

MSG meeting 2024 # 5

Teams

May 8<sup>th</sup> , 2024

13.00- hrs. – 14.12 hrs.

Chair: Michiel Raafenberg

# MINUTES

## Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative

### MULTI STAKE HOLDERS GROUP

### SURINAME

EITI Suriname

Email: [info.seiti.2017@gmail.com](mailto:info.seiti.2017@gmail.com)

Website: [eitisuriname.org](http://eitisuriname.org)

Tel.No: 520761 / 8446612

Address: Prins Hendrikstraat #12

**Certification of quorum:**

Apologies were noted from:

Preciosa Simons

Mike Resomardono

Daniela Herkul

Suraksha Hirasingh

Sagita Jaggan

Kathleen Blom

Tosca Pinas

Present	Absent without notice
<b><u>GOVERNMENT</u></b> Georgetine Tjalim Henk Deel Vikaash Soerdjbalisingh	<b><u>CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS</u></b> Roy Caupain
<b><u>COMPANIES</u></b> Mark Regis Bernadette Cederboom Michiel Raafenberg Vanessa Breidel Adriaan Asodanoe	
<b><u>CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS</u></b> Monique Essed- Fernandes Rayah Bhattacharji Rene Artist	
<b><u>SECRETARIAT</u></b> Novella Alcantra – Majana Jenusah Sanné Varsha Jhagroe	
Guest: Arjun Chotkan (EZOTI) joined meeting on behalf of Suraksha	

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## **AGENDA**

1. Opening remarks  
Certification of quorum
2. Announcements and correspondences
3. Minutes April 3<sup>rd</sup>
  - a. Discussion
  - b. Approval
  - c. Matters arising from the minutes
4. Annual Progress Report 2023
  - a. Discussion
  - b. Approval
5. Draft EITI open data policy
  - a. Discussion
  - b. Approval
6. Validation Assessment Workshop
7. Update recruitment Independent Administrator
8. Any other business
9. Adjournment

### ***Upcoming events:***

### **Lac invitations to the MSG:**

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- **Beneficial Ownership Session:**

**Date:** May 15, 2024, 10:00 -12.00 Suriname Time

**Register in advance for this meeting:**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/join/9876543210?pwd=ZGZkdjBldUJlMkRnZWdudDZkdz09Vexfpj>

After registering, a confirmation email will be received containing information about joining the meeting. If you do not register you will not be able to join the sessions.

**\*\*MSG members are invited to join this seminar at the Newmont office to discuss this topic after the session.**

**Proposed date for next MSG meeting: June 5<sup>th</sup> 2024**

## **1. Opening remarks**

### **Certification of quorum**

Michiel welcomed the members to the meeting and stated that there was no quorum yet. There was quorum at 13.08 hrs.

## **2. Announcements and correspondences**

- ✚ The National Coordinator received an invite for the 3<sup>rd</sup> National Coordinators meeting which will be held in Geneva from 17<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> of June. Daniela from Staatsolie received an invitation also but to participate in the company events that will take place during the same time.
- ✚ From Shell the National Secretariat received 2 refurbished laptops. The National Secretariat team thanked Mark and Mike for this gesture to the National Secretariat.
- ✚ On April 24<sup>th</sup> the validation assessment workshop was held. This will be discussed at agenda point 6.
- ✚ Status with the Independent Administrator BDO will be discussed at agenda point 7
- ✚ On Friday May 3<sup>rd</sup> the National Secretariat did a presentation to the IMF regarding the status of EITI since becoming a member. The IMF delegation was mostly interested in when the new mining law will be discussed in parliament and also when Suriname will be implementing the Beneficial ownership register. These were the important recommendations that IMF wanted to follow up with. Preciosa was in the meeting so she gave the latest updates on these two topics. Thanks to Mark the presentation went well. On behalf of the National Secretariat Mark is thanked again for his guidance and support on a very short notice.
- ✚ On April 11<sup>th</sup> the 2<sup>nd</sup> LAC session took place. Mark, Novella and Tine were present.
- ✚ There are still members who have not shared the recommendation letter from their organization and / or id card with us. The council of ministers already approved but the ministry of Natural Resources will not get the approval letter until all the mentioned documents are sent.
- ✚ From the SCSD project we will be receiving a budget of approx. 100.000 USD. Yesterday the National Secretariat once again sent the ToR Specialist firm to the SCSD PIU and revised the budget from USD 75.000 to USD 100.000. The Secretariat will be in touch with the PIU in order to get the procurement started.
- ✚ From June 5<sup>th</sup> till June 7<sup>th</sup> the Suriname Energy Oil and Gas Summit (SEOGS) will take place. There will be an EITI session on which we have confirmation that representatives from the MSG will be part of. The theme is Finding the Balance between Transparency and Natural Resource Management. Finding the balance between transparency and natural resource management requires establishing transparent governance structures, promoting access to information, engaging stakeholders, building capacity, resolving conflicts, embracing adaptive management, adhering to international standards, and promoting public awareness and education.

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### **3. Minutes April 3<sup>rd</sup>**

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

Action points:

1. Letter to BDO concerning discussed points in the technical committee meeting.

The letter was conceived by the SCSD Procurement Specialist and circulated among the MSG members, who had no comments on the content. This letter was sent to BDO by the SCSD PIU.

2. Organize the validation assessment workshop

The workshop was held on April 24<sup>th</sup>. Four groups were formed to tackle the recommendations of the latest validation report. From the 19 MSG members 15 were present and also all the Staff of the National Secretariat. The outcomes of the validation session will be circulated among the members and will be discussed on May 15<sup>th</sup> after the beneficial ownership session. Bernadette invited everyone to join these activities at the Newmont office.

After the action points were addressed the Minutes of April 3<sup>rd</sup> were approved by the members present.

### **4. Annual Progress Report 2023**

- a. Discussion
- b. Approval

Georgetine suggested to address the actions still needed to be taken in the progress report as soon as possible. The members agreed to a separate meeting to discuss these actions.

Monique asked for more time to do a final review. This will be on the agenda for approval in the next meeting.

### **5. Draft EITI open data policy**

- a. Discussion
- b. Approval

In the last MSG meeting during the presentation of the draft open data policy Mark stressed that the definition of the open data policy, the creative comments, the data format recommendations/ copy right recommendation were key to have this approved. Mark announced receiving input on this document from Civil Society and the Private Sector but not yet from the Government.

Access to systematic disclosure from the Central Bank and General Statistical Office is shared by Georgetine from Finance.

Bernadette stated that Newmont is waiting for instructions from corporate on the draft open data policy.

The adoption of the draft open data policy is on the agenda for the next MSG meeting.

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## **6. Validation assessment workshop**

The meaning of this agenda item was to discuss the outcomes of the validation assessment workshop. Not all the teams have submitted their information therefore this agenda item will be addressed in the next MSG meeting.

## **7. Update recruitment Independent Administrator**

The meeting with the SCSD PIU, the National Coordinator and the Independent Administrator BDO which was scheduled for today was postponed by the SCSD PIU. The next scheduled meeting will be after May 20<sup>th</sup> since the SCSD Procurement Specialist will be on leave till the 20<sup>th</sup> of May. The communication between the SCSD PIU and EITI Suriname needs to approve to prevent reporting delays in the future.

Members voiced their concerns about the long period to recruit the Independent Administrator and will conceive a letter to the Permanent Secretary Mining to speed up the process. The members asked the National Secretariat to circulate a progress update of the communication between the National Secretariat and the SCSD PIU which will be attached to the letter.

## **8. Any other business**

- Rayah proposed to have the next MSG meeting on June 12<sup>th</sup> instead of June 5<sup>th</sup> taking into account the Suriname Energy Oil and Gas Summit. The members present agreed to postpone the meeting date.
- Mark announced that Mike will be leaving the Shell company and will no longer be part of the MSG.
- Tine gave Mark an update on disclosure of data on the websites of the Central Bank and the Statistics Bureau.
- Members asked for the program of SEOGS and the costs to participate for one day.

## **9. Adjournment**

Michiel thanked the members for the efficient meeting and adjourned at 14.12 hrs.

### Action points after this meeting

No	Action points	Responsible	Remarks	Status
1	Comments on the Draft Open Data Policy	Ministry of NR representatives	Vikaash to discuss with Preciosa	Pending
2	Draft a letter to the PS Mining of MNR stating concerns procurement IA	Michiel NS NS	Draft the letter  Letter to be shared with MSG for comments  Share process on communication between NS and SCSD	Pending  Pending  Completed
3	Annual Progress Report 2023	Monique final review	MSG members to comment	In Progress
4	Program and costs SEOGS	National Secretariat	Circulate among members	completed