Board Paper 6-1

Cover Note and Agenda

6th EITI Board Meeting Athens, 29-30 October 2008
Dear Board Members,

Please find attached the agenda, participants list and papers for our meeting in Athens.

I am delighted that so many of you have asked to have issues raised. It illustrates our collective responsibility for ensuring that we discuss matters of priority.

We have an important and full agenda ahead of ourselves when we meet in Athens. I urge you to contact the Secretariat or myself ahead of the meeting if you have any queries or comments to the board papers. With so limited time for each agenda item, we of course need to be well prepared and seek addressing for example any lack of clarity ahead of the meeting.

There are a couple of issues I wish to highlight:

(i) **Implementation and Validation progress report (Board paper 6-2)**
    You will recall that we have requested the Secretariat to report ahead of each of our meetings. I hope that the report will make us all consider where we can best help our 23 implementing countries with their reporting and validation preparations.

(ii) **Legal entity and nominations committee (Board papers 6-6 and 6-11)**
    Following the discussions at our previous meetings and the preparations and consultations since we met in Madrid, I believe we are in a strong position for approving the proposal. Particularly on this issue, I urge you to contact Jonas Moberg ahead of the meeting.

(iii) **Workplan 2009 and Conference (Board papers 6-10 and 6-12)**
    We have of course not planned to meet again before we gather for the Conference in Doha. It is therefore important that we discuss and provide input to the Secretariat workplan for 2009 and that we discuss the focus and structure of the Conference itself.

Finally, following our meeting in May, the Secretariat commissioned Professor Paul Collier to write a paper on the geopolitical contextualisation of the EITI. I am delighted that Paul has written the paper “Implications of Changed International Conditions for EITI” (Board paper 6-9), in which he also briefly addresses the consequences the current financial crisis may have on the EITI. We are unquestionably experiencing rapidly changing times. I hope we will have time to at least begin the discussion of what the implications for the EITI may be.

Best wishes,

Peter Eigen
29 October
14:00 Buffet lunch
15:30 Welcome, adoption of the agenda and status report by the Chair and Head of Secretariat
15:40 Implementation and validation progress report
Board paper 6-2, introduced by the Secretariat
16:20 Central African Republic EITI Candidature
Board paper 6-3, introduced by the Secretariat
16:30 National co-ordinator meeting report
Board paper 6-4 introduced by Fidèle Ntsissi
16:50 Break
17:15 Validation support guidance
Board paper 6-5, introduced by Fidèle Ntsissi and the Secretariat
17:45 Civil society participation in EITI-implementing countries
Introduced by Gavin Hayman and Radhika Sarin
18:00 Legal entity and Constituency Guidelines
Board paper 6-6, introduced by the Secretariat
19:00 The EITI and international accounting standards
Board paper 6-7, introduced by Bennett Freeman
19:20 Expanding corporate support for the EITI – efforts by investors
Board paper 6-8, introduced by Karina Litvack
19:40 End of session
19:50 Reception
Discussion based on Prof Collier’s paper (6-9), introduced by Jonas, and Julie McDowell, who will comment on the consequences the financial crisis may have on investor engagement with the EITI.

30 October
08:30 EITI Secretariat Workplan and budget 2009
Board paper 6-10, introduced by the Secretariat
09:30 Results from the EITI Board Effectiveness Survey
Board paper 6-11, introduced by Karina Litvack and Bennett Freeman
10:30 Coffee Break
10:50 Conference planning
Board paper 6-12, introduced by the Secretariat
12:15 The EITI and Disaggregated Reporting
Board paper 6-13, introduced by Carlos Monge
12:45 Any other business
13:00 Ends