

LEITI MULTI-STAKEHOLDERS STEERING GROUP

MINUTES OF THE 44TH MEETING

LEITI CONFERENCE ROOM • OLD BUREAU OF THE BUDGET BUILDING • REDEMPTION ROAD, MONROVIA
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26, 2011 AT 12:00 NOON

PRESENT

GOL

Augustine Kpehe Ngafuan	Minister, Ministry of Finance/Chairperson
Roosevelt G. Jayjay	Acting Minister, Ministry of Lands Mines & Energy/Co-chairperson
Christopher Neyor	President, National Oil Company of Liberia
E. Ekema A. Witherspoon	proxy for the Minister of Internal Affairs
Edward S. Kamara	Proxy for the Managing Director of FDA
Tamba Boakai	Proxy for the Minister of Agriculture

CSO

Alfred L. Brownell	Chairman, Green Advocates & PWYP representative
Jerry B. Tarbolo, Jr.	FLY representative
Helena Jackson-Thornes	GODIMWUL

Private Sector

Mark A. Richard	BHP Billiton
Matenneh Rose L. Dunbar	ORANTO Petroleum
Esiaka B. Konneh	Gold & Diamond Dealers & Brokers Association

IN ATTENDANCE

LEITI Secretariat

Sayon Henry Yaidoo	LEITI
Edward R.A Smith	LEITI
Hnede L. Berrian	LEITI

International Partners/Observer

Monique Cooper	UNDP
Peter Kluczny	GTZ

Others

Tove Strauss	Consultant – Incentivizing EITI Compliant Countries
Fulton D. Reeves	National Oil Company of Liberia
Tharam Z. Quaye	Green Advocates
Cerue Konah Garlo	IREX representative
Momo A. Baimda	GODIWOL
Betty C. Mends-Cole	BHP Billiton
Varmuyan L. Kanneh	Gold & Diamond Dealers & Brokers Association

The 44th meeting of the LEITI Multi-stakeholders Steering Group was held on Wednesday, January 26, 2011 at 12:00 noon and was chaired by the LEITI Chairperson and Minister of Finance, Honorable Augustine Kpehe Ngafuan.

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

- Mr. Yaidoo requested to have introduction added to the draft agenda, considering the newly appointed MSG members.
- Atty. Brownell asked for the inclusion of an update of work on the current “Incentivizing EITI Compliant Countries” undertaken by Tove Strauss and himself.
- Based on the inclusion of the above two agenda items, the draft agenda was adopted.

2. INTRODUCTION

- Self introduction was made beginning with the Chairperson of the MSG, Hon. Ngafuan.

3. DRAFT MINUTES OF THE 43RD MSG MEETING: CORRECTION, ADOPTION

- Minutes reviewed page by page
- Few typographical/grammatical errors noted
- Motion made by Mr. Tamba Boakai of the Ministry of Agriculture and seconded by Jerry B. Tarbolo, Jr. of the Federation of Liberian Youth for the minutes be opened for discussion.

MATTERS ARISING

- **There were no matter arising from the minutes**

4. 38TH SECRETARIAT REPORT

The 38th Report of the LEITI Secretariat was presented by the Head of Secretariat (HOS), Mr. Sayon Henry Yaidoo. In his presentation, Mr. Yaidoo highlighted activities of the Secretariat as well as the financial report for the period under review. After the HOS presented on the appointment of the MSG members, the following issues were raised and discussed:

- **New MSG:**
 - Two key issues: (1) continue inviting past MSG members to the meetings; and (2) inviting them as required:
 1. The LEITI maintain two listing of MSG members. One for current officials and the other for past members;
 2. MSG meetings be restricted to MSG members who were appointed by the President and development partners;
 3. Former MSG members be invited based on invitation
 4. A suggestion was made to recognize old MSG members by issuing them a certificate for their services over the period.
- **Appointment of MSG Members (institutions or individuals):**
 - Discussions on the appointment of Development Consortium to the LEITI MSG was discussed:

- Mrs. Garlo introduced herself as the former Executive Director of Development consortium
- The letter from the President's Office was addressed to the Executive Director of Development Consortium and a copy of the President current letter of appointment got to her attention, as such, she came to the meeting for clarification
- Atty. Brownell explained that the submission of the name of Development Consortium was because of Mrs. Garlo's vast knowledge on CSO issues and her own capacity as a female advocate
- The Chair asked as to what informed the decision of the CSO? Is the LEITI MSG appointment based on names of individuals instead of institutions?
- A lengthy discussion occurred on the President's appointment letter and Mrs. Garlo's representation. Thereafter, Mrs. Garlo excused herself from the meeting
- LEITI to also meet with FLY leadership for the selection of their representative
- Atty. Brownell raised some concerns that the nomination letter from the MSG requested a representative from PWYP. However, the President letter appointed the President of Green Advocates as member to the LEITI MSG
- The President of NOCAL, Hon. Christopher Neyor, expressed concerns over the prolong issues surrounding the nomination of MSG members. He explained that during the last (35th MSG meeting) he attended this very issue was discussed and not resolved, which he sees been repeated.

5. OPERATIONS MANUAL

- Ms. Cooper of UNDP said that there is no strategic plan to support LEITI new positions in the Manual
- She said that during one of the previous MSG meetings, it was agreed that the Head of Secretariat prepare a justification for these new positions
- The Head of Secretariat explained that the manual was a requirement under criteria of the EITI International and a committee was set up by the MSG to review the manual
- He said that the financial work plan of the LEITI incorporates/supports the new positions
- It was also agreed that the manual was not an EITI requirement, as such, it should be suspended pending the completion of the consultancy (incentivizing EITI Compliant Countries), which will produce a three year strategic plan
- MSG to have a working session on the discussion of the 3-year plan

6. 5TH EITI GLOBAL CONFERENCE

- The Head of Secretariat made a brief presentation on the status of issues surrounding the nomination of individuals to attend the 5th EITI Global Conference

7. DRAFT REPORT – INCENTIVIZING EITI COMPLIANT COUNTRIES

- Atty. Brownell made a brief presentation on the status of the consultancy on incentivizing EITI compliant countries.
- Atty. Brownell and Madame Tove Strauss were hired by the LEITI with sponsorship from GTZ to undertake this consultancy
- The end result of the consultancy will, amongst other things, produce a three-year strategic plan of the Liberia EITI program

8. TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- The time and date of the next meeting was set for the last Wednesday in February, which is February 23, 2011.

9. ADJOURNMENT

- There being no other business, a motion was made by a representative of NOCAL and seconded by a representative of GODIWUL that the meeting be adjourned.