- All other ministries remain unchanged as set out in the original text.

3.7 General Institutional Provision

Where no explicit reference is made to the Ministry of Oil, Gas and Environment within the working group structures, this Ministry may nevertheless be included, where appropriate, in relevant activities, particularly in relation to investment promotion, sustainable development, and economic transformation.

4. Legal Interpretation

The amendments contained in this Addendum relate exclusively to the institutional updating of ministerial terminology and allocation of responsibilities. The objectives, policy principles, and substantive structure of the Diaspora Engagement Policy remain fully in force.

For implementation purposes, all references to ministries shall be interpreted as referring to their respective successor institutions within the current constitutional and administrative framework of the Republic of Suriname.

5. Final Provision

This Addendum shall enter into force on the date of adoption and shall be annexed to the official version of the Diaspora Engagement Policy as published through the designated governmental channels.

This Addendum is issued to ensure consistency, legal certainty, and effective implementation of the Diaspora Engagement Policy of the Republic of Suriname.