Supporting countries constituency guidelines

- Board members from the Supporting Countries sub-constituency are senior representatives of governments of those countries who are demonstrably giving financial, political, or technical support to EITI implementation;

- The Supporting Countries sub-constituency is represented at senior level, by individuals with relevant experience and expertise on EITI-related issues (energy and extractives, corporate social responsibility, public finance management, trade policy etc.);

- The Supporting Countries is currently made up of three groups
  Group 1: Australia, Canada, Japan, United States of America;
  Group 2: European Union, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Switzerland;
  Group 3: Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Norway, Sweden, United Kingdom, Spain.

- Each group has its own policies for the selection of Board members, the replacement of Board members with alternates, minimum attendance, and term limits:

  **Group 1**: The non-European sub-constituency as a rule makes decisions on a consensus basis. Members of the sub-constituency have adopted a longstanding practice of deciding together the Board representation and term length, as well as Alternate representation. In practice, there has been a rotation at the time of the regular Board rotation every two or three years. The Board member consults sub-constituency members on the agenda of Board meetings and integrates their views into his/her interventions. Board members are expected to participate, or exceptionally, to be represented by their alternates, in all Board meetings during their tenure. Both Board members and Alternates are expected to be a member of at least one standing EITI Board Committee and to participate in as many Committee meetings as possible.

  **Group 2**: Based on an informal modus operandi aimed at keeping a balance between continuity and the need for renewal and broadening of the ownership of EITI, representation on the Board rotates on a roughly annual basis between members of Group 2. In practice, the full Board member is expected to participate in at least three Board meetings. The full Board member is expected to serve as alternate before he/she can become full Board member, to ensure that he/she fully understands EITI Board procedures and EITI policies. This rotation process is based on an agreed upon calendar, whereby each group member gets an opportunity to be represented on the Board. The full Board member speaks on behalf of the countries he or she represents, which are systematically consulted on the agenda of Board meetings. The full Board member should endeavour to facilitate consensus in the group. If no consensus emerges, the Board member is expected to represent the position reflecting the smallest common denominator. In case of closed door Board sessions, the full Board member is expected to subsequently brief the rest of the group. As Board members rotate regularly, they only serve one term at the Board. Full Board members are expected to sit in at least one EITI Board Committee, or be represented by their alternates, for as many meetings as possible.
Group 3: Based on an informal modus operandi aimed at keeping a balance between continuity and the need for renewal and broadening of the ownership of EITI, Board members rotate on an annual basis in the month of June. Board members, to the extent possible, serve for one year as alternates before they can become full Board members in order to ensure that they fully understand EITI Board procedures and EITI policy issues. This rotation process is based on an agreed upon rotation scheme, whereby each group member gets an opportunity to be represented at the Board. The Board member speaks on behalf of group members, who are systematically consulted on the agenda of Board meeting. As Board members rotate regularly, they only serve one term at the Board. Full board members are expected to participate, or exceptionally to be represented by their alternates, in all Board meetings during their tenure. Both Full Board members and alternates are expected to be a member of at least one standing EITI Board Committee and to participate in as many Committee meetings as possible.

- These 3 groups coordinate on a regular basis and hold a sub-constituency meeting prior to all Board meetings. They also liaise on a regular basis with other constituencies and sub-constituencies prior to Board meetings;

- Pending decisions by the Board / Members’ meeting on this matter, the Supporting Countries Sub-constituency nominates a Board member to act as sub-constituency coordinator and to sit and to speak for the Sub-constituency in the Management and Oversight Committee. Other country representatives of the Sub-constituency can participate the Board meetings as observers;

- The supporting countries sub-constituency is opened to other potential supporting countries wishing to join the EITI family.