

# Minutes

The paper captures the purpose and agreed outcomes of the 46<sup>th</sup> meeting of the EITI Board.

# MINUTES OF THE 46TH EITI BOARD MEETING

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## Board discussions

### 46-1 Welcome and adoption of the agenda

The EITI Board Chair, Rt. Hon. Helen Clark opened the meeting and welcomed the Board to Oslo. The meeting began with a commemoration of Jim Miller, a former long serving Board member from the industry constituency. Board members expressed their sorrow of the passing of Dr Miller and held a moment of silence before proceeding to the Board meeting agenda.

Helen summarised the discussions and actions from the Board strategy retreat the previous day.

#### Actions:

- Implementation Committee to produce a paper on impact evaluation with recommendations for the Board's consideration in June.
- Implementation Committee to update the annex and anti-corruption paper for the Board's consideration in June.
- Governance and Oversight Committee to review issues linked to internal EITI Governance in addressing corruption.
- International Secretariat to draft a paper on the role of the EITI in the energy transition for the Implementation Committee's consideration.

The draft Board meeting agenda was approved.

### 46-2 Report from the Secretariat

The Executive Director of the EITI International Secretariat, Mark Robinson, began by highlighting the opportunities and challenges of the revised EITI Standard. The International Secretariat would focus on bedding down the provisions in the revised Standard by increasing its capacity building efforts in support of implementing countries.

#### Board paper 46-2-A Implementation Progress Report October 2019 – January 2020

Mark Robinson provided a summary of the main features of the IPR. Board members commended the concise format of the paper. The centrality of implementation support as the key priority for the Secretariat was highlighted in view of the challenges reported by implementing countries. Several members referred to the need for an evolutionary approach to minimise implementation challenges going forward. Referring to the thematic section on work plans, Board members noted that it was necessary to support multi-stakeholder groups (MSGs) in developing work plans to ensure that countries were moving towards systematic disclosures and that work plans were linked to national priorities, rather than only being aimed at compliance. In response to a question on the challenges in Indonesia, the International Secretariat clarified that the process had stalled due to administrative restructuring, and that management of the Indonesia EITI was about to be transferred to another line Ministry.

EITI Communications Director Joanne Jones presented an update on the communications strategy of the International Secretariat. The objectives of the Secretariat's communications strategy included the use of communications channels to explain the relevance of the mandate, mission and strategy of the EITI, building a coherent sense of key thematic priorities, developing further the EITI's narrative on impact and showing how data can be presented in innovative ways.

In response to the IPR presentation Board members requested that the International Secretariat:

- Share regular updates on progress and best practices around the implementation of Requirement 1.3 on civil society engagement, as a follow-up to the spotlight that had been presented in the previous IPR;
- Undertake scenario-planning for 2020, based on the expected outcome of upcoming Validations and implementation challenges;
- Emphasise the positive contribution of service contracting in future events and communications, such as building local capacity and meeting local content requirements, and to engage industry to mobilise support for this area of work;
- Consider whether the Board could agree changes to the Standard outside of the established three-year timeframe, resulting in a more gradual process that would give countries more time to assimilate such changes;
- Increase support to in-country communications, including strengthening messaging around EITI impact and the use of relevant communications tools to develop compelling stories of change;
- Outline the funding provided bilaterally to implementing countries in future IPRs, to help better understand funding gaps in-country;
- Share best practices in company disclosures, such as Shell's latest payments to government report published in December 2019 and reflect these in future IPRs;
- Adjust the figures on the number of companies involved in EITI implementation in future IPRs, to reflect the large number of companies engaged at the national level.

### **Board paper 46-2-B Outreach Progress Report October 2019 – January 2020**

Mark Robinson introduced the Outreach Progress Report (OPR) and highlighted the high-level outreach missions to Brazil and Zimbabwe in the fall of 2019. The Government of Brazil was still considering EITI candidature, while the Government of Zimbabwe remained undecided on how to engage.

Recent political and social unrest in Chile, Ecuador, and Lebanon had slowed consideration of EITI candidature in those countries. Uganda continued to progress on its candidature application and there had been recent outreach efforts by the International Secretariat in South Africa. Stakeholders from Gabon, Libya, Morocco and Sweden had expressed interest in EITI implementation. Mark recognised the contributions of the Government of Norway and companies in outreach efforts.

Andrew Irvine provided an update on outreach to companies, including participation in a recent OPEC Legal Workshop and the National Oil Companies (NOCs) Assembly in London. In response to a question by the Board on the Secretariat's engagement with Qatar Petroleum (QP), the Secretariat confirmed that adherence to the EITI supporting company expectations featured prominently in its outreach efforts. The Secretariat noted that there had been increased outreach to financial institutions and organisations, including the UN Principles for Responsible Investment (UN PRI) and the Emerging Markets Investors Alliance.

#### **Actions:**

- International Secretariat to add sections on corporate outreach (companies, SOEs, commodity traders, financial institutions, etc.) to future OPRs.

## 46-3 Report from the World Bank

Christopher Sheldon, Practice Manager with the Energy and Extractives Global Practice, presented the report from the World Bank (WB). The WB launched the second Extractives Global Programmatic Support (EGPS 2) trust fund following the last Board meeting in October 2019. EGPS 2 will run for a period of six years and the WB's target was to raise 69 million USD. Approximately half of the EGPS 2 funding would be dedicated to EITI implementation. The WB would also support EITI implementation through other sources of funding. The WB highlighted capacity challenges in the transition to systematic disclosures and the need for a strong implementing country voice.

Board members requested better communication on application procedures from the EGPS to implementing countries. The World Bank requested support from the International Secretariat in helping countries apply for EGPS funding to support EITI implementation and outlined efforts to improve disbursements.

### **Actions:**

- The International Secretariat to work with the EGPS team and WB TTLs to provide coordinated support to implementing countries in requesting EGPS funding.

## 46-4 Report from the Implementation Committee

### Board Paper 46-4-A Assessment of extension requests

Erica Westenberg, co-Chair of the Implementation Committee, highlighted recurring challenges cited by the thirteen countries that had missed their end of year reporting deadlines. She suggested that, going forward, the Board could consider support and resources required by countries to move to systematic disclosures when assessing the eligibility of extensions. She noted that the Board may also need to consider practical implications for monitoring adherence with the requirement on timeliness of reporting in the transition to systematic disclosures.

The Board agreed to grant reporting extensions to Albania, Chad, Mali, Peru and Ukraine. It agreed that Ukraine was eligible for an extension of the commencement of Validation, whereas Cameroon, Guyana and Suriname were not and would start their Validation on the date of the Board decision. It agreed that Mali, Mauritania and Ukraine were eligible for an extension of the transition to the 2019 EITI Standard and that their upcoming Validations will be based on the 2016 EITI Standard.

The Board agreed that Cameroon, the Dominican Republic, Honduras, Mozambique, the Netherlands, Tajikistan and Seychelles were considered ineligible for an extension of the reporting deadline. Erica noted that Cameroon, the Dominican Republic, Honduras, the Netherlands, Tajikistan and Seychelles had since published their outstanding 2017 EITI Reports.

On the case of extension requests from Mexico and Mozambique, Erica noted that it had been a challenging recommendation for the Implementation Committee to consider. It was expected that the countries would publish their reports by end of February and end of March respectively.

The following issues were raised by Board members:

- In the case of Mexico, concerns around potentially alienating the government in the case of a suspension and the extent to which it might deter other countries in the region from implementing the EITI.
- Suspension could break the dynamic of implementation for those countries and might be unnecessary for such a short delay.
- Countries should be treated equitably, and deadlines are effective in encouraging timely

reporting and ensuring that existing rules are enforced.

- It is important to weigh upholding deadlines against the publication of meaningful information at the country level.

The Board agreed to accept the recommendation to suspend both Mexico and Mozambique temporarily, clarifying in its decision that the suspension would be lifted automatically if the outstanding reports were published.

**Action:**

- The International Secretariat to communicate Board decisions to the relevant countries in positive terms, to acknowledge the efforts made by the countries to meet the EITI Requirements.
- The International Secretariat to prepare a note on how the Board makes decisions on suspension when countries fail to meet the requirements, including proposals for adequate language to clarify the temporary nature of such suspensions.

### Board Paper 46-4-B Accelerating Systematic Disclosures

Ian Mwiinga, co-Chair of the Implementation Committee, highlighted the recommendations in the Board paper on how to accelerate systematic disclosures. Board members raised the following points on the findings of the review of progress:

- The move to systematic disclosures is essential for the future of the EITI, and the ambition needs to be higher to ensure more sustainable implementation.
- Implementing countries have not fully embraced the mainstreaming agenda, and that it may be that the EITI has either not fully understood the obstacles or incentives for a shift to mainstreamed disclosures.
- Implementing country members highlighted the challenges in meeting reporting deadlines and making progress with systematic disclosures. The latter requires higher capacity of reporting entities and MSGs.
- It was proposed that the Board could consider a moratorium on suspensions related to reporting delays if countries could demonstrate a clear commitment and roadmap to systematic disclosures.
- It was highlighted that the proposed pilot seemed more like targeted intervention and support and could be an opportunity for identifying the transition pathways to systematic disclosures that reflect country context and capacity.

The Board approved the recommendation for a pilot to support interested MSGs in developing alternative approaches to EITI reporting.

**Action:**

- The International Secretariat to draft terms of reference for the pilot for consideration by the Implementation Committee and to invite implementing countries to participate in the pilot.

### 46-5 Report from the Outreach and Candidature Committee

Helen invited Diana El Kaissy, Chair of the Outreach and Candidature Committee (OCC), to present the OCC's report to the Board.

## Board Paper 46-5-A Candidature Assessment - Niger

Diana noted that the OCC had reviewed Niger's candidature application and made a recommendation to the Board to accept Niger as an EITI member. The International Secretariat highlighted efforts to have civil society representatives elect their own representatives to the Niger MSG and to create a civil society platform for dialogue on the management of the extractives.

The Board agreed to accept Niger's candidature application, and Board members welcomed Niger as an EITI implementing country.

### **Actions:**

- The Chair to write to the Government of Niger to communicate the Board decision.

## Board Paper 46-5-B Candidature Assessment – Equatorial Guinea for discussion

Helen invited Mr Gabriel Mbagha Obiang Lima, Minister of Mines and Hydrocarbons, Equatorial Guinea, to address the Board on the country's candidature application. The lead from each constituency then made a statement on the candidature. The International Secretariat briefly presented information on the context of the Equatorial Guinea application.

The EITI Board welcomed the application from Equatorial Guinea to implement the EITI. The Board recognised the government's commitment and the progress made to establish a working group and prepare a work plan for the implementation of the EITI. The Board concluded, however, that the application submitted on 6 November 2019 did not provide sufficient evidence to demonstrate commitment to the EITI's five sign-up requirements. The Board highlighted the importance of the engagement of civil society and adherence to the EITI's civil society protocol. It tasked the International Secretariat with providing support to Equatorial Guinea in meeting requirements 1.3, 1.4 and 1.5 of the EITI Standard.

The Board requested that the International Secretariat undertake a mission to Equatorial Guinea to collect additional information and stakeholder views on the completeness of the EITI process and to prepare an updated assessment for consideration by the Board. It encouraged the active involvement of local and international civil society organisations, supporting companies and donors in successful EITI candidature. The Board agreed to review the application at its next meeting in June 2020.

### **Actions:**

- The Chair to write to the Government of Equatorial Guinea to communicate the Board's decision.
- International Secretariat to undertake a mission to Equatorial Guinea to collect additional information and stakeholder views.
- The Governance Committee to review the sign-up steps to become an EITI member.

## 46-6 Report from the Validation Committee

Helen invited the International Secretariat to present the Committee's recommendations to the Board, noting apologies from Validation Committee chair Sonia Le Bris. The Board was alerted to the Validation Committee's efficiency in processing the majority of Validation cases via circular, allowing the Board to focus on more challenging cases in person.



## Board paper 46-6-A Report from the Validation Committee

The International Secretariat introduced the Report from the Validation Committee, noting the single item for decision on the Validation of the Dominican Republic. The recommendation was that the Board agree that the Dominican Republic had made meaningful progress in implementing the 2016 EITI Standard, with six months to address three corrective actions. Requirement 1.3 on civil society engagement would be re-assessed in the second Validation despite the assessment of satisfactory progress, given the Validation Committee's protracted discussions over allegations of government constraints on civil society engagement. The Board approved the recommendation from the Validation Committee.

### **Actions:**

- The Chair to write to the Government of the Dominican Republic announcing the Board's decision.
- The Secretariat to publish the results of the Validation of the Dominican Republic, including the supporting documentation.

## Board Paper 46-6-B Update on the review of Validation – for discussion

The Secretariat introduced the update on the review of Validation and presented preliminary findings from the consultation on the future of Validation on behalf of the Validation Committee and working group chair Sonia Le Bris. Board members raised the following points on the update:

- Civil society raised that the assessment of Requirement 1.3 on civil society engagement was complex by nature and should not be simplified at the cost of nuanced assessments.
- Requirement 1 on MSG oversight and stakeholder engagement created the preconditions for successful implementation. The effectiveness of implementation was measured under Requirement 7 on outcomes and impact.
- Many countries were approaching their third Validations, which would result in temporary suspension if the outcome was below “meaningful progress”. Some Board members questioned whether this approach was reasonable. The terminology on “satisfactory” and “meaningful” progress was considered to be unclear.
- Implementing countries noted that priority should be given to implementation support over Validation.
- It was suggested that the Validation model should take into account the country's circumstances. Companies noted that a Validation model resulting in an overall score and allowing flexibility in making progress could improve the EITI's sustainability.
- Supporting countries raised the importance of ensuring that EITI implementation and Validation was not dependent on development assistance.
- The revised Validation model should include a clear procedure for considering last minute submissions from stakeholders to the Validation Committee.
- The Secretariat's central role in the Validation review was emphasised. Board members' participation was limited by competing priorities, and the Secretariat's experience would enable it to propose practical solutions.
- The importance of continuing to seek views from implementing countries was highlighted.

### **Actions:**

- The working group on the review of Validation to present options for a revised Validation model



to the Board at its 47<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## 46-7 Report from the Governance and Oversight Committee

Helen invited Oleksiy Orlovsky, Chair of the Governance and Oversight Committee (GOC), to present the GOC's report to the Board. Oleksiy presented the following points:

- The GOC recommendations on cooldown periods had been approved by the Board via circular.
- As a follow up to the EITI Policy on voicing concerns approved on 17 October 2019, the Secretariat launched a confidential online form to raise concerns.
- The Committee was finalising the paper on Guidance to the Board concerning recusals. The paper would be shared with the Board for decision in the next Circular.
- The Committee recommended that constituency coordinators gather feedback from their constituencies on the recent process of updating and implementing constituency guidelines in connection with the 2019 EITI Members' Meeting.
- The Committee had started reviewing how to address the recommendations from the 2019 Board self-assessment.

### **Actions:**

- The GOC to submit a paper on recusals in the EITI with the Board for decision via Circular.
- Constituency coordinators to gather feedback from their constituencies on updating and implementing constituency guidelines in connection with the EITI Members' Meeting.

## 46-8 Report from the Finance Committee

### Board Paper 46-8-A 2019 Annual Accounts

Oleksiy Orlovsky, Chair of the Finance Committee, presented the report from the Finance Committee, noting that the 2019 annual accounts ended with a negative outturn of USD 0.4m. He reported that the deficit was mainly due to the expected shortfall in funding for the Global Conference of USD 0.4m and was covered by previous year's surpluses. Brynjar noted that total spend of USD 7.1m was short of the approved budget of USD 7.5m.

Board members raised the following points on finance:

- Consultancy projects procured by the Secretariat in financial reports going forward should be listed on the web page.
- Support to implementation may have been negatively affected by the Secretariat's efforts to deliver the Global Conference. The Secretariat noted that better planning was needed for future conferences but noted the wider importance of the Conference for improving implementation support.
- The target funding between countries and companies (50/50) was confirmed. The Secretariat noted that it aimed for eighty per cent of the budget to be financed through core funding, with the remaining twenty per cent being project funding to support innovative work.

The Board approved the 2019 Annual Accounts by the EITI as presented by the Finance Committee.

**Actions:**

- The Secretariat to publish the 2019 Annual Accounts (in USD).

### Board Paper 46-8-B EITI Financial Reserve

Oleksiy Orlovsky reported that the Finance Committee recommended to the Board to increase the level of the current financial reserve of the International Secretariat to the NOK 18 million from the current NOK 4.8 million as a prudent move to provide three months cover on expenses. He further noted that the reserve would be invested in a low risk interest bearing accounts and the funds were already in the Secretariat's accounts as a result of previous years' surpluses.

The Board agreed to approve the increase the financial reserve to NOK 18 million.

**Actions:**

- The Secretariat to adjust the reserve account to NOK 18 million.

## 46-9 Report from the Audit Committee

### Board Paper 46-9 Report from the Audit Committee

Erik Nurnberg, Chair of the Audit Committee, reported on the work of the Committee. The Committee was satisfied that the auditors had had full access to information, that there had been no limitations to the scope, and that they were of the opinion that the accounts had been presented in a full and true manner. On this basis, the Committee recommended to the Board that the EITI's 2019 accounts be accepted. Erik informed the Board that the auditors for the last six years would be replaced ahead of the 2020 audit following previous practice at the Secretariat.

The Board agreed to approve the 2019 Audited Accounts by the EITI as presented by the Audit Committee and noted the planned change of auditors.

**Actions:**

- The Secretariat to publish the 2019 Audited Accounts (in NOK).
- The Secretariat to initiate a process to change auditors ahead of the 2020 audit.

## 46-10 Any Other Business

The International Secretariat confirmed that the next Board meeting will take from 15-17 June 2020. The location of the next Board meeting would be confirmed in the next Board Circular, with a likely venue in Latin America.

The Chair noted that there would be changes to the practice and format of Board minutes, resulting in shorter minutes and summaries of key points and actions.

## Closed door session

The Board in closed session discussed the performance assessment of the Executive Director for 2019, which had been undertaken by the Board Chair. The Board approved the Chair's recommendation that the Executive Director's contract should be extended for a further two years from 26 November 2020 to 26 November 2022.

The Board requested that the Governance and Oversight Committee consider the sequencing of the end of that contract with the date of the next global conference to be held in mid-2022, and report back to the Board before or by the Board meeting in June on whether an extension beyond 26 November 2022 of the contract about to be renewed should be proposed in light of that sequencing.

## Annex A – Board country decisions

### Board decision on the extension request of Albania

Albania is eligible for an extension of the deadline for publishing its 2017 EITI Report, and the reporting deadline is extended to 30 June 2020. If the outstanding EITI Report is not published by 30 June 2020, Albania will be temporarily suspended. The temporary suspension will be lifted once requirement 4.8 is met. If the suspension is in effect for more than one year, the EITI Board will delist Albania. Due to the extension of the reporting deadline, the commencement of Validation is adjusted to 30 June 2020.

### Board decision on the extension request of Cameroon

Cameroon is ineligible for an extension of the deadline for commencing its second Validation. Cameroon's Validation will therefore start on 13 February 2020. The assessment will take into account progress and publicly accessible information up to 13 February 2020.

### Board decision on the extension request of Chad

Chad is eligible for an extension of the deadline for publishing its 2017 EITI Report, and the reporting deadline is extended to 30 June 2020. If the outstanding EITI Report is not published by 30 June 2020, Chad will be temporarily suspended. The temporary suspension will be lifted once requirement 4.8 is met. If the suspension is in effect for more than one year the EITI Board will delist Chad.

### Board decision on the extension request of Guyana

Guyana is ineligible for an extension of the deadline for commencing its first Validation. Guyana's Validation will therefore start on 25 April 2020, as scheduled.

### Board decision on the extension requests of Mali

Mali is eligible for an extension of the deadline for publishing its 2017 EITI Report, and the reporting and Validation deadlines are extended to 30 June 2020 and 1 of July respectively. If the outstanding EITI Report is not published by 30 June 2020, Mali will be temporarily suspended. The temporary suspension be lifted once Requirement 4.8 is met. If the suspension is in effect for more than one year, the EITI Board will delist Mali.

Mali is eligible for an extension of the transition to the 2019 Standard. Its third Validation will begin on 1 July 2020 as scheduled and the transitional arrangements to the 2019 Standard will apply.

### Board decision on the extension request of Mauritania

Mauritania is eligible for an extension of the transition to the 2019 Standard. Its third Validation will begin on 27 February 2020 as scheduled and the transitional arrangements to the 2019 Standard will apply.

### Board decision on the extension request of Mexico

The Board has reviewed Mexico's request for extending the reporting deadline for publishing its 2017 EITI Report and recognises the Government's and the MSG's commitment to make progress on meeting the deadline. The EITI Board notes that Mexico submitted an extension request on 16 January 2020 asking for an extension of the deadline to 31 March 2020. The EITI Standard requires that extension requests are submitted in advance of the reporting deadline. The Board concluded that Mexico is ineligible for an extension of the deadline for publishing its 2017 EITI Report and is suspended temporarily from 13 February 2020. In accordance with the EITI Standard, the suspension will be lifted if the EITI Board is satisfied that the outstanding EITI Report is published within six months of the deadline. If the outstanding EITI report is not published by 30 June 2020, the suspension will remain in force until the EITI Board is satisfied that the country has met Requirement 4.8. If the suspension is in effect for more than one year, the EITI Board will delist Mexico.

### Board decision on the extension request of Mozambique

The Board has reviewed Mozambique's request for extending the reporting deadline for publishing its 2017 EITI Report and recognizes the Government's and the MSG's commitment to make progress on meeting the deadline. The Board concluded that Mozambique is ineligible for an extension of the deadline for publishing its 2017 EITI Report and is suspended temporarily from 13 February 2020. In accordance with the EITI Standard, the suspension will be lifted if the outstanding EITI Report is published within six months of the deadline. If the outstanding EITI Report is not published by 30 June 2020, the temporary suspension will remain in force until the EITI Board is satisfied that the country has met Requirement 4.8. If the suspension is in effect for more than one year, the EITI Board will delist Mozambique.

### Board decision on the extension request of Peru

Peru is eligible for an extension of the deadline for publishing its 2017 EITI Report, and the reporting deadline is extended to 30 June 2020. If the outstanding EITI Report is not published by 30 June 2020, Peru will be suspended. The suspension will not be lifted until Requirement 4.8 is met. If the suspension is in effect for more than one year, the EITI Board will delist Peru. Due to the extension of the reporting deadline, the commencement Validation is adjusted to 30 June 2020.

### Board decision on the extension request of Suriname

Suriname is ineligible for an extension of the deadline for commencing its first Validation. Suriname's Validation will therefore start on 13 February 2020. The assessment will take into account progress and publicly accessible information up to 13 February 2020.

### Board decision on the extension requests of Ukraine

Ukraine is eligible for an extension of the deadline for publishing its 2017 EITI Report, and the reporting deadline is extended to 30 June 2020. If the outstanding EITI Report is not published by 30 June 2020, Ukraine will be temporarily suspended. The suspension will not be lifted until Requirement 4.8 is met. If the suspension is in effect for more than one year, the EITI Board will delist Ukraine.

Ukraine is eligible for an extension of the deadline for commencing its second Validation and for an extension of the transition to the 2019 Standard. Its second Validation will start on 30 June 2020 and the transitional arrangements to the 2019 Standard will apply.

### Board decision on Niger's candidature application

The EITI welcomes Niger as an EITI implementing country as of 13 February 2020. In accordance with the EITI Standard, Niger is required to publish the required information (typically through an EITI Report) within 18 months of being admitted as an EITI implementing country (i.e., by 13 August 2021). Validation will commence within two and a half years of becoming a candidate (i.e., by 13 August 2022).

### Board decision on Equatorial Guinea's candidature application

The EITI Board welcomed the application from Equatorial Guinea to implement the EITI. The Board recognised the Government's commitment and the progress made to establish a working group and prepare a work plan for the implementation of the EITI. The Board concluded, however, that the application submitted on 6 November 2019 did not provide sufficient evidence to demonstrate commitment to the EITI's five sign up requirements. The Board highlighted the importance of the engagement of civil society and adherence to the EITI's civil society protocol. It tasked the International Secretariat with providing support to Equatorial Guinea in meeting requirements 1.3, 1.4 and 1.5 of the EITI Standard.

The Board requested that the International Secretariat undertake a mission to Equatorial Guinea to collect additional information and stakeholder views on the completeness of the EITI process and to prepare an updated assessment for consideration by the Board. It encouraged the active involvement of local and international civil society organisations, supporting companies, and donors in the EITI candidature process. The Board agreed to review the application at its next meeting in June.

### Board decision on the establishment of a pilot to encourage systematic disclosure

The Board agrees to establish a pilot, overseen by the Implementation Committee. The International Secretariat will work with interested MSGs to develop alternative approaches to EITI reporting based on collating and analysing systematically disclosed data. The pilot will consider a wide range of context and conditions, encouraging MSGs to become active agents in using data to undertake analysis, influence decision makers and direct information to wider set of users.

### Board decision on the Validation of the Dominican Republic

The Board agrees that the Dominican Republic has made meaningful progress in implementing the 2016 EITI Standard.

EITI implementation in the Dominican Republic has improved the availability of information and strengthened dialogue between stakeholders. The EITI online portal provides information in an accessible and comprehensible format. Full contract transparency and the availability of, for example, production and export data in open format enables informed debate about the extractives sector. The Dominican Republic is encouraged to consider routine disclosures of

revenue and payment data through government and company systems.

The Board recognises that the multi-stakeholder group has become an important platform for discussions about sharing benefits between the central government and the local level. EITI implementation in the Dominican Republic, however, has had limited impact on public debate and policies. The Board encourages the MSG to agree policy-relevant recommendations for strengthening extractive sector governance, and to undertake further outreach activities to ensure that EITI contributes to public debate. The Board takes note of some stakeholders' concerns over the effectiveness and impact of EITI implementation to date, and encourages the Dominican Republic to consolidate recent improvements in EITI disclosures and reporting, in particular by addressing concerns regarding data quality.

The Government of the Dominican Republic is urged to ensure that there are no legal, regulatory or practical constraints for civil society to engage fully, actively, and effectively in all aspects of EITI implementation and debate about extractives resource governance. The Board will review adherence to this provision in the second Validation. Considering the significant economic and social impact of the Pueblo Viejo gold mine, the Government and industry are encouraged to ensure that citizens have adequate access to information related to the project and other developments in the sector. Stakeholders are reminded that any member has the right to table an issue for discussion at the MSG. The MSG is encouraged to review reforms related to the formula for subnational revenue sharing, and ensure that EITI reports provide information that enhances public understanding about the topic. The MSG may also wish to consider additional disclosures related to environmental monitoring and revenue management.

The Board has determined that the Dominican Republic will have 6 months, i.e. until 14 August 2020, before a second Validation to carry out corrective actions regarding the requirements relating to production data (3.2), subnational transfers (5.2), and the outcomes and impact of EITI implementation (7.4). In taking this decision, the Board did not take into account developments related to these requirements which took place after the commencement of Validation as the proposal to consider developments and information disclosed after the commencement of Validation did not have the full support of the MSG.

The Board's decision followed a Validation that commenced on 1 January 2019. In accordance with the 2016 EITI Standard, an initial assessment was undertaken by the International Secretariat. The findings were reviewed by an Independent Validator, who submitted a draft Validation report to the MSG for comment. The MSG's comments on the report were taken into consideration by the independent Validator in finalising the Validation report and the independent Validator responded to the MSG's comments. The final decision was taken by the EITI Board.



## Annex B – List of participants

# Participant List – 46<sup>th</sup> EITI Board meeting

(Board members not attending in grey)

### Chair

**Rt Hon. Helen CLARK**

### Countries

#### Implementing Countries

**Mr Ruslan BAIMISHEV**, Director of Subsoil Use Department, Ministry of Industry and Infrastructure Development, Kazakhstan

Alt: **Mr Oleksii RIABCHYN**, Deputy Minister of Environmental Protection and Energy, Ukraine

**Ms Maria Teresa S. HABITAN**, Assistant Secretary of the Department of Finance, Philippines

Alt: **Mr Ego SYAHRIAL**, Secretary General of Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources, Indonesia

**Mr Ian Chitumba MWIINGA**, Head, EITI Secretariat, Zambia

Alt: **Mr Samuel URKATO**, Minister of Mines and Petroleum, Ethiopia

**Ms Awa Marie COLL-SECK**, Minister of State, Senegal

Alt: **Mr Django Mady COULIBALY**, EITI National Coordinator, Mali

**Ms Agnès Solange ONDIGUI OWONA**, EITI National Coordinator, Ministry of Finance, Cameroon

Alt: **Ms Marie-Thérèse HOLENN AGNONG**, EITI National Coordinator, Democratic Republic of Congo

**Ms Carolina ROJAS HAYES**, Vice Minister of Mines, Ministry of Mines and Energy, Colombia

Alt: **Mr Victor Murillo HUAMÁN**, Vice-Minister of Hydrocarbons, Ministry of Energy and Mines, Peru

#### Supporting Countries

**Ms Sonia Le BRIS**, Director General, External Policy and Partnerships Branch, Natural Resources Canada

Alt: **Mr Michael TOYRYLA**, Director, Office of Policy Analysis and Public Diplomacy, Bureau of Energy Resources, U.S. Department of State, USA

**Ms Marte BRISEID**, Senior Adviser, Oil for Development Section, Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD), Norway

Alt: **Mr Timo VOIPIO**, Senior Advisor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Finland

**Mr Sören DENG**, Head of Division, Energy, Infrastructure and Raw Materials, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany

Alt: **Mr Jürg VOLLENWEIDER**, Deputy Head, Macroeconomic Support Division, State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO), Switzerland

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