



MSG meeting 2023#1

Conference Room Ministry of Natural Resources

April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023

13.20-14.35hrs.

# MINUTES

## Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative MULTI STAKE HOLDERS GROUP SURINAME

EITI Suriname

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Certification of quorum:

Apologies were noted from:

Sagitta Jaggan

Present	Absent without notice
<b><u>GOVERNMENT MINISTRIES</u></b> Preciosa Simons Georgetine Tjalim	<b><u>GOVERNMENT MINISTRIES</u></b> Ginna Leysner Henk Deel
<b><u>COMPANIES</u></b> Michiel Raafenberg Bernadette Cederboom Mark Regis (via zoom) Mike Resomardono(via zoom)	<b><u>COMPANIES</u></b> Kathleen Blom
<b><u>CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS</u></b> Rayah Bhattacharji Tosca Pinas Rene Artist Monique Essed- Fernandes (via zoom)	<b><u>CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS</u></b> Roy Caupain
<b><u>SECRETARIAT</u></b> Clyde Griffith Novella Alcantra – Majana Jenusah Sanné	

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## AGENDA

1. Opening remarks  
Certification of quorum
2. Announcements and correspondences
  - a. Formal Intro Novella and Jenusah
  - b. Introduction with Susanna Moreira from World Bank
  - c. 9<sup>th</sup> EITI Global Conference in Dakar
  - d. Contact information consultants interior
  - e. Presentation EITI 2018-2020 report
3. EITI 2021-2022 report
4. Work plan 2023-2024
5. Any other business
6. Adjournment

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## **1. Opening remarks**

Certification of quorum

The appointed Chair of the MSG for this meeting, Michiel Raafenberg opened the 1<sup>st</sup> physical meeting in 2023 and welcomed the MSG members. Because there was no quorum at the start Clyde advised the meeting to be continued with the agenda items that did not require quorum.

## **2. Announcements and correspondences**

### **a. Formal Introduction Novella and Jenusah**

The chair welcomed the new appointed National Coordinator, Novella and Jenusah Sanné as the Administrative Assistant, on behalf of the MSG to the EITI team. Clyde the former EITI National Coordinator will stay on the team as the Policy Advisor. On behalf of the MSG, Mark Regis expressed gratitude towards the previous EITI Secretariat members.

### **b. Introduction with Susanna Moreira**

Today there was a brief introduction meeting between Novella, Clyde and Susanna Moreira from the World Bank.

Susanna stated the following:

- World Bank is available to talk about technical assistance as well as financially
- There are some donors who want to fund EITI Suriname activities
- Set a date in the week of the 5<sup>th</sup> of June or the week of the 19<sup>th</sup> of June to visit Suriname and meet with the Secretariat and MSG to speak about what we need assistance with.
- Reports of 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024 will be financed by the World Bank.

The Secretariat has not mentioned specific projects because the MSG has to do homework and decide which of the work plan activities enjoy priority.

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The MSG had some comments on the above mentioned:

Tosca sees communication as one of the priorities.

Bernadette asked if the work plan will be covered by World Bank.

Some members suggested BDO Suriname to work with BDO TT instead of BDO UK to decrease the costs of producing the report.

Clyde answered on the above:

The MSG determines whether they agree with the items listed in the work plan by a small group of MSG members. The meeting today was to have consent on the items, that's why the work plan 2023-2024 was sent as attachment in the invitation email.

Clyde also stated that when the work plan is approved by the MSG it can be sent to donors to fund the activities that were listed.

### **c. Global Conference Dakar**

The delegates are Clyde, Rayah, Daniela and Novella. Clyde, Rayah and Novella are sponsored delegates. At this moment the sponsored delegates are working on Schengen visa permits because they will travel via Holland and France to Senegal.

Rayah and Clyde will travel a day earlier to attend the members meeting and Novella will join them a day later.

Michiel still has to meet with the new management on this topic in order to participate also.

The minister of Natural Resources will not attend the conference. His presence will not have any effect on voting because he is not a member. Suriname has 2 votes for now.

MSG members raised the question who will be the head of the delegation on behalf of the minister. The Secretariat will talk to the minister and will give feedback to the MSG on this matter.

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Some of the members asked if Suriname is not going to showcase at the conference and to present/share best practices to the attendees. The majority of the MSG members also asked for a specific meeting to discuss the agenda of the conference.

**d. Contact information consultants in the interior by Michiel**

This contact information of consultants for EITI awareness in the interior was shared with the Secretariat because IAMGold has recently worked with these consultants and wanted to share best practices.

**e. Presentation EITI 2018-2020 report**

The proposed date set by the Secretariat was June 5<sup>th</sup> 2023 but Mark suggested June 19<sup>th</sup> would be a better date due to the fact that a lot of people will be in Suriname for the Suriname Oil and Gas Conference from June 19<sup>th</sup> until June 22<sup>nd</sup> 2023. Monique added that this would be a great opportunity to create public awareness. Some of the members agreed on this.

Clyde will have a talk with Alex if it is a possibility to do so. The Secretariat will get back to the MSG on this. Michiel suggested the speech of the minister at the presentation of the 2018-2020 report includes transparency. Michiel also asked to inquire if BDO will be available for June 5<sup>th</sup> or June 19<sup>th</sup>.

Clyde also stated that the venue, Torarica, has already been paid but was cancelled due to circumstances in the country. So if the 19<sup>th</sup> of June is not an option, June 5<sup>th</sup> will be likely the day of the presentation.

**3. EITI 2021-2022 report**

Some members have confirmed via email indicating that they consent to hire BDO by direct selection and also one report covering fiscal years 2021 and 2022. Mark stated that is important to note in the minutes that MSG members give consent to the two above mentioned proposals.

The list with the MSG members who have responded to the above mentioned proposals will be attached to these minutes.

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A revised contract will be signed with BDO. The MSG will have to send their comments on the contract to the Secretariat.

Clyde proposed that the BDO should not ask more than 200.000 USD for the reports 2021-2022. The reason why the costs for the report are this high is because BDO works with consultants from BDO UK.

Mark Regis suggested to work with BDO TT to reduce the costs.

Rayah stated that BDO worked with BDO TT in 2016 but the input of BDO TT was not visible.

Mark answered that by 2016 BDO TT was still in a learning process but at this moment he is confident they can produce a great report.

Monique stated that at this moment that BDO TT's reporting is the best that is why she supported Mark's comment on working with BDO TT.

This can reduce the costs of producing the report significantly.

Michiel suggested making an appointment to talk with BDO about above mentioned proposal.

#### **4. Workplan 2023-2024**

The workplan was send by email to the MSG and the workplan was attached. The intention was that consent would be given at this meeting. Some of the members stated that they missed the attachment and asked for a week to review and comment on the document. Monique, Rayah and Mark already gave consent about the workplan which was drafted by a small group of members from the MSG.

Although Monique gave consent about the workplan she missed the budget. She asks the MSG to agree as soon as possible on the workplan so a budget could be prepared. She is also available to help prepare a budget. Monique raised the question where the financing will be coming from

Mark suggested a small group of the MSG together with Novella to make a budget for the activities in the workplan. He suggested the MSG to approve on the workplan and after that draw a budget which can be send to multinationals, the

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diplomatic community and IDB since the mentioned organizations are willing to support. The support will not always be financially but technical assistance as well.

Monique mentioned that we should avoid making nice plans if there is no budget available to execute them. Mark said that when you have a workplan and a budget you can approach potential donors.

## **5. Any other business**

- The EITI secretariat had a brief meeting with the minister of Natural Resources on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2023.
- Data 2018-2020 was shared with EITI International
- Platform startup to share all the documents with the MSG
- Validation of 2018-2020 report is in October 2023

Rayah suggested a small group of 2 or 3 MSG members to draw a plan of action with dates. Just a deadline committee to spearhead the process. Mike, Rayah and Monique signed up for this committee.

## **6. Adjournment**

Michiel thanked everyone for their participation physically and via zoom and closed the meeting on 14.35 hrs.

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## Annex 1:

The MSG members who have confirmed:

Name	Hire BDO by direct selection for fiscal years 2021-2022	One report for the fiscal years 2021-2022	
Michiel Raafenberg	yes	yes	Company
Mark Regis	yes	yes	Company
Daniela Herkul	yes	yes	Company
Bernadette Cederboom	yes	yes	Company
Rayah Bhattacharji	yes	yes	Civil Society
Monique Essed-Fernandes	yes	yes	Civil Society
Sagitta Jaggan	Yes	yes	Government
Georgetine Tjalim	yes	yes	Government
Tosca Pinas	yes	yes	Civil Society

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Annex 2:

Activity	Deadline	Comment
Feedback on the workplan 2023-2024	Friday April 14 <sup>th</sup>	Document was sent via email as attachment with the invitation to the Meeting of April 5 <sup>th</sup>
Final draft ToR BDO	Wednesday May 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Previous ToR BDO was sent to the MSG members (per constituency) to review and comment on. Deadline is April 19 <sup>th</sup>

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