



MSG meeting 2024 # 7

Teams

August 14th , 2024

12.00- hrs. – 14:09 hrs.

Chair: Bernadette Cederboom

MINUTES

Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative

MULTI STAKE HOLDERS GROUP SURINAME

EITI Suriname

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Certification of quorum:

Apologies were noted from:
Michiel Raafenberg

Henk Deel

Roy Caupain

Monique Essed- Fernandes

Kathleen Blom

Jenusah Sanné

Present	Absent without notice
<u>GOVERNMENT</u> Preciosa Simons Sagita Jaggan Georgetine Tjalim	<u>CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS</u> Rene Artist
<u>COMPANIES</u> Bernadette Cederboom Vanessa Breidel Adriaan Asodanoe Daniela Herkul	<u>GOVERNMENT</u> Vikaash Soerdjbalisingh Suraksha Hirasingh
<u>CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS</u> Rayah Bhattacharji Tosca Pinas	
<u>SECRETARIAT</u> Novella Alcantra – Majana Varsha Jhagroe	
<u>GUEST</u> Jessica Sanches	

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AGENDA

1. Opening remarks
Certification of quorum
2. Announcements and correspondences
3. Update recruitment Independent Administrator
4. Minutes May 8th, 2024
 - a. Results (email) approval
5. Annual Progress Report 2023
 - a. Results (email) approval
6. Draft EITI open data policy
 - a. Results (email) approval
7. Validation Assessment outcomes
8. Any Other Business
9. Adjournment

Upcoming events:

Proposed date for next MSG meeting: October 2nd , 2024



1. Opening remarks

Certification of quorum

Bernadette welcomed the members and Jessica, our LAC country lead, to the meeting and stated that there was no quorum yet. The meeting officially started at 13.09hrs.

2. Announcements and correspondences

The announcements were read by Varsha.

-  Jenusah is at a training in China and will be back at the end of this month.
-  Novella attended the National Coordinators Meeting in Geneva from June 17th till June 19th.

The National Coordinators meeting in Geneva focused on:

- Good practices and challenges the EITI implementing countries are facing
- Peer learning between National Coordinators.
- The new EITI ToR for EITI reporting was discussed but there were so many questions that the IS decided to work on a revised ToR which will be shared with the National Coordinators.
- Furthermore the World Bank will keep supporting implementing countries but it will be as part of a bigger project not just to support EITI reporting.
- One of the best practices for countries to ensure sustainability is the effective MSG oversight by having among other things regular dialogue, cooperation, robust framework and truly focus on the critical role of the MSG to oversee the implementation of the EITI standard.
- Also there was a lot of focus on strengthening Civil Society participation in the EITI.

Some factors hindering timely publications of EITI reports are:

- Procurement delays of an Independent Administrator
- Quasi monopoly of a few national firms for EITI reporting
- Administrative burdens arising from the need to comply with the public procurement code
- Limited time resources also on the part of MSG members
- Slow responses from government, companies and other stakeholders
- Political will/lack of governmental support
- Inadequate capacity and resources for civil society

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Some of the key country achievements from EITI implementation are improved governance, multistakeholder policy dialogue, beneficial ownership disclosure, contract transparency increased transparency on sector management and trust building. These are just some of the benefits when countries implement the EITI standard.

Questions from the WB, the MSG to reflect on:

1. How can the exploitation of natural resources support inclusive growth and poverty reduction?
2. How can countries leverage the EITI process to collect more revenue/ create fiscal space to fund national investment programs?
3. How can countries and their development partners effectively manage risks to create the right conditions for an extractive led economic growth.

✚ On the 24th of June, Novella was a guest at the meeting of the Dutch MSG. She was invited by the National Coordinator of the Netherlands ,Jelle Bezemer , and she talked a little bit about EITI implementation in Suriname.

✚ From July 1st to July 6th a delegation consisting of Tosca, Rene and Vanessa and Novella had an interesting training session in Colombia. The focus was on commodity trading and energy transition. How will the energy transition effect the country but also the communities? Also the civil society plays a crucial role in this part and were well represented and shared the opportunities and challenges they daily face when implementing the EITI standard. Vanessa will short share her experience from State Owned Company's point of view in any other business.

✚ On August 8th a LAC session was held on the EITI 2023 standard and Energy transition. The session focused on role of the EITI in energy transition which is to provide data and dialogue to shed light on how the energy transition is impacting the extractive sector and to strengthen governance in a changing industry. Mark presented on behalf of Shell. From EITI Suriname were present Mark, Sagita, Tine, Michiel, Preciosa, Varsha and Novella. If members do not see their names mentioned and were in the call they can contact the secretariat..

✚ It is worth mentioning that there are no scheduled meetings in September because a lot of people will be on leave. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday October 2nd 2024. If there are urgent matters that need to be discussed in September a meeting invite will be send to all the members.

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3. Update recruitment Independent Administrator

An update on the procurement of BDO was emailed to the MSG. The SCSD PIU decided to give BDO another chance to send in another proposal. On August 16th there will be another update and it will be decided if we will work with BDO or start a new procurement process.

Question: what are the consequences of delay for EITI?

Jessica replied on this, that maybe the process can be relaunched and have a different independent administrator. So the report could be delayed. As long as the country can provide a report that is quality assured. Suriname is already suspended until the report is published. The MSG can continue working and participating in EITI process and all other activities.

4. Minutes may 8th, 2024

- a. Results (email) approval

The minutes were emailed for the MSG for approval. All have approved the minutes of May 8th 2024. There were no comments on the minutes.

5. Annual Progress Report 2023

- a. Results (email) approval

The progress report 2023 was approved by all members.

6. Draft EITI open data policy

- a. Results (email) approval

The Draft open data policy was emailed to the MSG, they have approved of this open data policy.

7. Validation assessment outcome

The MSG has to make clear steps and take actions to proceed with the validation assessment. Some MSG members suggested to have another workshop maybe in October. The MSG has to make a clear timetable and monitor the outcome of the validation assessment.

8. Any other business

Vanessa gives a short presentation of the training in Colombia.

Also there was a remark from Tosca to take in consideration the outcome of the training session of an effective communication plan towards people living in the areas where the mining activities take place.

The minutes of June 13th were shared on July 2nd but since the members did not get the time to read, these minutes will be on the agenda at the next MSG meeting.

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Bernadette shared that the project with US AID will not take place because we were late with sending in the necessary documents.

9. Adjournment

Bernadette thanked the members for the efficient meeting and adjourned at 14:09 hrs.

See action points on the next page!!

Action points after this meeting

No	Action points	Responsible	Remarks	Status
1	Validation assessment outcome	MSG, NS	Some MSG members will work on this.	In progress (plan another workshop)