



MSG meeting 2024 # 2

Teams

February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024

13.00- hrs. – 14.48 hrs.

## MINUTES

# Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative MULTI STAKE HOLDERS GROUP SURINAME

EITI Suriname  
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**Certification of quorum:**

Apologies were noted from:

Sagita Jaggan

Suraksha Hirasingh

Preciosa Simons

Tosca Pinas

Rayah Bhattacharji

Present	Absent without notice
<b><u>GOVERNMENT MINISTRIES</u></b> Georgetine Tjalm Henk Deel Vikaash Soerdjbalisingh	<b><u>COMPANIES</u></b> Kathleen Blom Daniela Herkul
<b><u>COMPANIES</u></b> Mark Regis Mike Resomardono Bernadette Cederboom Michiel Raafenberg	<b><u>CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS</u></b> Roy Caupain
<b><u>CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS</u></b> Rene Artist Monique Essed- Fernandes	
<b><u>SECRETARIAT</u></b> Novella Alcantra – Majana Jenusah Sanné	

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## **AGENDA**

1. Opening remarks  
Certification of quorum
2. Announcements and correspondences
3. Discussion work plan 2023/2024
  - a. Discussion
  - b. Approval revised work plan 2024/2025
4. Annual Progress Report
  - a. Discussion
  - b. Approval
5. Any other business
6. Adjournment

## **Proposed date for next MSG meeting: TBD**

## **1. Opening remarks**

Certification of quorum

Bernadette welcomed everyone and started the meeting at 13.10 hrs.

## **2. Announcements and correspondences**

- On January 26<sup>th</sup> a meeting was held with mr. Valdez, economic affairs officer and mrs Chandoe from the American Embassy. The meeting was held at the office of the Head of the Mining Department. This meeting was held with officials in charge of Suriname-EITI and the local mining industry to discuss the U.S. State Department's annual Fiscal Transparency Report (FTR), this time for reporting year 2023. The officials from the American Embassy were mostly interested in the process chain of the awarding of mining licenses. Since the EITI Suriname website provided them with a lot of information they did not need so much information from EITI. Participants in the meeting were Ms. L. Sanné, Ms. Senaidy, Novella, Jenusah and Rayah.
- A short meeting was held with IDB in which they announced to stay tuned for the outcome of the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data(GPSDD). There will be a presentation to the policy makers and we will be invited. The presentation will be about the tracking of mining data in Suriname. In due course we will receive more information on this topic.
- The Private Sector shared a rotation schedule as follows:  
Betty today February 7<sup>th</sup>  
Michiel March 6<sup>th</sup>  
Daniela April 3<sup>rd</sup>  
If there is a need for more meetings because comments will be received from the validation team soon, the private sector is willing to chair.
- The Minister of Natural Resources was recently in Washington and spoke about the EITI. He wanted a list of activities we want to go about this year and the estimates. It is not sure if we would get funds but he presented what I had to make up in a short amount of time. He was in a meeting when he asked for the information. So, the secretariat drafted a quick list for him which was

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shared with the PS of mining also. This list can be shared when agenda point 3 will be discussed.

- The PIU of the SCSD project sent an email in which BDO was asked to submit a proposal to prepare the 2021/2022 EITI report. The deadline for submission of the Technical and Financial Proposals is **8 March 2024**. The SCSD PIU hopes to negotiate a contract in the second half of March so that the services can start around **1 April 2024**. Be advised that the deadline of June 30<sup>th</sup> to provide the 2021/2022 report will not be met.
- The State oil company from Sao Tome and Principe reached out to the national secretariat to extend their letter to our state oil company. They want to share knowledge between Suriname and Sao Tome. This letter was sent to Staatsolie.
- The 1<sup>st</sup> National Coordinators meeting will be held online on February the 19<sup>th</sup>. The agenda was not shared yet but in due date will be shared what is discussed at this meeting.

Rayah asked Mike and Bernadette to give brief comments on the presentation “Gaps in Capaciteit en wettelijk kader voor Offshore Olie & Gas” that was organized by Stichting Projekta and was held in Torarica on January 23rd.

Bernadette elaborated on the two studies:

- Key aspects on the sustainable management of natural resources; Safeguarding the environment and exploiting oil, gas, gold were:

Legal framework, gaps for offshore and gas; analysis of mining decree, petroleum contracts, environmental council law

Neither the Petroleum Act nor the Mining Act have obligations to publish contracts.

No official local content policy: Staatsolie has provision in PSC's on preferential services on local vendors

Weakness in current safety laws

Financial gaps: in procurement laws, need for private sector to adhere to the law on annual accounts.

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- Key aspects on the Protection of Human rights :
  - Collective Rights Indigenous and tribal Peoples
  - Operationalization of Human Rights Institute with a broader mandate
  - There are basic laws but no implementing decrees
  - There is need for strong institutes with capacity for development, monitoring & Evaluation
  - Need for a national Climate Plan and framework for collecting carbon credits
  - Suriname has ratified over 30 environmental treaties
  - Government institutes are in survival mode; masterplan capacity building needed
  - Gap increases despite assistance from international organizations

Mike suggested to have work groups/consultants check with the Staatsolie Hydrocarbon Institute if there are any new HSE guidelines. The Staatsolie Hydrocarbon Institute shared this information with the International Oil Companies.

### **3. Discussion work plan 2023/2024**

- Discussion
- Approval revised work plan 2024/2025

The activities in the work plan 2024/2025 were approved. The actions that have to be taken now is to find finances to fund these activities.

### **Action points from agenda workplan Meeting February 7<sup>th</sup> 2024**

No	Action points	Responsible	Remarks	Status
1.	Draft an open data template for EITI Suriname	Mark	Mark is still busy working on this	Pending
2.	Validation assessment workshop	MSG to discuss the date and specifics of the workshop.	In the planning for the end of March	Pending
3.	Development of the secretariat functions	National Secretariat	Functions needs to be sanctioned by the Ministry of Internal Affairs	In progress
4.	National Secretariat Funding	MSG/NS	discuss the budget in a separate or next meeting.	Pending
5.	MSG is required to have a functional workplan fully costed	MSG	Seek funding at World Bank or other organizations for activities 2024/2025	Pending

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6.	Procurement of an Independent Administrator for EITI report 2021/2022	SCSD PIU	2 <sup>nd</sup> half of March Signing with BDO April 1 <sup>st</sup> : Start date EITI report 2021/2022.	In progress:
7.	Procurement of a Specialist firm	SCSD PIU	SCSD Coordinator Clyde commented on this as follows: The PIU will first make a communication strategy with clear deliverables and the consultant will be asked to guide these actions.	Pending
8.	Develop a draft communication and engagement plan	Private Sector	Private sector to give an update on this on March 6 <sup>th</sup> .	Pending
9.	Define the scope of what should be disclosed from the contracts and license documents.	MSG/Private Sector	Private companies to share/disclose this information on their websites. EITI Suriname can share information (a link to the companies' websites)	Pending
10.	Contract an EITI consultant to develop systematic disclosure road maps.	MSG	Through IDB seek grants to fund this activity.	Pending
11.	Provide a list of active mining licenses	Vikaash		Pending
12.	Workgroup to assemble and publish information online publicly  Maximizing public education and outreach	Mark Mike Monique Vikaash Specialist Firm	Workgroup formed.  Workgroup will oversee the publication of information online, on time and provide the companies with all information concerning this.	Completed  Pending
13.	Define the modes or means of public access (the platform in which contracts will be disclosed	Mark Mike Monique Vikaash	Website with the licenses was taken down. Vikaash to give an update on March 6 <sup>th</sup> .	Pending

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14.	Status of the modernization of the cadaster.	SCSD Preciosa MSG	Ask Clyde from the SCSD project an update on this. *Preciosa to give an update on the launch of the website and other updates from the ministry. *To send an official letter for the follow up for the sake of the validation.	Pending
15.	Re-engage in the conversations for the definition of beneficial owner and political exposed person	MSG	To be discussed further	Pending
16.	Public disclosure of information	Sagita	To give an update on the Investmentmap process	Pending
17.	Social and environmental expenditures by extractive companies.	NS	To arrange a session with the International Secretariat about quasi fiscal expenditures.	In progress

#### **4. Annual Progress Report**

- a. Discussion
- b. Approval

Since there is not much time left at this meeting, the members decided to have more time to comment on this. Deadline for comments is February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

#### **5. Any other business**

None

#### **6. Adjournment**

Bernadette adjourned the meeting at 14.48 hrs.

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