

EITI NEWSLETTER

2009/01 EITI Conference Special

EITI International Secretariat Oslo, 16 January 2009

Dear friends and partners of the EITI,

Happy New Year and Welcome to this Conference Special!

2008 proved to be a dramatic year for commodity and financial markets. It is too early to draw clear conclusions, but the transparency agenda appears to be in the ascendency. For the EITI, it has been a year of expansion and implementation. The EITI is now being implemented in more and more countries with more and more supporters are coming onboard. The EITI Global Conference in Doha will be an important milestone in the initiative's development.

As expected, the response from invited speakers has been strong: more than fifty leaders from stakeholders from around the world will be speaking on issues ranging from the role of the EITI in a volatile world, to the road to EITI Validation. This issue of the EITI newsletter provides the latest information about the Conference and practical instructions on what you need to do in order to come to Doha and be a part of shaping the future of the EITI.

Best wishes,



Peter Eigen

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EITI Global Conference
Establishing Resource Transparency

Doha, Qatar 16-18 February 2009

EITI Global Conference

The EITI Global Conference is the highest governing body of the EITI. It provides an opportunity for all EITI stakeholders and the International Board to take stock of the benefits and progress of the EITI, find common solutions for tackling challenges and chart next steps for supporting and advancing good governance in the extractive industries.

Hosted by the Government of Qatar, the 4th EITI Global Conference will gather 500 leaders and officials from government, industry and institutions to discuss the future of resource transparency and good governance in the extractive industries.

The speakers reflect the strong country ownership of the EITI and the increasing role of emerging economies. The Conference aims to improve implementation and validation by building on experiences gained around the world, and to promote the EITI as the global standard for transparent resource revenue management.

EITI Chairman's Awards

At the EITI Global Conference in Doha next month, the EITI will be presenting the EITI Chairman's Awards. They will be awarded to partners who have shown leadership in establishing resource transparency since the last EITI Conference. These informal awards will be handed out during the EITI Chairman's Dinner on Tuesday, 16 February. There will be awards within four categories.

1. EITI Implementing Country Award
2. EITI Supporting Civil Society Organisation Award
3. EITI Supporting Company Award
4. EITI Awareness Campaign Award

All of the EITI's stakeholders are invited to provide nominations. When nominating a candidate, include a brief citation. Kindly refrain from nominating your own organisation, company or country.

Nominations must be sent to the Secretariat (irorvik@eitransparency.org) by 10 February.

How to register for Doha

The last couple of weeks have seen a flurry of registrations, with governments and companies rushing to secure their participation. Everyone participating in the Conference will have to register at our Conference webpage, www.eitidoha.org. Registration is free of charge and only takes a couple of minutes. You may register as a group, and it is also possible to register for media accreditation. Unless you register we

Visas for Doha

The citizens of the following countries may purchase their visa upon arrival: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brunei, Canada, Denmark, France, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, Honduras, Iceland, Italy, Ireland, Japan, Luxemburg, Liechtenstein, Malaysia, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, San Marino, Spain, Singapore, South Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, UK, USA and the Vatican.

All others will have to do the following:

Send a clear, scanned copy of your passport and dates of arrival and departure to pvalverde@eitransparency.org. Please attach a copy of the e-mail confirmation of your online registration. If there is a Qatari Embassy in your country, you will be sent a letter of invitation which you should present at the Consulate of Qatar to obtain your visa. If not, you will pick up your visa upon arrival at the Airport in Doha.

Hotels

The Conference website has an updated list of two to five star hotels in Doha. Delegations wishing to stay together will need to reserve their rooms as soon as possible.

The EITI Newsletter

The EITI Newsletter is sent out bimonthly from the International Secretariat. To subscribe to this newsletter, visit our website. There you will also find French and Russian versions of the newsletter, as well as earlier editions. Comments and questions about it can be sent to Communications Manager Anders Tunold Kråkenes (akrakenes@eitransparency.org)

will not be able to provide you with information or assist you with your visa, so make sure that you register **today**.

Should you encounter any problems with the registration process, please contact Conference Manager Pablo Valverde (pvalverde@eitransparency.org).

Exhibition Area at Doha

There will be an exhibition area at the Conference venue, where your country or organisation may exhibit their progress with the EITI. If you are interested in showcasing your material in this area, please contact the Secretariat.

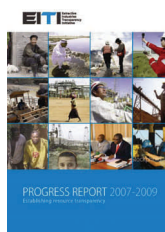
For further information about the EITI Global Conference in Doha, contact Pablo Valverde (pvalverde@eitransparency.org)

EITI Publications to be launched in Doha

At the Conference in Doha, a number of publications will be launched:

EITI Progress Report 2007-2009

This report highlights achievements and key developments in the EITI over the last two years. It has been created by the EITI Secretariat with contributions from EITI stakeholders.

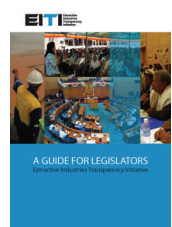


Talking Transparency

This guide for communicating the EITI is a practical tool for how implementers of the EITI can set up an effective communications programme. It shares best practices from the EITI countries.

Advancing the EITI in the Mining Sector

The publication includes contributions from industry, civil society and practitioners. Ten case studies also illustrate many of the most salient issues in implementing the EITI in the mining sector.



A Guide for Legislators

This guide explains how parliamentarians can play a role in the implementation of the EITI and in achieving resource revenue transparency. It has been produced by NDI in collaboration with the EITI International Secretariat and the Revenue Watch Institute.

For further information about the publications contact Communications Manager Anders Kråkenes (akrakenes@eitransparency.org).

Useful facts for visitors in Qatar

- ◆ Doha is the capital of Qatar. It is the biggest city, and the main economic and cultural centre of the country.
- ◆ The official currency is the Qatari Riyal (QR), which is divided into 100 dirhams.
- ◆ The Exchange parity has been set at the fixed rate of 1 USD = 3.65 QAR.
- ◆ Local time is UTC + 3 hours.
- ◆ Electrical current is 240 Volts + 6% with frequency 50 hertz (British, three-pronged plug).
- ◆ Government offices are open 7:00 to 14:00, while private establishments are open 8:00 to 12:00, and 16:00 to 20:00. Friday and Saturday are the weekend holidays.
- ◆ Qatar has a moderate desert climate with long hot summers and short mild winters with little rain. February is expected to be mild.
- ◆ Among the major attractions in Doha are the Museum of Islamic Arts, the Souq Waqif (renovated market quarter), and the seaside promenade Al- Corniche.

To learn more about Qatar:

<http://english.mofa.gov.qa>

<http://www.experienceqatar.com>

<http://www.qatartourism.gov.qa/en>

<http://www.qatar-tourism.com>

<http://wikitravel.org/en/Doha>

EITI GLOBAL CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Draft as of 14 Jan 2009

Monday 16 February

All day Registration and pre-meetings

Meetings are by invitation and will include:

- 09:00 The EITI Roundtable, coordination of EITI-support
- 11:00 The EITI International Board Meeting
- 15:30 The EITI Members Meeting

16:30-18:30 Towards Sustainable Management of Natural Resource Revenues

Open workshop arranged by Germany, Norway and World Bank.

19:30-22:00 Welcome Reception Hosted by the Government of Qatar

Tuesday 17 February

09:30-11:00 Opening Session

Opening address by:

H.H. Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani (tbc)
Emir of the State of Qatar

Speakers include:

H.E. Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf
Liberia, President

H.E. Ernest Bai Koroma
Sierra Leone, President

H.E. Abdullah Bin Hamad Al-Attiyah
The State of Qatar, Deputy Prime Minister and
Minister of Energy and Industry.

Jeroen van der Veer
Royal Dutch Shell, Chief Executive Officer

Jesús Reyes-Heroles
PEMEX, Director General

George Soros
The Open Society Institute, Chairman

12:00-13:30 Report from the EITI International Board

The report from the International Board and an independent evaluation of the EITI will be presented by members of the Board.

Moderator:

Peter Eigen
The EITI International Board, Chairman

Panellists include:

Karina Litvack

F&C Asset Management, Head of Governance and Socially Responsible Investment

Edward Bickham

Anglo-American, Executive Vice President

Shahmar Movsumov

State Oil Fund of Azerbaijan, Executive Director

Christian Mounzeo

Recontre pour la Paix et les Droits de l'Homme, Congo

14:30-16:00 The EITI in a volatile world

Moderator:

Obiageli Ezekwesili

World Bank, Vice President for Africa

Panellists include:

H.E. Faustin Archange Touadera

Central African Republic, Prime Minister

H.E. Husain al-Shahristani

Iraq, Minister of Oil

Takatoshi Kato

International Monetary Fund, Deputy Managing Director

Peter Robertson

Chevron Corporation, Vice Chairman

François Cornélis

Total, Vice Chairman

Simon Taylor

Global Witness, Director

16:30-18:30 Deepening the work of the EITI

Parallel Executive Sessions

Executive Session 1: The Road to Validation

Moderator:

Graham Baxter

International Business Leaders Forum, Director

Participants include:

Government of Azerbaijan

Ingilab Ahmadov

The Public Finance Monitoring Centre (Azerbaijan), Director

Tim Ruffer (tbc)

Coffey International Development

Executive Session 2: Advancing the EITI: Mining and Sub-national issues

Participants include:

H.E. Abdoul Karim Sylla
Guinea, Minister of Mines and Geology**Anthony R. Hodge**
ICMM, President**Anne Lindsay**
Catholic Agency for Overseas Dev't, Policy Analyst
Government of Peru
Government of Ghana**Executive Session 3: Reporting and Reconciliation in the framework of the EITI**

Moderator:

Carlos Monge
Grupo Propuesta Ciudadana, Peru

Participants include:

Government of Mongolia

Anton M elard de Feuarent
Ernst & Young, Director of Extractive Industries**David Goldwyn**
Goldwyn International Strategies, President**Anwar Rawat**
World Bank, EITI Program Manager**18:45-19:30 Reception Hosted by Publish What You Pay****19:30-22:00 EITI Chairman's Dinner****Wednesday 18 February 2009****07:45-09:15 Breakfast- meeting**

Hosted by the African Development Bank

09:30-11:30 Natural Resources for Development

Moderator:

H.E. Festus Mogae
Botswana, Former President

Confirmed panellists include:

Donald Kaberuka
The African Development Bank, President**Elizabeth Tankeu**
African Union, Commissioner for Trade and Industry**Tony Venables**
Oxford University, Professor**Rich M. Kruger**
ExxonMobil Production Company, President**Steve Westwell**
BP plc, Executive Vice President**12:00-14:00 Advancing the EITI**

Parallel Executive Sessions

Executive Session A: Communicating the EITI

Participants include:

H.E. Eugene Shannon
Liberia, Minister of Mines**Sefton Darby**
SEB Strategy, Director**Executive Session B: The role of legislators in the EITI process**

Moderator:

Kenneth Wollack
National Democratic Institute, President

Participants include:

H.E. Essimi Menye
Cameroon, Minister of Finances**Nasser Al Sane**
The Global Organisation of Parliamentarians Against Corruption (GOPAC), Chairman**Ali Hussain Ashal**
Yemen, Member of Parliament**Executive Session C: Mainstreaming the EITI**

Moderator:

Julie McDowell
Standard Life, Head of SRI

Participants include:

Harkat Abderezak
Sonatrach Algeria, Director of Financial Operations**Karin Lissakers**
Revenue Watch Institute, Director**Benno Ndulu**
The Bank of Tanzania, Governor**15:30-17:00 Stakeholder Forum**

Stakeholders wishing to make a statement should contact the EITI International Secretariat.

17:00-17:15 Closing Plenary

Speakers include:

H.E. Dr. Mohammed Saleh Al- Sada
The State of Qatar, Minister for Energy & Industry Affairs**Peter Eigen**
The EITI International Board, Chairman

NEWS

Gabonese civil society campaigners released

Transparency France report that the five Civil Society representatives that were detained in Gabon since 31 December have been released late on 12 January. In a statement, EITI Chairman Peter Eigen said: "I was glad to receive the reports about the release of the civil society representatives, including PWYP Coordinator Marc Ona. The EITI institutions continue to collaborate with the Government of Gabon and the other national stakeholders, to jointly maintain the progress made with implementing the EITI."

For information about EITI in Gabon, contact Tim Bittiger (tbittiger@eitransparency.org)

Norway has applied for candidature

Norway submitted its application to become an EITI Candidate country on 18 December 2008. Subject to EITI Board approval, Norway will be the first OECD economy to become an EITI implementing country.

A group of stakeholders from Norwegian companies, government and civil society has been formed, and has agreed a workplan for how Norway will implement the EITI. In its candidate application letter to the EITI Chairman, the Norwegian Ministry of Oil and Energy explains that Norway is in the process of drafting regulation that mandates EITI reporting. "According to the draft regulation, companies and government agencies will start to report by August 2009." The Norwegian application follows its announcement to implement the EITI made in the autumn of 2007.

Terje Riis-Johansen, Norwegian Minister of Oil and Energy, said: "By now moving from supporting the EITI to also implementing it, we hope to contribute towards the EITI becoming the globally recognised transparency standard for the extractive industry."

First Year of 'Berlin Seminars'

The first year of EITI Seminars has come to an end, with the successful five-day training of Francophone African and Spanish-speaking EITI stakeholders in Berlin, 15-19 December 2008. In the course of 2008, the Secretariat and the organisers, InWEnt, have trained 75 representatives from all EITI implementing countries. Given the success of the seminars, the German government has announced it will continue funding until 2011. The EITI MDTF managed by the World Bank is providing co-funding. The 'Berlin Seminars' are the principle platform for training and exchange for EITI practitioners. Future events will also be organised in regions where the EITI is implemented.

The EITI Secretariat Staff

Jonas Moberg, Head of Secretariat
Tel +47 2224 2105

Eddie Rich, Deputy Head and Regional Director

Email erich@eitransparency.org

Implementation and Outreach in Anglophone/Lusophone Africa and Middle East, and Stakeholder relations

Samuel R Bartlett, PhD,
Regional Director

Email sbartlett@eitransparency.org

Implementation and Outreach in Asia, and Validation

Tim Bittiger, Regional Director

Email tbittiger@eitransparency.org

Implementation and Outreach in Francophone Africa

Sofi Halling, Intern

Email shallling@eitransparency.org

Tel +47 2224 2113

Leah Krogsgund, Executive Secretary

Email lkrogsgund@eitransparency.org

Tel +47 2224 2105 **Fax** +47 2224 2115

Contact with Head of Secretariat, Jonas Moberg, and Board logistics

Anders T Kråkenes,

Communications Manager

Email akrakenes@eitransparency.org

Tel +47 2224 2108

Requests for interviews, media enquiries, website, publications, use of logo

Christine Nowak

Chairman's Office Manager

Email cnowak@eitransparency.org

Tel +49 30 2005 971 13

Fax +49 30 2005 971 19

Contact with Chairman of the EITI

Francisco Paris, PhD, Regional Director

Email fparis@eitransparency.org

Tel +47 2224 0473

Implementation and Outreach in Latin America, Caribbean, China and Equatorial Guinea, and Mining

Ingvill Rørvik, Intern

Email irorvik@eitransparency.org

Tel +47 2224 2107

Pablo Valverde, Conference Manager

Email pvalverde@eitransparency.org

The 4th EITI International Conference