

MSG meeting # 8

Location : Teams Online
Date : September 3rd, 2025
Time : 13.00 – 14.12 hrs.
Chair Michiel Raafenberg

MINUTES

Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative MULTI STAKE HOLDERS GROUP SURINAME

AGENDA

1. Opening remarks
Certification of quorum
2. Announcements and correspondence
3. Minutes August 6th, 2025
 - a. Discussion
 - b. Approval
 - c. Matters arising from the minutes.
4. Minutes August 14th, 2025 (Workshop APR 2024)
 - a. Discussion
 - b. Approval
 - c. Matters arising from the minutes.
5. Evaluation presentation EITI reporting 2021-2022
6. Status preparation report 2023-2024
7. Status Chair MSG
8. Status Annual Progress report 2024
 - a. Approval
9. Status Communication funding World Bank
Status funding by the US Embassy
10. Any other business
11. Adjournment

Upcoming events:

Presentation EITI report 2021/2022 (TBD)

Place : Kamer van Koophandel en Fabrieken(Chamber of Commerce)

Time : 09.00 – 11.00 hrs.

Next proposed MSG meeting October 15th, 2025

EITI Suriname

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Address: Mr. Jaggernath Lachmonstraat #181

Attendance:

| Name | Organization | Present | Apologies | Absent without notice |
|-------------------------------------|--|---------|-----------|-----------------------|
| Georgetine Tjalim | Ministry of Finance and Planning | X | | |
| Sagita Jaggan | Ministry of Finance and Planning | X | | |
| Preciosa Simons | Ministry of Natural Resources | | | X |
| Rachele van de Scheur - Rijker | Ministry of Natural Resources | | X | |
| Henk Deel | Ministry of Regional Development and Sport | X | | |
| Rafiq Ilahi | Ministry of Economic Affairs | | X | |
| Michiel Raafenberg | RGM | X | | |
| Bernadette Sabajo-Cederboom | Newmont | X | | |
| Kathleen Blom | SHMR | X | | |
| Vanessa Breidel | Grassalco | | X | |
| Adriaan Asodanoe | Grassalco | | | X |
| Andrew Hepburn | Shell | | X | |
| Daniel Herkul | Staatsolie | | X | |
| Rayah Bhattacharji | Projekta | X | | |
| Monique Essed-Fernandes | Projekta | X | | |
| Rene Artist | VIDS | | X | |
| Roy Caupain | SWOS | | X | |
| Tosca Pinas | KAMPOS | | X | |
| Davis Leston (On behalf of Andrew) | Shell | X | | |
| National Secretariat | | | | |
| Novella Alcantra-Majana | Nat.Coord. | X | | |
| Jenusah Sanné | Adm. Ass. | | X | |
| Varsha Jhagroe | Techn. | X | | |
| Mark Regis | Advisor | | | |

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1. Opening remarks

Certification of quorum

The meeting was called to order at 13:06 hrs. by Michiel Raafenberg. A quorum was confirmed.

2. Announcements and correspondence

Varsha delivered the announcements:

- Congratulations to all: Suriname's suspension has been lifted. Members were urged to maintain the country's eligible status by submitting data on time.
- A letter to the Vice President was sent, and his response was shared. An invitation to meet with him is expected.
- On Monday, a meeting was held with Conservation International regarding US Embassy funds. At this stage, it is uncertain whether the funds will be granted. Alternative donor funding should be considered. One suggestion was to approach the IDB through the Ministry of Natural Resources.
- The Minister approved preparations for the 2021-2022 report presentation, following the lifting of the suspension.
- The Secretariat and the SCSD Project Coordinator held a kickoff meeting with BDO. On Friday, BDO will hold a kickoff session with the MSG to present their planning. Members were urged to adhere to deadlines to avoid another suspension.
- The Finance Department is currently processing per diems. Updates will follow.
- The agenda was amended to include approval of the minutes of August 14th.

Discussions during this topic:

- It was suggested that the IDB could also be approached by the Ministry of Finance. A one-pager for the IDB will be drafted by the Secretariat and reviewed by Sagita.
- Sagita noted that oil, gas, and mining are not included in the IDB's current portfolio and recommended further discussion before sending any formal request.
- Bernadette emphasized the need to align with the IDB's country strategy.

3. Minutes August 6th, 2025

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

The minutes of August 6th were approved by the MSG members present. Bernadette requested a review of the action points from that meeting. Two action points were noted: the organization of the EITI 2021-2022 report presentation, which is currently in progress, and the one-pager prepared by the MSG, which has been approved.

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4. Minutes August 14th, 2025

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

The minutes of August 14th were approved by the members present. No further discussions were held, as that meeting had been convened specifically to review the APR 2023.

5. Evaluation presentation EITI reporting 2021-2022

The group then discussed scheduling the upcoming presentation. October was preferred over September due to scheduling conflicts. Kathleen noted that preparations were already underway, including venue reservations and guest lists. Monique advised against the first week of October because of budget presentations and suggested October 10th as a possible date.

The group acknowledged the need for continued deliberation on the MSG chair position and the preparation of a proposal for the Minister.

6. Status preparation report 2023-2024

Kathleen further highlighted the need for a meeting with BDO to align the MSG's presentation with theirs. The group agreed to revisit the presentation after the meeting with BDO, scheduled for Friday. Members also noted the clause in the contract that allows BDO to withdraw if stakeholders fail to provide data on time, stressing the urgency of timely data submission by reporting entities to avoid complications.

7. Status Chair MSG

Michiel raised the unresolved issue of the MSG chair position, seeking input from the group. Kathleen proposed forming a small working group to explore possible solutions, given the longstanding nature of the issue. Michiel supported this approach and suggested that a proposal be drafted for the Minister of Natural Resources following the group's discussions.

8. Status Annual Progress report 2024

- a. Approval

Michiel led the discussion on the annual progress report for 2024, asking if it was ready for approval. Kathleen and Novella confirmed that the report had been previously discussed on August 14th and was ready for approval. With no objections raised, the report was approved unanimously by the members present.

9. Status Communication funding World Bank

Status funding by the US Embassy

Sagita will have a preliminary meeting with the IDB to assess funding possibilities and report back with specific information. A preliminary meeting with the IDB is needed to assess possibilities before preparing a formal request.

Varsha will prepare a one-pager summarizing the resources needed for the IDB funding request and send it to Sagita for feedback.

The MSG will send a letter to all reporting entities emphasizing the urgency of providing data on time to avoid BDO withdrawing from the contract.

The MSG will set a date for a small group meeting to discuss the chair position of the MSG and prepare a proposal for the Minister of Natural Resources.

What is the procedure for making a formal request to the IDB for funding? Proposed answer: A preliminary meeting with the IDB is needed to assess possibilities before preparing a formal request.

10. Any other business

The next MSG meeting is proposed for the third week of October, following the presentation.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 14:12 Hours.

Follow up points:

| No. | Action points | Responsible | Remarks | Status |
|-----|--|-----------------------------|--|---------|
| 1. | Presentation EITI report 2021-2022. | Nat.Coord. MSG | planning presentation, date still to discuss | Pending |
| 2. | Schedule discussion of Chair | NS | Small working group: Michiel Davis, Monique Kitty Sagita. | Pending |
| 3. | Plan meeting with IDB | MSG NS Varsha, Sagita | Make one pager to present to IDB for fund. First Sagita will talk to them. | Pending |
| 4. | Letter to reporting entities for data | MSG | Letter to reporting entities to submit their data on time | Pending |

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