

# Minutes

These Minutes capture the purpose and agreed outcomes of the 55<sup>th</sup> meeting of the EITI Board.

# DRAFT MINUTES OF THE 55<sup>TH</sup> EITI BOARD MEETING

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## 55-1 Welcome and adoption of the agenda

The **EITI Board Chair, Rt Hon. Helen Clark** opened the 55<sup>th</sup> EITI Board meeting in Buenos Aires, expressing appreciation to the Government of Argentina for hosting. She thanked Fernanda Avila, the Secretary of Mining at the Ministry of Productive Development, as well as staff at the EITI national secretariat in Argentina who had been instrumental in ensuring effective preparation for the Board meeting. She further highlighted the importance of the in-person meeting and thanked the Board members attending the meeting in person. She continued with providing an overview of the agenda items to be discussed at the Board meeting. The draft Board meeting agenda was approved.

The Chair welcomed new Board members to the Board meeting:

- Nathalie Mognetti, Senior Vice President, Tax, TotalEnergies as an alternate member representing the companies' constituency. She replaced Stephen Douglas who stepped down from the Board in December 2022.
- Cielo Magno, Undersecretary, Department of Finance, Philippines, who replaced Valery Brion as an alternate member representing implementing countries' constituency.

She noted apologies from the following Board members who were unable to join in-person:

- Frances Alghali, Minister of State, Office of the Vice-President, Sierra Leone
- Mike Anderson, Senior Vice President, Sustainability and External Affairs, Kosmos Energy
- François Gave, Special Representative for Corporate Social Responsibility and the Social Dimension of Globalisation at the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs, France
- Viktoriia Gnatovska, Director of Energy and Resource Efficiency Policy Formation Directorate, Ministry of Energy, Ukraine
- Mtwalo Msoni, Global Tax Advisor, ActionAid Nigeria
- Florent Michel Okoko, Permanent Secretary of the National Committee & EITI Advisor to the Minister of Finance, Republic of the Congo
- Solange Ondigui Owona, EITI National Coordinator, Ministry of Finance, Cameroon
- Oscar Pineda, Senior Researcher and Community Organizing Coordinator at the Project on Organizing, Development, Education and Research (PODER)
- Sampe Purba, Natural Resource Economics Advisor to the Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources, Indonesia
- Samou Sidibe, National Coordinator, Mali

The Chair invited the Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) Country Manager at the International Secretariat, Esteban Manteca, to provide the summary of the 'Spotlight on beneficial ownership (BO) in Latin America' event convened by the Opening Extractives programme on 27-28 February. As convenors of the OE programme, the EITI International Secretariat and Open Ownership, with the support of the Interamerican Development Bank (IDB) and the Latin American office of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), GAFILAT, brought together more than 50 representatives from 10 Latin American countries and 6 international organisations engaged the beneficial ownership agenda in the region. The two-day event highlighted the potential of implementing the EITI together with other standards, such as the Global Forum and FATF, to strengthen BO governance and transparency, the urgency of facilitating data access and data use to support anti-corruption, public contracting and licensing policies, and the relevance of sharing experiences among peers in Latin America and the Caribbean. Esteban noted that participants committed to being actively engaged in a community of practice among peers to strengthen BO governance, noting that strong political commitment and inter-agency cooperation are needed in LAC to advance work on

BO transparency. The region could benefit from support from Board members in emphasising EITI requirements and ensuring public access to BO data, amid concerns about data privacy and security in the region. Esteban invited the participants of the forum to share their feedback:

- Pamela Morales, Deputy Secretary of Mining Development and National Coordinator of Argentina highlighted that implementing-country representatives, together with representatives of financial intelligence units, anti/corruption offices, EITI national secretariats, fiscal authorities and representatives of international organisations discussed and analysed the state of BO transparency, with a particular focus on the institutional and legal challenges. Participants discussed the recent modifications to FATF recommendations 24 and 25, and other international best practices, such as the OECD Global Forum and OE principles. LAC country representatives agreed that this event set the basis for a strong and more agile community of practice, and that it built bridges with other international organisations working on this agenda.
- James Ensor, CEO of the BHP Foundation, highlighted that Opening Extractives is one of seven global initiatives on natural resource governance sponsored by the BHP Foundation. James pointed out that the current context of the energy transition and the increased demand for critical minerals has made EITI requirements go from important to imperative over the next decade, with BO disclosure being one of the most important aspects of good governance for critical minerals. He noted that BO registers are a critical tool to generate a positive outcome in the energy transition and welcomed the potential of public registers to raise the bar in terms of transparency to attract top-tier responsible investments. He reported to the Board that the goal of the OE programme was to generate opportunities for countries to learn from each other in making progress towards open registries of BO information.
- Roberto de Michele, Division Chief of the Modernisation of the State of the IDB reported that the Bank has incorporated and adhered to the EITI Standard on BO transparency and has supported implementing countries in doing so. Roberto highlighted the two-day event with very important conversations on a community of practice where countries could share and analyse what is and what is not working regarding EITI implementation and BO registries. He pointed out that BO is a relatively new topic that would require big capital investments and political support to reform legislation and advance consensus to strengthen the voluntary adoption of these policies. He pointed out that IDB invests in learning through publications regarding the impact of transparency policies, especially in the extractive sector, and that the IDB has worked with 10 LAC countries on geo-referenced data portals, such as Mapa Regalías, in Colombia, and Perú: País Minero, that allow citizens to get information on the whole investment cycle in the extractives.

Board members thanked the panellists and welcomed the developments around BO disclosures in LAC.

## 55-2 Report from the Secretariat

### 55-2-A Implementation Progress Report (IPR)

Mark Robinson introduced the Implementation Progress Report for the period October 2022 to January 2023. He briefed the Board of the latest developments around EITI implementation, noting that despite the ongoing impact of the Russian's war in Ukraine and the expected global

economic slowdown in 2023, most countries continued to make progress on improving regular and timely disclosures along the value chain on issues including beneficial ownership, contract transparency and revenue collection. He reported that the Ukrainian MSG produced its 2021 Report before the end of the year, under extremely challenging circumstances. He congratulated stakeholders for their unwavering commitment to the EITI and provided further updates on EITI implementation during the reported period:

- Senegal has published and disseminated its Report covering 2021 and the first half 2022, providing up-to-date and relevant information to stakeholders. This is an example of good practice that the EITI Secretariat encourages all member countries to follow.
- Many countries experiencing various degrees of political instability and conflict, from Burkina Faso, CAR to Peru, all published reports in timely manner under challenging circumstances.
- While most EITI implementing countries published reports as of 31 December 2022, seven countries submitted extension requests for publishing their EITI reports namely the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ecuador, Guyana, Kazakhstan, Mexico, Sierra Leone, and Togo. The Board granted extensions to Ecuador and Sierra Leone through Board Circular 332. The remaining countries are already suspended or would be considered at this Board meeting.
- In Q4 of 2022, a number of virtual meetings, in-person missions and webinars were held in EITI implementing and outreach countries. The Secretariat facilitated over 15 workshops, webinars and peer exchange sessions providing training to more than 300 participants from over 40 EITI implementing and outreach countries.
- As requested by Board members at the 54<sup>th</sup> Board meeting, the thematic focus of the IPR submitted for this Board meeting considers subnational aspects of the EITI implementation. This follows from the recommendation in the Independent Evaluation report on this topic. The Implementation Progress Report (IPR) presented to this Board meeting also contains a spotlight on how EITI supports ASM reporting and formalisation in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Niger.
- The EITI continued to focus on thematic priorities outlined in the work plan including beneficial ownership, commodity trading, contract transparency and energy transition. The EITI launched its flagship publication, "[Mission Critical](#)" in November 2022, the Opening Extractives programme launched its first flagship [Progress Report 2021/22](#) in December 2022. In parallel, the programme published a policy brief on using beneficial ownership data to detect and prevent corruption.
- The EITI was well represented in leading sessions at global and industry events during the second half of 2022 such as the Africa Oil Week/Green Energy Africa Summit from 3-6 October in Cape Town; the IMARC conference in Sydney from 2-4 November attended by the Board Chair; COP 27 in November and the International Anti-Corruption Conference in Washington DC from 6-10 December 2022.
- Finally, the Secretariat drew Board's attention to a new data strategy being developed by the Secretariat which will be presented at the June Board meeting.

Board members thanked the Secretariat for a thorough and useful report and praised the implementing countries for continuous progress in the face of ongoing challenges. They especially expressed support and solidarity with Ukraine and its people in the face of Russia's aggression. Board members raised the following points:

- Concern was expressed around stalled progress on systematic disclosures. Board members asked for further clarity on what can be done to improve such disclosures in implementing countries. *The Secretariat agreed on the need to further work on*

*systematic disclosures and committed to providing clarity on progress made, in some cases significant, in a number of implementing countries. It further noted that the Secretariat, in consultation with stakeholders, is working on developing a Data Strategy which would then be presented to the Board through the Implementation Committee at the 56th Board meeting in Senegal. This strategy would then highlight potential steps to improving the current practices on systematic disclosure.* Board members thanked the Secretariat for the clarification and requested they are consulted on drafting process of the Data Strategy which would be shared with the Board at a forthcoming meeting.

- Board members welcomed the increased prioritisation of ASM disclosures and sought views on whether more should be done to promote such disclosures among implementing countries. *The Secretariat noted that further work must be done in clarifying the requirements around ASM disclosures in the 2023 Standard, including by disseminating the recent guidance note on ASM.*
- Industry representatives acknowledged the importance of transparency around ASM but cautioned the Board to focus on transitional metals in light of challenges around reporting on some other metals, notably gold.
- Board members welcomed the focus of the IPR around subnational implementation of the EITI and reiterated the importance of working together with local communities. They requested that further work be done in identifying the resources needed to further this work, recognising the constraints of the Secretariat in taking this forward.
- A civil society representative on the Board sought clarification around challenges of CSO participation in Nigeria where concerns were raised concerning CSO appointments to the MSG. They asked for clarifications on how it would be assessed in the upcoming Validation of Nigeria if the MSG had no valid civil society representation at the time of reviewing the draft Validation report. *The Secretariat clarified that allegations made by the media related to NEITI Secretariat recruitments are currently being reviewed as part of Nigeria's Validation which commenced on 1 January 2023. The Validation report would include a special focus on Nigerian EITI officeholders' adherence to the EITI Code of Conduct. As in all cases where there were questions around the legitimacy of the MSG, the International Secretariat would seek to ensure that all constituencies, including from civil society, would be informed of the circulation of the draft Validation report for comment. The Secretariat clarified that this included circulating the draft Validation report to members of the broader civil society constituency.*
- Further updates were requested on the continued political instability in Mali and Burkina Faso, and when countries like Afghanistan or Myanmar, where there are no signs of EITI getting back on track, should be considered for the Board for de-listing. *The Secretariat noted that these cases are currently in the workplan of the Implementation Committee and are expected to be discussed by the Board in the coming months.*
- Implementing countries urged the Board to follow the trend of changing priorities among countries on renewable energy and the implications for their economies.
- A civil society Board representative reiterated the concern and recommendation expressed during the previous Board meeting (held in Oslo in March) regarding the Secretariat performing at least some basic aggregate analysis of performance by all countries with the same data that is always descriptively and individually featured in the IPR regional tables. It was re-iterated that the vast amount of data in the hands of the Secretariat could better serve to inform broad discussion on overall and regional trends. To illustrate, the board representative mentioned again the same point made during the previous Board meeting, namely that if one were to aggregate all table IPR results, overall, it is possible that there might be scant material progress over the past year (post-Covid),

with a number of deteriorations. Such insights from the data, and possible reasons, deserve discussion by the Board. The Secretariat indicated that an effort in this direction would take place in the next IPR.

**Actions:**

- The Secretariat to present to the Board progress made in systematic disclosures in implementing countries.
- The Secretariat to disseminate the guidance note on ASM.
- The Secretariat to perform aggregate analysis of performance of EITI countries by region in the next IPR.

## Board paper 55-2-B: Outreach Progress Report (OPR) for the period October 2022 – January 2023

Mark Robinson welcomed James Nicholson as the new Chair of the Outreach and Candidature Committee. James and Andrew Irvine highlighted the Secretariat's work on country and company outreach efforts. Board members raised the following points:

- Industry representatives welcomed the increased effort around corporate outreach. They further welcomed a discussion of an outreach strategy towards countries to ensure that the Board is up to date on latest list of priority countries. *The Secretariat welcomed Board's interest in outreach of countries and noted that it follows the Outreach Strategy that is approved by the Board every three years (the latest Outreach Strategy is available [here](#)). The Outreach Strategy expired at the end of 2022 and the OCC is working on a scoping paper on updating the strategy, which will be presented at the June Board meeting.*
- Civil society representatives asked for updates on outreach efforts to renewable energy companies.

**Actions:**

- The Secretariat to provide an update on outreach efforts to renewable companies in the next OPR.

## 55-3 Report from the World Bank

Sven Ulrich Renner, Extractives Global Programmatic Support (EGPS) Trust Fund, presented the World Bank's report to the Board, highlighting priorities and suggested areas in light of the EITI independent evaluation and preliminary recommendations from the EGPS mid-term review.

A mid-term review of the EGPS programme was launched in November 2022. Preliminary findings were discussed with EGPS donors in Buenos Aires and participating observers.<sup>1</sup> One of the EGPS mid-term evaluation recommendations was to no longer allocate dedicated funding for EITI support and but to integrate EITI implementation support into broader engagement as part of larger grants, targeting country clusters or regions.

Board members raised concerns about the report, in particular:

- Board members raised concerns about a preliminary recommendation of the midterm review concerning the risk of decreased support to EITI Implementation could result from

removing a dedicated percentage of the EGPS grant allocation. Supporting country representatives reiterated the importance of continued support and funding for EITI implementation and questioned the validity of this recommendation.

- Some Board members expressed discontent with the report findings relating to EITI's governance, i.e., refinements to the EITI Standard rather than providing detailed updates on EGPS funding to implementing countries. They suggested that refinements to the Standard should be discussed under the Implementation Committee's agenda item and not under the World Bank report.
- One Board member questioned whether it was appropriate for the EGPS team to present a view to the EITI Board questioning the inclusion of elements of the energy transition in the draft of the refinements to the EITI that is inconsistent with World Bank policy. The Board member also suggested that a very senior World Bank executive be invited to the EITI Global Conference, to clarify the actual stance of the whole World Bank Group on the energy transition and climate change.

Board members suggested reviewing the way written and oral contributions from the World Bank are made at the Board meetings going forward and to consider whether future reports should be subject to review by the Implementation Committee to ensure they focus on updates concerning EGPS implementation.

## 55-4 Report from the Validation Committee

### Board Paper 55-4 Report from the Validation Committee

The Board Chair invited Rinaldo Jeanty, the Chair of the Validation Committee, to present the Committee's report. He noted that the Validation Committee expected to finalise recommendations on the four Validations that commenced in 2022 in the coming months. In addition, a total of 17 Validations were scheduled to commence in 2023. While the Secretariat was facing short-term capacity challenges to execute these Validations in a Global Conference year, the Committee and Secretariat were planning accordingly to ensure that the Board-agreed schedule of Validations was implemented in a timely manner.

### Validation of Trinidad and Tobago

Sherwin Long and nationals of Trinidad and Tobago recused themselves from the meeting. Rinaldo introduced the Committee's recommendation on Validation of Trinidad and Tobago, with support from the International Secretariat, and welcomed Board member views. Board members welcomed the assessment from the Validation Committee and agreed that Trinidad and Tobago achieved a high overall score of 88.5 points in implementing the 2019 EITI Standard, with 36 months to address 7 corrective actions and 19 strategic recommendations. They encouraged sharing of best practices of Trinidad and Tobago with other countries at the Global Conference in Dakar.

### Validation of the Republic of the Congo

Brice Mackosso and nationals of the Republic of the Congo recused themselves from the meeting. Rinaldo introduced the Committee's recommendation, drawing the attention of the

Board to the printed addendum they received to Paper 55-4 which reflects the Committee's minor updates to its recommendation agreed at its meeting in the morning of the Board meeting. Board members thanked the Committee for the recommendation and discussed how to handle allegations of corruption that took place after the commencement of the Validation. The Board Chair agreed that the concerns must be discussed by the Board and recommended raising these concerns to the Government, copying the MSG, in her letter announcing the outcome of the Validation.

Board members agreed that the Republic of the Congo achieved a moderate overall score in implementing the 2019 EITI Standard (70.5 points), with 24 months to address 14 corrective actions and 19 strategic recommendations.

### Validation of Norway

Erik Nürnberg and nationals of Norway recused themselves from the conversation. The Committee Chair, with support from the Secretariat, provided an update on Validation of Norway. He noted that this case was presented to the Board for discussion and further work was needed before a recommendation could be put forward for decision. Board members sought feedback around the delays in launching Norway's beneficial ownership register. The Secretariat clarified that the register was due to be launched on 1 January 2023 but was delayed due to the decision by the European Court of Justice in November 2022 which led to a number of BO registers in the European Union being taken offline. The Government of Norway is currently investigating the implications of this ECJ ruling on Norway given that Norway is not an EU member but has an association agreement with it. Board members encouraged the Secretariat to provide an update to the Board on the impact of the ECJ ruling and the impact of data privacy considerations on government efforts to develop public BO registers.

#### **Actions:**

- The Board Chair to write to the governments of Trinidad and Tobago and Republic of Congo to communicate the Board decisions.
- The Secretariat to publish Board decisions on Trinidad and Tobago and Republic of Congo.
- The Validation Committee to agree a recommendation on the Validation of Norway to the Board for decision by Circular.
- The Secretariat to provide an update to the Board on the impact of the ECJ ruling and the impact of data privacy considerations on government efforts to develop public BO registers.

## 55-5 Report from the Implementation Committee

Ian Mwiinga, co-Chair of the Implementation Committee, presented the report from the Implementation Committee.

### Board Paper 55-5-A Argentina adapted implementation request

The Committee Co-Chair, with support from the International Secretariat, presented the Board paper, providing background information on Argentina's adapted implementation request. He summarised Implementation Committee's proposal to the Board and welcomed Board members' views.

Board members expressed general support to the request but sought views on whether the duration of the adapted implementation should be extended beyond a year, considering that the circumstances of the request were unlikely to change. The Secretariat clarified that a general election taking place in October 2023 could potentially result in a new government. It was therefore recommended that the request be approved for only a year with the subsequent government filing a new request, should that remain of interest.

The Board approved Argentina's adapted implementation request.

**Actions:**

- The Board Chair to write to the Government of Argentina to communicate the Board decision.
- The Secretariat to publish the Board decision on Argentina's adapted implementation request.

### Board Paper 55-5-B Extension request of the Democratic Republic of Congo

Ian provided the background information to the extension request from the DRC. He noted that the country has since published its report and that the extension request no longer required Board review.

### Board Paper 55-5-C Refinements to the EITI Standard – for decision

The Committee Co-Chair, with support from the International Secretariat, presented the paper and the recommendation on refinements to the EITI Standard for decision. It was proposed that the Board discusses the update and agrees to adopt the refinements agreed by the Working Group and the Implementation Committee. It was suggested that the outstanding proposed refinements are agreed by Board Circular ahead of the Global Conference.

Board members noted the remarkable effort undertaken by the Working Group members in reaching a consensus and coming to an agreement presented at the Board table. They further raised the following points:

- While much progress has been made in agreeing the refinements to the Standard, a lot remains to be done in clarifying the language.
- Some board members encouraged moderation, taking into account the challenges faced by many implementing countries, including financial limitations and lack of capacity. Civil Others reminded the Board that implementation challenges, while real, can also be helped by some simplification in existing processes (rather than blocking important new requirements) and by significant progress on systematic disclosures. It was also suggested that, industry could do more on disclosures and also indicated the importance of strengthening requirements around social and environmental expenditures to avoid social and environmental conflicts.
- Considering the complexity of issues yet to be discussed, Board members requested consideration of a special Board meeting to approve changes to the Standard instead of the proposed Board Circular, to ensure for an inclusive discussion among the Board members before the refinements can be considered final.
- Implementing country representatives welcomed flexibility on the proposed language and made specific suggestions on which requirements they propose to be encouraged / required / expected. They reiterated the need for the Working Group to consider discussions on shared responsibility among all constituencies.
- Civil society representatives commended the inclusion of gender issues into the Standard.

They also requested industry representatives to undertake further work in ensuring adherence to the company expectations and to reflect these in refinements to the Standard.

Board members agreed in principle the proposed refinements to the EITI Requirements presented in Board paper 55-5-C, with minor wording changes to Requirement 6.4 as presented by the Working Group.

## AOB

- (i) The Chair provided an update to the Board on the Board Paper 54-3-B on 'Engaging EITI countries experiencing political instability or conflict', noting that the Secretariat is monitoring closely EITI implementation in countries experiencing political instability and conflict. As the Board did not reach consensus on this matter at its meeting in October, the Secretariat is reviewing policies of development partners such as the IMF and the World Bank and will set out an approach for engaging with countries experiencing political instability and conflict following this meeting. In consultation with the IC co-Chairs, it has been decided to postpone discussion of this item until after the 2023 Global Conference when the new Board is formed.
- (ii) The Chair informed the Board that following the Board decision on 1 February 2022 to suspend Guyana for failing to publish its 2020 EITI Report by the deadline of 31 December 2022, the Minister of Natural Resources Vickram Bharrat wrote to her on 17 February 2022 asking the Board to reconsider that decision. The letter cited the mitigating circumstances previously identified in the letter of 21 December 2022 (COVID-19 restrictions, political instability in 2020-2021) and added a reference to flooding in 2022 as an additional circumstance to be reconsidered by the Board. At time the decision was taken, the Implementation Committee did not consider these to constitute exceptional circumstances. The Chair recommended that the Implementation Committee considers the case and proposes an appropriate response to the Board by Circular.

### **Actions:**

- The Secretariat to propose an additional virtual meeting for Board members to agree outstanding refinements to the Standard.
- The Secretariat to set out an approach for assessing countries experiencing conflict with updated recommendations.
- Implementation Committee to review the case of Guyana and recommend a response to the Board by Circular.

## 55-6 Report from the Finance Committee

### Board Paper 55-6-A EITI 2022 Annual Accounts – for decision

The Board Chair, with the support from the International Secretariat, introduced the report and the paper, and invited Board members to provide their feedback. The report from the Finance Committee showed a deficit of USD 0.368m which would be met from a cumulative surplus held on the Secretariat account. Board members raised the following points:

- Supporting country representatives sought feedback on the reasons for the increase of staff overtime in comparison to previous years. *The Secretariat noted that this figure is not an accurate representation of staff overtime. The Secretariat tracks overtime closely and adheres to the provisions of Norway's Working Environment Act in calculating overtime. The figure presented in the report represented total overtime for all staff, not an average per person figure. The Secretariat will come back to the Board with revised reporting on overtime in the relevant KPI to make this clearer.*
- Board members asked the Secretariat for additional information on funds received by categorising them with clearer categories of 'assured/project/received' and by allocating some of its costs in real time to apply a more conservative approach to revenue projections. Drawing from the lessons of the 2022 and 2023 budget, they also pointed to the need for more conservative budgeting, not implicitly presuming that all revenue line categories (especially 'anticipated' and 'planned proposal') are 100% certain to come through. They further recommended that the Secretariat consider lessons learned, especially around the need for caution in budgeting for upcoming year in view of the deficit reported for 2022 and urged greater prioritisation.
- *The Secretariat noted that it is currently working on further developing its financial management systems to generate a more accurate and up-to-date overview of expenditure as well as the funding it receives.*

The Chair concluded that the Finance Committee has reviewed the Annual Accounts and the Audit report. The Chair noted that the Finance Committee is satisfied with the Reports, and therefore recommended to the Board to approve the 2022 annual accounts, noting that the Governance and Oversight Committee will review and approve the independent audit.

### Board Paper 55-6-B EITI 2023 Work Plan Budget – for decision

The Chair invited the Finance Committee Chair Christine Detaille to present the paper. Christine reminded the Board that the first draft budget was initially presented to the Board along with the 2023 work plan at the 54<sup>th</sup> Board meeting in October. Board members requested additional information on the workplan before it could be considered final. The Committee Chair presented the updated figures in the budget with the support from the International Secretariat and invited the Board members to share their views.

Board members raised concerns around the prospective budget deficit for 2023 and funds that are yet to reach the Secretariat's bank account. They raised the following points:

- Considering the 2022 deficit discussed under the previous agenda item, how does the Secretariat plan on reducing the deficit in 2023? *The Secretariat reported that cost increases are largely attributable to inflation-related increases in salaries, travel, and consultancies. It reiterated the importance of in-person missions to support EITI implementation in a post-pandemic environment, given that no travel was possible in the two years during the pandemic. This has resulted in an increased number of missions, but the Secretariat highlighted that these are carefully planned and prioritised based on assessment of needs for each implementing country. To address a prospective budget deficit in 2023, the Secretariat is also undertaking value for money reviews of travel, language, and legal services to identify the potential for cost savings. It is updating its travel policy to ensure consistency with flexible economy airfares as the default option for staff and Board member travel, with other fare classes used sparingly and subject to an assessment of business need. The Secretariat is not engaging in recruitment for fresh*

*staff, other than replacing essential manager positions in data and validation. It is adopting a cost-conscious approach to annual cost of living increments to counter inflation in line with existing policy and Norwegian national labour negotiations and settlements. The Secretariat is scrutinising the use of consultants and linking these more systematically to the allocation and use of project funds to ensure value for money and cost effectiveness. Finally, the Secretariat will explore the scope for cost savings in the next round of quarterly reviews with departmental leads. The Secretariat is planning for a balanced budget in 2024.*

- Board members asked for clarification around the potential impacts of using the reserve fund to offset the deficit and asked for a rigorous review of the Reserves Policy, keeping mind that a proper approach to the use of reserves means that it is intended for wholly unanticipated and temporary shortfalls, and not for other uses (which may tend to persist, such as funding from some sources, higher prices and salaries, etc.). *The Secretariat confirmed that a review of the Reserves Policy is required for Finance Committee consideration and that it is used for this purpose. Board members also questioned whether the preparation of the 2023 budget had been sufficiently conservative, in light of lessons from 2022, the existence of high inflation in that year, and the absence of full certainty regarding all sources of funding included as revenues and urged the need to draw lessons.*
- Supporting countries expressed concern about the disproportionate share of funding from them in comparison to other stakeholders and encouraged an assessment of whether this would need to be revised in the light of a reduced share of contributions from companies. *The Secretariat stated that it has submitted a business case to the companies' constituency for an increase in fees to rebalance contributions and has raised a larger share from foundations in line with its fundraising strategy.*
- Board members asked the Secretariat to consider a contingency plan should the funds currently flagged as anticipated vs. highly anticipated do not materialise, and to indicate the probability of receiving expected funding. *The Secretariat elaborated on the difference between these categories and updated the Board on the plan for raising additional funds to guard against the risk of a budget deficit in future years. This consists of the following measures: additional fee contributions from companies; a sustained increase in implementing country contributions; and inflation-related increases in supporting country contributions. Two further project proposals are under development while being mindful of keeping project contributions to no more than 50% of the budget.*
- *The Secretariat further noted that updates on received and expected income would be provided to the Board via the Finance Committee in April, together with a breakdown of the budget for the Global Conference and welcomed Board member support for its fundraising efforts.*

The Chair of the Finance Committee concluded that the Finance Committee recommends to the Board that the 2023 budget be approved. Following a lengthy discussion and further consultations during the break, the draft budget was approved with the following caveats:

- The Secretariat will provide in its quarterly reports to the Finance Committee a more accurate and detailed forecast of revenues and expenditures (core and project) for the following quarter.
- The Secretariat will provide an update to the Finance Committee on secured and anticipated funding at the end of Q1, including all invoiced revenues to supporting companies and implementing countries. It will double down on the effort to realise the

- full amount of Board agreed minimum contribution by implementing countries.
- The Secretariat will report the fixed cost vs. variable cost breakdown to identify cost-saving in non-project related costs. The Secretariat will implement adaptive planning to calibrate discretionary expenditures related to implementation support, Validation, committee and Board meetings in line with realised income.
  - There will be no new significant discretionary spending without Finance Committee approval.
  - The Secretariat will review the Reserve Policy for the Finance Committee to ensure that it is fit for purpose.
  - There will be additional monitoring and frequency of Finance Committee meetings.

**Actions:**

- The Secretariat to publish its 2023 workplan and budget.
- The Secretariat to closely monitor costs and implement adequate cost cutting measures to minimize the projected deficit in 2023.
- The Secretariat to provide in its quarterly reports to the Finance Committee a more accurate and detailed forecast of revenues and expenditures (core and project) for the following quarter.
- The Secretariat to provide an update to the Finance Committee on secured and anticipated funding at the end of Q1, including all invoiced revenues to supporting companies and implementing countries.
- The Secretariat to report on fixed cost vs. variable cost breakdown to identify cost-saving in non-project related costs.
- The Secretariat to seek the Finance Committee's approval for any new significant discretionary spending.
- Finance Committee to hold more frequent meetings with additional monitoring of Secretariat's expenditure.
- The Secretariat to review the Reserve Policy.

## 55-7 Report from the Governance and Oversight Committee

### Board Paper 55-7-A Audit of EITI International Management Account – for decision

The Chair of the Governance and Oversight Committee, Oleksiy Orlovsky, presented the paper on the independent audit, noting that the International Secretariat's Auditor presented the result of the audit at the Finance Committee meeting on February 7 and at the Governance & Oversight Committee meeting on February 8. The draft Audit report stated that in the Auditor's opinion: (i) the financial statements comply with the applicable statutory requirements, and (ii) the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the International Secretariat as of 31 December 2022, and its financial performance for the year in accordance with the Norwegian

Accounting Act and accounting standards and practices generally accepted in Norway. Oleksiy noted that the accounts are pending Board members' signatures after which the Auditor could issue a clean Auditor's Report for wider circulation. Oleksiy invited the Auditor to provide detail on the report. The Auditor confirmed Oleksiy's overview.

Board members asked if the Auditor had any recommendations to improve the financial management of the Secretariat. The Auditor clarified that recommendations were made in 2020 and 2021 but that no recommendations were made in 2022. Accounts were approved as presented.

### Board Paper 55-7-B Plan for Assessment of Company Progress under the Expectations for EITI Supporting Companies – for information

The Committee Chair presented the paper and reminded the Board that the Secretariat was first mandated to conduct the assessment of company progress in meeting the Expectations in October 2021. The Secretariat presented the plan to the Board and welcomed their feedback.

Board members raised the following points:

- Civil society representatives raised a concern around the proposed date of finalisation of the individual company assessments as this would be after the deadline for nominations to the Board. They highlighted that the 'Expectations for EITI Supporting Companies' document states that companies consider compliance with the company expectations "as the primary consideration in electing nominees to the EITI Board". *The Secretariat reported that the results of the assessment would be shared with the industry constituency as soon as they are completed, and before the deadline for Board nominations, which the constituency committed to consider in their deliberations ahead of proposing nominations to the Board.*
- Civil society representatives further recommended publishing the results of the assessment. *The Secretariat confirmed that the results would be published for public use following the June Board meeting.*

### Board Paper 55-7-C Amendment of the EITI Articles Association – for discussion

The Committee Chair presented the paper and reminded the Board that the GOC considered revisions to the EITI Articles of Association in two phases: (1) less substantive amendments to the Articles were approved by the Extraordinary Members' Meeting in June 2022, (2) more substantive amendments to be considered ahead of the EITI Members' Meeting in June 2023 are presented for discussion at this Board meeting.

Board members raised the following points:

- Board members expressed concern with some of the proposed amendment to the wording of Article 2(2) on the Objective of the Association encompassing 'energy and extractives', as it could imply a potential expansion of the EITI mandate.
- Civil society representatives sought clarifications around the clauses on termination of Board memberships: (i) why does the current amendment not allow for termination of a Board member by the constituency it represents in addition to their termination by the Board, (ii) there is no language about termination of an industry representative should the company they represent withdraw their support to the EITI.
- Civil society representatives reminded the Secretariat of their commitment to include the description of mechanisms of how to cast a vote and how it takes place into the AoA or

Board Manual, noting that it appears in neither current draft, and they asked the Board to consider revisiting this issue prior to the Global Conference in June. The Secretariat committed to provide explanatory guidance for this purpose.

Board members agreed that further work was necessary on Article 2(2) concerning the objective of the EITI Association before the conclusion of the changes to the AoA. The Chair tasked the Governance and Oversight Committee to continue working on the matter and present the revised paper to the Board via Board Circular ahead of the Members' Meeting in June 2023.

### **Board Paper 55-7-D Review of EITI Board Manual – for information**

The Committee Chair reported that the Secretariat, under the supervision of the GOC, periodically reviews the EITI Board Manual to ensure that it is up to date. The Secretariat recommended minor revisions and updates to the Manual, largely to bring the Manual in line with current practice, including previous changes to the Articles of Association, Code of Conduct, the EITI Observer Policy, and other policies and procedures. Board members were reminded that the Board Manual is maintained by the Secretariat and does not, in itself, introduce additional policy, but simply explains current practices. As a result, the changes to the Manual are presented in the paper “for information.” though the GOC has reviewed and agreed the changes. No comments were raised by the Board.

### **Board presentation 55-7-E Board Performance Self-Assessment – for information**

The Committee Chair presented the paper on the Board self-assessment for information, reminding the Board that it has agreed to undertake regular self-assessments which are overseen by the GOC. He reminded the Board that the previous Board self-assessment was undertaken in late 2020. As the Board is aware, Board members were asked from December 2022 to complete the self-assessment. Because response rates were low, the survey was kept open and Board members were repeatedly asked to complete the self-assessment. Oleksiy expressed concern with the low response rate to the self-assessment and invited the Secretariat to present the data that was extracted from the limited number of responses. The Secretariat presented the results of the self-assessment and invited the Board for discussion on whether this self-assessment remains the best tool to solicit this type of feedback.

The Chair agreed that the self-assessment would not be representative of the Board's view on its performance due the low response rate. Board members discussed the challenges around providing feedback via surveys and recommended that the Committee consider a different approach in measuring Board performance going forward. The Secretariat agreed to produce a revised paper with analysis of existing data and options concerning alternative forms of assessment.

#### **Actions:**

- The Secretariat to publish 2022 Annual Accounts.
- The Governance and Oversight Committee to present a revised “Objective” as part of its – recommended changes to the Articles of Association.
- The Secretariat to produce an updated paper on Board survey results and options for Board feedback.

## 55-8 Update on the 2023 Global Conference

Chair invited Joanne Jones from the Secretariat and Board member Awa-Marie Coll-Seck, representing the implementing countries constituency at the Board, to provide an update to the Board on preparations to the 2023 Global Conference. As representative of the host government, Madame Coll-Seck welcomed the EITI Board and the stakeholders to Senegal in June and briefed the Board of the work being done ahead of the event. The Secretariat added its appreciation to Madame Coll-Seck and the Government of Senegal for the support in preparations and presented the Conference website and the logo. Further detail was provided on the work and timeline ahead of Dakar.

Board members sought feedback on the planning for partner-led events and the cost associated with these events for some civil society organisations.

### **Actions:**

- The Secretariat to review costs and sponsorship opportunities for partner-led events.

## Annex A – List of actions from 55<sup>th</sup> Board meeting

55-2-A	The Secretariat to present to the Board progress made in systematic disclosures in implementing countries.
55-2-A	The Secretariat to disseminate the guidance note on ASM.
55-2-A	The Secretariat to perform aggregate analysis of performance of EITI countries by region in the next IPR.
55-2-B	The Secretariat to provide an update on outreach efforts to renewable companies in the next iteration of the OPR.
55-4	The Board Chair to write to the governments of Trinidad and Tobago and Republic of Congo to communicate the Board decisions.
55-4	The Secretariat to publish Board decisions on Trinidad and Tobago and Republic of Congo.
55-4	The Validation Committee to agree a recommendation on the Validation of Norway to the Board for decision by Circular.
55-4	The Secretariat to consider providing an update to the Board on the impact of the ECJ ruling and the impact of data privacy considerations on government efforts to develop public BO registers.
55-5-A	The Board Chair to write to the Government of Argentina to communicate the Board decision.
55-5-A	The Secretariat to publish the Board decision on Argentina's adapted implementation request.
55-5-C	The Secretariat to propose an additional virtual meeting for Board members to agree outstanding refinements to the Standard.
55-5	The Secretariat to set out an approach for assessing countries experiencing conflict with updated recommendations.
55-5	Implementation Committee to review the case of Guyana and recommend a response to the Board by Circular.
55-6-B	The Secretariat to publish its 2023 Work Plan and budget.
55-6-B	The Secretariat to closely monitor costs and implement adequate cost cutting measures to minimize the projected deficit in 2023.
55-6-B	The Secretariat to provide in its quarterly reports to the Finance Committee a more accurate and detailed forecast of revenues and expenditures (core and project) for the following quarter.
55-6-B	The Secretariat to provide an update to the Finance Committee on secured and anticipated funding at the end of Q1, including all invoiced revenues to supporting companies and implementing countries.
55-6-B	The Secretariat to report on fixed cost vs. variable cost breakdown to identify cost-saving in non-project related costs.
55-6-B	The Secretariat to seek the Finance Committee's approval for any new and significant discretionary spending.
55-6-B	Finance Committee to hold more frequent meetings with additional monitoring of Secretariat's expenditure.
55-6-B	The Secretariat to review the Reserve Policy
55-7-A	The Secretariat to publish 2022 Annual Accounts.
55-7-C	Governance and Oversight Committee to present a revised 'Objective' as part of its recommended changes to the Articles of Association.
55-7-C	The Secretariat to produce an updated paper on Board survey results and options for Board feedback.

55-8	The Secretariat to explore sponsorship opportunities for side events.
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## Annex B – Board country decisions

### Board decision on the Trinidad and Tobago

*Trinidad and Tobago has achieved a high overall score in implementing the 2019 EITI Standard (89 points). The overall score reflects an average of the three component scores on Stakeholder engagement, Transparency, and Outcomes and impact.*

*The Board commends Trinidad and Tobago for using the EITI to address topics of public debate and for the quality of the MSG's advocacy related to natural resource governance in the past three years. The very high component score on Outcomes and impact (96.5 points) reflects Trinidad and Tobago's efforts to ensure that EITI implementation contributes to public debate and policymaking related to the extractive sector. In particular, the pertinence of its content tailored towards a wide audience and the use of images, graphs and metaphors to transmit key messages are highlighted as best practice in EITI dissemination and outreach. The coverage of recent developments in the extractive industries in Trinidad and Tobago's EITI reporting has contributed to its relevance to public debate. TTEITI has produced policy briefs and recommendations to policymakers to support changes to key legislation governing the extractive industries. Trinidad and Tobago was awarded two and a half additional points on the Effectiveness and sustainability indicators for its efforts on ensuring that EITI disclosures are relevant, for its advances on systematic disclosures, efforts to strengthen civil society participation to the budgeting process, its use of data and the resulting changes to extractive industry governance practices.*

*Trinidad and Tobago achieved a high score on stakeholder engagement (90 points) given the overall robust support to the EITI process by the Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries. However, more high-level engagement is needed to overcome some of the barriers to EITI reporting and disclosures which have caused delays and gaps, despite TTEITI's efforts and advocacy. The Board recognises the government's provision of technical and financial resources for the EITI process, including in EITI outreach and advocacy in the Caribbean region. Industry commitment and participation remains strong, and civil society participate and voice their concerns and issues clearly. The MSG's expansion to include representation from private mining companies as a permanent observer has helped ensure that views from the mining sector are reflected in the EITI process to support TTEITI's piloting of coverage of the small mining sector, highlighting challenges in the sector's transparency despite its low contribution to government revenues. Trinidad and Tobago is commended for achieving gender balance on its MSG.*

*Trinidad and Tobago achieved a moderate component score on Transparency (80 points). The Board commends Trinidad and Tobago for significantly improving disclosures related*

*to licence allocations and the license register, in particular in oil and gas. TTEITI has been key in ensuring that the systematically disclosed data on the MEEI website remains up to date. Environmental topics in the oil and gas sectors are being addressed both in EITI reporting and through CSO engagement, with innovations including a pilot covering emissions disclosures by the country's state-owned enterprise in the natural gas sector. Trinidad and Tobago performed less well on the timeliness of its EITI disclosures, with repeated delays in procurement of the Independent Administrator and data collection. Despite strict confidentiality constraints on the publication of oil and gas contracts that make it difficult for citizens to understand whether the country is getting a fair deal for its natural gas sales in a competitive oil and gas exploration market, the Board commends TTEITI for taking meaningful steps to shed more light on the process for commercialising Trinidad and Tobago's natural gas. TTEITI has been a key advocate for the routine publication of EITI data on government websites. It has also moved ahead disclosing beneficial ownership information through its own website, pioneering such disclosures in the Latin America and Caribbean region. Building on TTEITI's long-standing pilot on the mining sector, there is scope for greater use of the EITI process to support improvements in the sector's governance by strengthening its diagnostic of the sector and providing a forum for multi-stakeholder debate.*

*The Board has determined that Trinidad and Tobago will have until a next Validation commencing on **1 April 2026** to carry out corrective actions regarding license register (Requirement 2.3), contracts (Requirement 2.4), beneficial ownership (Requirement 2.5), production data (Requirement 3.2), in-kind revenues (Requirement 4.2), data timeliness (Requirement 4.8), and data reliability (Requirement 4.9). Failure to demonstrate progress on Transparency in the next Validation may result in temporary suspension in accordance with Article 6 of the EITI Standard. In accordance with the EITI Standard, Trinidad and Tobago's MSG may request an extension of this timeframe or request that Validation commences earlier than scheduled. The full Board decision is available [here](#).*

## Board decision on the Republic of Congo

*The Republic of Congo has achieved a moderate overall score in implementing the 2019 EITI Standard (70.5 points). The overall score reflects an average of the three component scores on Stakeholder engagement, Transparency and Outcomes and impact.*

*On Outcomes and impact, the Republic of Congo achieved a moderate score (74.5 points). This reflects the Republic of Congo's use of its EITI implementation to generate debate and support reforms in, for example, contract disclosure, and quasi-fiscal expenditures despite restrictions linked to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Board commends the Republic of Congo for the innovative use of its EITI disclosures, including in a thematic report on financial modelling of key oil projects and analysis of oil sales and cost, and encourages appropriation and use by relevant stakeholders of this work. Congo-EITI has followed up on recommendations, which has led to the inclusion of former quasi-fiscal expenditures in the national budget, as well as to exemplary disclosures of mining, oil and gas contracts. There is scope for Congo-EITI to improve its oversight of the outcomes and impact of implementation and to pursue outreach activities to catalyse greater use of*

*extractive data and stimulate public debate around the extractive industries. The Board commends the stakeholders in the Republic of Congo for their efforts to improve the accessibility of data disclosed through the EITI or through companies and government systems, notably on extractive contracts, license registers and state-owned enterprise audited financial statements. The Republic of Congo was awarded 2.5 additional points for the effectiveness and sustainability of EITI implementation.*

*The Board commends the Republic of Congo for its efforts to improve disclosures throughout the upstream mining, oil and gas sectors, including efforts during the Validation process, which has resulted in a moderate score on the Transparency component of Validation (81 points). In addition to its already detailed disclosures on in-kind sales, the Republic of Congo, with the support of IMF and World Bank, has reformed its government systems and used its EITI reporting to make new information on quasi-fiscal expenditures, barter agreements, license and contract registers available to the public. The board also commends the improvement of the quality and timeliness of the disclosures of its SOE, SNPC. Both the mining and petroleum cadastres have been launched since the last Validation. However, new aspects of the 2019 EITI Standard such as those related to project level reporting and beneficial ownership are yet to be fully implemented despite demonstrated efforts. Congo-EITI has made significant progress in clarifying several aspects of the management of oil revenues not transferred to the single Treasury account, including in the reimbursements of oil-backed loans and infrastructure works financed by China, commodity traders and ENI. All payments deducted from the state's share of production have now been included to the national budget, and the transactions between the State and the national refinery CORAF have benefited from greater transparency to the public. These recent developments provide opportunities to conduct a diagnostic of current and past practices, such as comparing these deals with conventional ones, or the review through an independent study of these commodity-backed deals. The Board commends Congo-EITI for extending the EITI's coverage to the forestry sector to meet public demand for credible data on this growing sector. There are further opportunities for the EITI to further expand its coverage to areas of increasing public interest, such as the environmental impact of the extractive industries, the maritime tax and local content in the extractive industries. The Board encourages the Republic of Congo to further expand its use of EITI disclosures to strengthen transparency in the allocation of mining rights, and the management of social and environmental expenditures. The Republic of Congo should pursue and systematise its efforts to improve transparency around loan reimbursements and transfers to the CORAF, as well as the management of the escrow account linked to the Chinese agreement. The Board also notes with concern recent media allegations of irregularities in SNPC's sales of crude oil to the company Orion Oil and urges the EITI in the Republic of Congo to discuss the case with a view to disclosing relevant information that could improve transparency in the state commodity trading, such as information on the buyer selection process. The introduction of online reporting and data certification systems will help the Republic of Congo to increase the reliability of the financial data reported through the EITI and to further improve the timeliness of EITI disclosures.*

*On stakeholder engagement, the Republic of Congo reached a fairly low score (56.5 points). The COVID-19 pandemic and constraints in the availability of senior government*

*officials have constrained the MSG's operations. This weakening of government engagement has led to challenges in the MSG's oversight of implementation and in some gaps in disclosures. Private extractive companies, particularly from the petroleum sector, have limited their engagement to the provision of data for EITI Reports and the delegation of attendance at EITI events, to the detriment of their participation in other aspects of implementation and to public debate. The civil society constituency has continued to act as a key driver of implementation in this period and used its engagement in the EITI to support progress of transparency. While the broader civic space context remains challenging, the EITI has taken action to protect and enhance civic space in relation to the EITI process and there have not been reports of any breaches of the EITI protocol on participation of civil society since the previous Validation. The Board supports these efforts and urges all stakeholders to maintain a strong level of engagement in EITI, including the participation to public debate in the country on natural resource governance.*

*The Board has determined that the Republic of Congo will have until a next Validation commencing on **1 April 2025** to carry out corrective actions regarding government engagement, (Requirement 1.1), industry engagement (Requirement 1.2), civil society engagement (Requirement 1.3), MSG oversight (Requirement 1.4), work plan (Requirement 1.5), contract and license allocation (Requirement 2.2), beneficial ownership (Requirement 2.5), barter agreements (Requirement 4.3), direct subnational payments (Requirement 4.6), disaggregation (Requirement 4.7), distribution of revenues (Requirement 5.1), social and environmental expenditures (Requirement 6.1), SOE quasi-fiscal expenditures (Requirement 6.2), public debate (Requirement 7.1), review of outcomes and impact (Requirement 7.4). Failure to demonstrate progress on Stakeholder engagement, Outcomes and impact or Transparency in the next Validation may result in temporary suspension in accordance with Article 6 of the EITI Standard. In accordance with the EITI Standard, the Republic of Congo EITI MSG may request an extension of this timeframe or request that Validation commences earlier than scheduled. The full Board decision is available [here](#).*

## Annex B – List of participants

### Participant List – 55<sup>th</sup> EITI Board Meeting

Black = Confirmed  
Grey = not attending

#### Chair

Rt Hon. Helen CLARK

#### Countries

##### Implementing Countries

Ms Viktoriia GNATOVSKA, Director of Energy and Resource Efficiency Policy Formation Directorate, Ministry of Energy, Ukraine  
Alt: TBC

Ms Awa Marie COLL-SECK, Minister of State, Senegal  
Alt: Mr Samou SIDIBE, National Coordinator, Mali

Mr Sampe L. PURBA, Natural Resource Economics Advisor to the Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources, Indonesia  
Alt: Ms Cielo MAGNO, Undersecretary, Department of Finance, Philippines

Mr Ian Chitumba MWIINGA, National Coordinator, EITI Secretariat, Zambia  
Alt: Ms Frances ALGHALI, Minister of State, Office of the Vice-President, Sierra Leone

Ms Agnès Solange ONDIGUI OWONA, EITI National Coordinator, Ministry of Finance, Cameroon  
Alt: Mr Florent Michel OKOKO, National Coordinator, EITI Secretariat, Republic of the Congo

Mr Sherwin LONG, National Coordinator, EITI Secretariat, Trinidad & Tobago  
Alt: Ms Fernanda ÁVILA, Secretary of Mines, Ministry of Productive Development, Argentina

##### Supporting Countries

Mr Rinaldo JEANTY, Director General and Chief Inspector of Explosives, Lands and Minerals Sector, Natural Resources, Canada  
Alt: Mr Carl WATSON, Director, Office of Policy Analysis & Public Diplomacy (ENR/EGA/PAPD), Bureau of Energy Resources, U.S. Department of State, USA

Mr François GAVE, Special Representative for Corporate Social Responsibility and the Social Dimension of Globalisation at the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs, France  
Alt: Mr Jürg VOLLENWEIDER, Deputy Head, Macroeconomic Support Division, State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO), Switzerland

Ms Christine DETAILLE, Head of Unit Transitional Development and Governance, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation, Belgium  
Alt: Ms Melissa SÄILÄ, Programme Director, Taxation for Development Action, Unit for Development Finance and Private Sector Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Finland

## Civil Society Organisations

**Mr César GAMBOA**, Executive Director, Derecho, Ambiente y Recursos naturales, Perú  
Alt: **Mr Óscar PINEDA**, Senior Researcher, Project on Organizing, Development, Education and Research (PODER), Mexico

**Mr Brice MACKOSSO**, Secrétaire Permanent, Commission Justice et Paix, Republic of the Congo  
Alt: **Mr Mtwalo MSONI**, Global Tax Advisor, ActionAid Nigeria

**Ms Diana EL KAISSY**, Programme Director, The International Republican Institute (IRI), Lebanon  
Alt: TBC

**Mr Oleksiy ORLOVSKY**, Programme Director, International Renaissance Foundation, Ukraine  
Alt: **Ms Mariya LOBACHEVA**, Executive Director, Echo - Public Association, Kazakhstan

**Mr Dani KAUFMANN**, President Emeritus, natural Resource Governance Institute (NRGI)  
Alt: **Mr Simon TAYLOR**, Co-founder and Director, Global Witness

## Companies including Investors

**Mr James NICHOLSON**, Head of Corporate Responsibility, Trafigura Group  
Alt: TBC

**Mr Matt GOBUSH**, Senior Advisor for Public and Government Affairs, Exxon Mobil Corporation  
Alt: **Mr Mike ANDERSON**, Senior Vice President, Sustainability and External Affairs, Kosmos Energy

**Mr Erik NÜRNBERG**, Senior Legal Policy Adviser, Equinor  
Alt: **Ms Nathalie MOGNETTI**, Senior Vice President, Tax, Total

**Mr James ENSOR**, Executive Director, BHP Billiton Foundation  
Alt: **Mr Nick COTTS**, Vice-President, Sustainability and External Relation, Newmont Mining

**Mr Alan McLEAN**, Executive Vice President Taxation and Corporate Structure, Shell International Limited  
Alt: **Ms Ivanka MAMIC**, Senior Vice President, Sustainability, BP

**Mr Lawrence DECHAMBENOIT**, Global Head of External Affairs, Rio Tinto  
Alt: **Mr Richard MORGAN**, Head of Government Relations, Anglo American

## Board Secretary

**Mr Mark ROBINSON**, Executive Director, EITI International Secretariat, Oslo

## Observers

- Ms Gabriela AGUILAR**, Vice President LATAM, Excelerate Energy, Argentina
- Mr Ibrahima BALDÉ**, Manager of Communication and Public Relations, EITI Senegal
- Mr Joe BARDWELL**, Campaigns Manager, Publish What You Pay (PWYP), UK
- Mr Jan BOLLMANN**, Junior-Advisor, Extractives for Development, GIZ, Germany
- Mr Jelle BEZEMER**, EITI National Coordinator, Netherlands
- Ms María Cecilia Álvarez BOLLEA**, Modernization of the State Specialist, Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), Argentina
- Mr Gustavo CANELOS**, Deputy Country Director, Pan-American Development Foundation (PDAF), Ecuador
- Ms Alejandra CARDONA**, Executive Director, Mining Chamber, Argentina
- Ms Hannah CLAYTON**, Just Transition Lead, BP
- Mr Roberto DE MICHELE**, Division Chief, Modernisation of the State, Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)
- Mr. Emmanuel DELAUNE**, Director, Information and Transparency of Mining Activities (FMGL), EITI Champion, Ecuador
- Ms Sita DJELANTIK**, Senior Policy Advisor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Netherlands
- Mr Sebastian DELGUI**, Corporate Affairs & Community lead for LATAM, Fortescue Metals Group Ltd. (FMGL), Argentina
- Ms Sophie DONSZELMANN**, Senior Program Officer, The International Council on Mining and Metals Limited, ICMM
- Ms Ellen DUNBAR**, Policy Analyst, Natural Resources and Governance, Economic Development Bureau, Global Affairs, Canada
- Ms Paula ELLINGER**, Director, Climate Action, Fundación Avina, Argentina
- Mr Mustapha FALL**, Legal Advisor, EITI Senegal
- Mr Esteban FULLIN**, Executive Secretary, Financial Action Task Force Latin America (GAFILAT), Argentina
- Mr Vincent HANAPPIER**, Senior Legal Expert, E&P Division, TOTAL
- Mr Mark HUNTING**, Managing Counsel, Competition & Regulatory Compliance, BP
- Ms Nina INAMAHORO**, Operations Officer, Energy & Extractives, World Bank
- Mr Edwin IKHUORIA**, Executive Director, Publish What You Pay (PWYP), UK
- Ms Naomi Anne JOHNSON**, Practice Manager, World Bank
- Mr Jean-Jacques KAYEMBE**, National Coordinator, EITI, Democratic Republic of Congo
- Mr Yannic KIEWITT**, Senior Policy Officer for raw materials, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Germany
- Mr Marcelo KLOSTER**, Latin America Representative, The Green Hydrogen Organisation, Argentina
- Mr Jeffrey KRILLA**, VP Global Public Policy & Government Affairs, Kosmos Energy
- Ms Valeria LLERENA**, Technical Expert on Transparency in the Extractive Industries, Pan-American Development Foundation (PADF), Ecuador

**Ms Aroa DE LA FUENTE LÓPEZ**, Regional Coordinator, Publish What You pay (PWYP) Secretariat, Latin America

**Mr Thomas MASBOU**, Policy Officer, Extractives Industry Governance, Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs, France

**Mr Gustavo MEJÍA-RICART**, Director, International Relations, Ministry of Energy and Mines, EITI National Coordinator, Dominican Republic

**Ms Aubrey MENARD**, Senior Policy Advisor, Extractive Industries Transparency, Oxfam America

**Mr Prem MISIR**, EITI National Coordinator, Guyana

**Ms Valeria MOGLIA**, Corporate Governance Manager, Naftas, Gas y Petróleo (YPF), Argentina

**Ms Pamela MORALES**, National Coordinator, Argentina

**Mr Christian MOUNZEO**, Third Vice President of the Executive Committee, EITI National Committee, Republic of the Congo

**Mr Daniel MULÉ**, Policy Lead, Extractive Industries Tax and Transparency, Oxfam America

**Ms Cristina MUÑOZ**, Technical Advisor, Regional Cooperation for a more Sustainable Management of Mineral Resources in the Andean Countries (MINSUS), Argentina

**Ms Emily NICKERSON**, Senior Policy Advisor, Natural Resource Governance (NRCan), Canada

**Ms Naadira OGEER**, Economic Adviser – Natural Resources, Trade, Oceans and Natural Resource Directorate, The Commonwealth Secretariat, UK

**Mr Rob PITMAN**, Senior Governance Officer, Natural Resource Governance Institute (NRGI), USA

**Mr Sven Ulrich RENNERT**, EGP

**Ms Olivia REYNOLDS**, VP Global Public Policy & Government Affairs, Kosmos Energy

**Mr Christopher RICE**, Executive Vice President Tax, Shell International Limited

**Ms Haley RICE**, Consultant, Publish What You Pay (PWYP), UK

**Ms Lorena ROA**, National Coordinator, Colombia

**Ms Flavia RODÓN**, Secretary of Energy, Argentina

**Ms Sylvie ROUCART**, Head of Tax Policy, Transparency and US tax, TOTAL

**Ms Marina RUETE**, Latin America Coordinator and Law Advisor, Intergovernmental Forum on Mining, Minerals, Metals and Sustainable Development (IGF), Argentina

**Ms Louise RUSSELL-PRYWATA**, Director, Policy and Advocacy, Open Ownership, UK

**Ms Jennifer SMITH**, Senior Policy & Advocacy Adviser – Finance, Tax & Trade, Shell International

**Ms Ege TEKINBAS**, Senior Policy Advisor, Gender equality, International Institute for Sustainable Development, (IISD), Canada

**Mr Genci TERPO**, EITI National Coordinator, Albania

**Mr Gustavo E. VEGA**, Deputy Executive Secretary, Financial Action Task Force Latin America (GAFILAT), Argentina

**Ms Marie-Christine Schroeder-Van WAES**, Senior Legal Counsel Sustainability, Legal Services Corporate (LSC), Shell International

## EITI International Secretariat

**Mr Bady Mamadou BALDÉ**, Deputy Executive Director

**Mr Emmanuel Aguilar BURGOA**, Country Officer – Latin America & the Caribbean

**Ms Lucia CIRIMELLO**, Programme Manager – Open Extractives

**Mr Espen FAUSKO-JOHANSEN**, Finance Manager

**Mr Alex GORDY**, Technical Director

**Ms Gay ORDENES**, Asia Director & Anti-Corruption Lead

**Mr Andrew IRVINE**, Legal and Corporate Engagement Director

**Ms Joanne JONES**, Communications Director

**Ms Lydia KILPI**, Director, Disclosure & Civil Society Engagement

**Ms Leah KROGSUND**, Office Manager & Board Support

**Mr Esteban MANTECA MELGAREJO**, Country Manager – Latin America & the Caribbean

**Ms Monica OSORIO**, Administrative Officer – Asia & Latin America & the Caribbean

**Mr Francisco PARIS**, Director - Latin America & the Caribbean