

MSG meeting # 10

Location : Teams Online
Date : November 19th, 2025
Time : 13.00 – 14.40 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 November 5th, 2025
 - a. Discussion
 - b. Approval
 - c. Matters arising from the minutes.
4. Discussion and adjustments in the contextual chapter of the 2023-2024 EITI report
5. Discussion on documents from BDO:
 - ✓ Project Costs and Exploration Activities
 - ✓ State participation in the extractive Industries
 - ✓ Recommendations chapter 8
6. Discussion report analysis from LAC team International Secretariat
7. Evaluation Engagement Session with the Foundations (Pamaka/Newmont, Staatsolie, SEMIF, Rosebel)
8. Any other business
9. Adjournment

Upcoming events:

December 10th 2025 : Physical Presentation draft report by David Quinn

Next proposed MSG meeting **t.b.d.**

We kindly ask all the members to be on standby every Wednesday from 13.00-15.00 hrs in order to complete the EITI 2023-2024 report on time, to prevent another suspension.

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		
Peggy Panka	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			
National Secretariat				
Novella Alcantra-Majana	Nat.Coord.	X		
Jenusah Sanné	Adm. Ass.		X	
Varsha Jhagroe	Techn.	X		

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1. Opening remarks

Certification of quorum

The meeting was called to order at 13.00 hrs. by Michiel Raafenberg. Quorum was confirmed.

2. Announcements and correspondence

-  As of the 3rd week of November 2025, Jenusah is no longer part of the National Secretariat. she has been transferred to another organization, within the government.
-  The NS received an invite to participate in a National Secretariats meeting organized by the LAC International team on November 25th.
-  The MOU between the Ministry of Natural Resources and the gold exporter Suriname Natural Stone Co. NV has been signed last week and shared with BDO.
-  The National Coordinator received the number of the gold exporter Amazone Gold from the Minister of Natural Resources. The gold exporter has been contacted last Monday by the Secretariat and received the MOU. The exporter expressed willingness to take part in the EITI reporting process. This was shared with BDO who needs to contact the organization about the templates and the portal.
-  On Friday, November 14th, there was an engagement meeting with the Community Funds in the extractive sector namely Pamaka Newmont Community Development Fund, SEMIF and Rosebel Community Foundation. This meeting was to stress the importance of their participation in the EITI reporting. SEMIF has sent in a template for year 2023. The other funds still need to send in data. Engagement with the Staatsolie Foundation is on the agenda since they never responded to the invitation letter.
-  An invitation was received from the Suriname Competitiveness and Sector Diversification (SCSD) project for a stakeholder session on the activities of the Mineral Authority Suriname. Each constituency was asked to be represented by at least one person.
-  During the week of December 8, David Quinn will be in Suriname to present the draft findings for the 2023-2024 reporting period. The official date and time will be communicated in due course.
-  Members were reminded of the meeting with the World Bank scheduled for 3:00 p.m.

3. Minutes November 5th, 2025

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

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The members reviewed the minutes of the meeting held on November 5, 2025, confirmed their accuracy, and updated the status of action items, including the completion of MOUs and the pending narratives from the Ministry of Natural Resources. MSG members were invited to provide comments or propose amendments; in the absence of any objections, the minutes were formally adopted.

Update on Action Items in minutes November 5th:

The National Secretariat confirmed that the MOU with one gold exporter was completed and received, while another remains pending.

The members noted that the narrative on allocation and transfer processes of mining rights is still outstanding from the Ministry of Natural Resources.

4. Discussion and adjustments in the contextual chapter of the 2023-2024 EITI report

MSG input is needed on the contextual chapter of the 2023-2024 EITI report, set a deadline for contributions, and assigned follow-up actions to ensure required information is provided by the Ministry of Natural Resources and State Oil Company.

Novella informed the group that the MSG must provide input on the contextual chapter by Friday, November 21st, and suggested reaching out to responsible parties to ensure timely contributions.

Michiel volunteered to contact Daniella and Preciosa to request their input on the contextual chapter, with Novella re-sending the relevant documents and Michiel making follow-up calls.

5. Discussion on documents from BDO:

- ✓ Project Costs and Exploration Activities
- ✓ State participation in the extractive Industries
- ✓ Recommendations chapter 8

Request for Improved Narrative: Monique emphasized the need for a more substantive narrative from Staatsolie and the Ministry of Natural Resources, rather than repeating previous years' responses, and Michiel committed to stressing this point in his outreach.

Reporting Challenges: Michiel highlighted that the lack of new input from the responsible Ministries is posing challenges to the reporting process and committed to updating the Secretariat and MSG on the outcome of his follow-up.

Members discussed the requirements for disclosing project costs, exploration activities, and state participation in the extractive industries, identified data gaps (especially with Grassalco), and assigned follow-up actions to address these reporting obligations.

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Michiel reviewed the need to provide project cost and exploration activity data, with Peggy and Sagita agreeing to coordinate with their respective departments to gather and align the required information.

Georgetine raised the ongoing issue of missing confirmation from Grassalco regarding in-kind royalties, noting that this has been a recurring problem, and Kathleen and Michiel agreed to raise the issue with Preciosa and the Ministry of Natural Resources.

After extensive discussion, the MSG decided not to continue drafting narratives on behalf of Grassalco and to explicitly state in the report when companies do not fulfill their reporting obligations.

Company and Government Reporting Responsibilities: Michiel clarified that while companies like Rosebel and Newmont can provide their own data, only the Ministry of Natural Resources can provide a comprehensive overview of all exploration activities and state participation, and follow-up will be made to obtain this information.

Alignment with EITI Requirements: Kathleen and Peggy reminded the group to consider specific questions from David Quinn related to EITI requirements 4.7 and 4.10, ensuring that all relevant aspects are addressed in the reporting process.

6. Discussion report analysis from LAC team International Secretariat

Due to time constraints and outstanding priorities related to the 2023-2024 EITI report, the MSG decided to defer the discussion of the Latin America Team International Secretariat's report to the next meeting, with all members expected to review the report in advance.

7. Evaluation Engagement Session with the Foundations (Paamaka/Newmont, Staatsolie, SEMIF, Rosebel Community Fund)

There was an Engagement with Foundations and Reporting Entities:MSG discussed the integration of new reporting entities, and planned further support and capacity building, including a workshop for new entities.

Kathleen reported that the engagement session with the Paamaka, SEMIF and Rosebel foundations was well received, with active participation and enthusiasm for further involvement in the EITI reporting process. Peggy expressed concerns about the Paamaka Foundation's delayed confirmation and requested Novella to share the relevant email so it could be forwarded to the appropriate board representative to expedite the process. Michiel committed to checking and sharing the annual statements of the SEMIF and Rosebel Community Fund, as these documents are not confidential and should be publicly available.

Rayah and Georgetine discussed the reporting of social spending by companies without foundations, noting that in previous years, Staatsolie Hydrocarbon Institute reported such data, and Georgetine suggested that all government institutes receiving funds should report to the Ministry of Finance and Planning for transparency.

Peggy and Michiel confirmed that a capacity building workshop for new reporting entities, including gold exporters and foundations, is scheduled for November 27th or 28th, and the National Secretariat will coordinate with BDO to ensure all relevant participants receive the invitation.

8. Any other business

Andrew, Michiel and Kathleen discussed the status of submissions from reporting entities on the BDO portal, confirming that late submissions may still be included at BDO's discretion and requesting Novella to obtain the most recent submission list from BDO.

Andrew inquired about the possibility of including late submissions from reporting entities, and Kathleen advised that such submissions should be forwarded to BDO, who will determine if they can be incorporated into the report.

Andrew requested National Secretariat to ask BDO for the latest list of reporting entity submissions to ensure all recent entries are accounted for.

Monique and Rayah informed the MSG about the ongoing challenges in Guyana and the involvement of the International Secretariat to help solve the issues.

Rayah reported that the issue has the attention of the EITI board and National Secretariat, and that a representative from the International Secretariat will travel to Guyana to address the problem.

Monique noted that civil society organizations from Suriname and Trinidad & Tobago have signed support letters advocating for an independent selection process in Guyana.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 14:40 hours.

Follow up points:

No.	Action points	Responsible	Remarks	Status
1.	Meeting with BDO, David Quinn and MSG	Nat.Coord. MSG	Send mail to MSG for availability on dec.10 th	Completed
2.	Distribution of signed MOUs and relevant data	NS	Send copies to Georgetine	Completed
3.	Contextual chapter input collection	MSG NS	Resend it to Daniela and Preciosa to get their input	Completed
4.	Grassalco reporting issue	MSG NS	Send list to Min NR (Simons) to report issue Grassalco, lack of data.	Completed
5.	Discuss EITI LAC team analysis report	MSG	Members to prepare	Pending
6.	List of reporting entities which submitted data	NS	BDO to provide a list	Completed
7.	Invite new reporting entities for the Capacity building workshop	NS	November 27 th or 28 th	Completed



Team National Secretariat wishes you a merry Christmas and a happy new year.

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