

MSG meeting 2023#11

Teams Meeting (1st part) / Zoom (2nd part)

November 15th, 2023

13.00- hrs. – 14.15 hrs.

MINUTES

Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative MULTI STAKE HOLDERS GROUP SURINAME

EITI Suriname

Email: info.seiti.2017@gmail.com

Website: <https://eitipuriname.org/wp-admin/>

Tel.No: 520761

Address: Prins Hendrikstraat #12

Certification of quorum:

Apologies were noted from:

Daniela Herkul

Rene Artist

Michiel Raafenberg

Bernadette Cederboom

Vikaash Soerdjbalisingh

Present	Absent without notice
<u>GOVERNMENT MINISTRIES</u> Georgetine Tjalim Preciosa Simons Henk Deel Sagita Jaggan	<u>COMPANIES</u> Kathleen Blom
<u>COMPANIES</u> Mark Regis Mike Resomardono	<u>CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS</u> Roy Caupain Tosca Pinas
<u>CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS</u> Rayah Bhattacharji Rene Artist Monique Essed-Fernandes	
<u>SECRETARIAT</u> Novella Alcantra – Majana Jenusah Sanné	
Guests: Jean van Eenaeme Clyde Giffith Adriaans Grassalco	

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AGENDA Meeting 15th November 2023

1. Opening remarks
Certification of quorum
2. Announcements and correspondences
3. Acquaintance meeting procurement Specialist SCSD PIU
4. Minutes September 13th 2023
 - a. Discussion
 - b. Approval
 - c. Matters arising from the Minutes
5. Minutes September 18th 2023
 - a. Discussion
 - b. Approval
 - c. Matters arising from the minutes
6. Minutes September 27th 2023
 - a. Discussion
 - b. Approval
7. Discussion on the revised BDO report 2018-2020
8. Discussion on open data policy in Suriname
9. Any other business
10. Adjournment

Upcoming events:

- *Validation consultations from November 20th – December 4th 2023*

Proposed date for next MSG meeting: November 15th, 2023

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1. Opening remarks

Certification of quorum

Rayah opened the meeting at 13.00 hrs and at 13.15 there was quorum.

2. Announcements and correspondences

Correspondences:

- Mr. Jean, the procurement officer from the SCSD PIU joined the meeting and talked about the documents needed to proceed with the procuring the Independent Administrator.
- On October 26th the regional training on the changes of the EITI standard 2023 took place. Some MSG members attended this meeting.
- On November 10th there was a National Coordinators meeting with over 74 participants from the implementing countries (heads of secretariats and national coordinators). This meeting was to understand what has changed in the standard and why, to urge MSG's to adapt the work plans to prioritize relevant requirements and to adapt services to improve relevance, quality and value of Independent Administrators and consultants. Thematic high priority topics for Q4 2023 till Q1 2024 are energy transition, anti-corruption, production costs, production and export data and gender, social and environmental
- The consultations and interviews with the validation team were postponed to the period of November 20th – December 6th 2023. The validation team still needs time to review all the documents.
- All the submitted templates are on the website
- The revised ToR MSG is also on the website.
- From 27th to 30th November the National Coordinator will be in the 2nd Regional Meeting of the Community of Practice of the InvestmentMap Initiative and the 7th Meeting of the OECD-IDB Public Integrity Network, to be held in the city of Lima, Peru. The Regional Meeting of the Community of Practice will be held on November 29 and will allow an exchange of experiences between public officials from the region and leading experts from civil society, academia, and the private sector, with the goal of deepening the implementation of best practices in transparency and integrity through digital technologies. The Community

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- of Practice was created as a vehicle for dialogue to further develop [InvestmentMap](#) as the main technological tool for the dissemination of data and accountability to citizens on the management of public resources in Latin America and the Caribbean. To this end, this will bring together countries that already have years of experience in implementing InvestmentMap, as well as countries that have recently showed interest in implementing this initiative.
- The Secretariat will be on vacation from December 11th 2023 until January 4th, 2024.

3. Acquaintance meeting procurement Specialist SCSD PIU

Mr Jean explained to the MSG that he needed an approval letter from the MSG to proceed with the procuring of the Independent Administrator.

4. Minutes September 13th 2023

- a. Discussion
- b. Approval
- c. Matters arising from the Minutes

Since there were no comments on the minutes of September 13th, they were approved by the members present.

5. Minutes September 18th 2023

- a. Discussion
- b. Approval
- c. Matters arising from the minutes

Since there were no comments on the minutes of September 18th, they were approved by the members present.

6. Minutes September 27th 2023

- a. Discussion
- b. Approval
- c. Matters arising from the minutes

Since there were no comments on the minutes of September 27th, they were approved by the members present.

7. Discussion on the revised BDO report 2018-2020

The EITISR MSG approved the final revised version of the EITI Reconciliation Reports on fiscal years 2018 – 2020 submitted by BDO LLP and BDO Suriname, the Independent Administrator. The reports having been satisfactorily amended, the EITISR MSG further affirmed its decision, to sole select the services of BDO LLP and BDO Suriname, to undertake the EITI Reconciliation Reports for fiscal years 2021 and 2022. If any member still have comments they want to share they have till Monday November 20th by closing of business to do so. The MSG will sign off a formal approval of the revised report and send it to the procurement officer of the SCSD project stating the above mentioned decisions.

8. Discussion on open data policy in Suriname

The members decided on drafting a quick protocol for EITI Suriname data concerning data in accordance with the EITI standard taking into consideration what is feasible given our local context at this point. For the validation team it is important that the MSG supports the publication of open data. Also one of the amendments that was made in the BDO ToR was taken from the requirement requests concerning Independent Administrator to provide the information in an open data format. In short that means that the requirement must be part of the future EITI reports. Mark will be looking at examples of other implementing countries and will sent out a draft of an open data format and sent it around so members can comment. After receiving the draft from Mark this will be discussed in another meeting.

On this point the secretariat announced that Suriname by Ministry of Finance and Planning agreed to open data with the Investmentmap tool of the IDB. That will also allow data to be published from the source. The next morning there will be a kick off meeting about this tool and members who want to join in this meeting can sent us a message and then the link will be shared. In this meeting the staff of IDB will tell us all about how Suriname can proceed into using this tool with the help of all the stakeholders. Sagita clarified that this is an initial meeting so if members cannot join there will still be meetings in the future and members are encouraged

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to join in support to the Ministry of Finance and Planning and the National Coordinator.

Preciosa explained that within the SCSD project the GMD and other departments will be transformed into the Mineral Authority Suriname (DAS) in which the database and the mining cadaster are revised and will be operational, as the process is in an advanced phase. The information in the database and the mining cadaster will be available, consultants have been to Suriname and working on transparency of the data to the public. People who have applied for a mining permit should be able to track the process of the requested permit.

The will to have open data to promote transparency is present at the Ministry of Finance and Planning and the Ministry of Natural Resources.

9. Any other business

- ✓ Mark informed the meeting that he and Daniela participated in an oil and gas meeting last week. Coming out of the discussion at the table Total mentioned that they are doing a series of community engagement projects in the country. One of the feedbacks of the first engagement in the communities was that there is interest out there around the issues that are captured by the EITI about how contracts are done, what the accountability is, given the revenues from these extractive resources. It might be a way for EITI Suriname to do a short 3 to 5 page presentation about what EITI is and what it has done in Suriname in order to get persons interested and informed about the work of EITI. These presentations can be done when Total visits the communities and Total is open to this idea to get the message about EITI out.

For the presentation Mark suggested the Secretariat to ask for help from Sherwin Long.

- ✓ The Secretariat announced that some members received an invitation for consultations with the validation team. Some members still have to get a timeslot and the meeting links. Tomorrow there will be a meeting with Esteban in which this will be finalized. What was asked of the MSG

members is to respond as soon as possible so the validation can go on as planned.

- ✓ The MSG members decided that the last meeting of this year will be held on December 6th 2023.

10. Adjournment

After Rayah thanked everyone for their presence and contribution the meeting was adjourned at 14.15 hrs.