

# Minutes

These Minutes capture the discussion and agreed outcomes of the 62<sup>nd</sup> EITI Board meeting.

## MINUTES OF THE 62<sup>ND</sup> EITI BOARD MEETING

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### Abbreviations

Civil Society organisations – CSO	OCC – Outreach and Candidature Committee
EU – European Union	OECD – Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
FC – Finance Committee	RRC – Rapid Response Committee
GOC – Governance and Oversight Committee	VC – Validation Committee
IC – Implementation Committee	EU – European Union
Implementation Progress Report - IPR	UK – United Kingdom
LAC – Latin America and the Caribbean	
MSG – Multistakeholder group	

## 62-1 Welcome and adoption of the agenda

The EITI Board Chair, Helen Clark, welcomed the participants to the 62<sup>nd</sup> EITI Board meeting taking place in Arusha, Tanzania. She then invited Hon. Anthony Mavunde, Minister of Minerals to introduce Hon. Innocent Bashungwa, Minister of Home Affairs, representing Hon. Dr. Doto Mashaka Biteko, Deputy Prime Minister and the Minister of Energy, to address the audience.

Hon. Anthony Mavunde extended greetings from Her Excellency Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, President of Tanzania. He conveyed the best wishes of Hon. Dr. Doto Mashaka Biteko. Under the leadership of Hon. Ludovick Utouh, Chair of TEITI MSG, the MSG has embedded EITI standards into government frameworks. He cited the Extractive Industries Transparency and Accountability Act (Cap. 447) as marking a key step in strengthening transparency through mandatory contract disclosure. He also highlighted the government's progress in improving beneficial ownership transparency by establishing a public register. While acknowledging ongoing challenges, he reaffirmed Tanzania's commitment to EITI principles, ensuring continued collaboration among stakeholders. He then pronounced the 62<sup>nd</sup> EITI Board meeting officially open.

The Board Chair thanked the Government of Tanzania for hosting the meeting.

The Board Chair opened the meeting by welcoming attendees. She acknowledged the importance of the Arusha region and offered Ramadan greetings to those observing the Islamic faith. She raised concerns about geopolitical challenges impacting on the EITI, including reduced international aid and the withdrawal of USAID from several implementing countries and from a range of civil society grants. She noted an expected 8% funding cut for the EITI International Secretariat over the next two years as a result of the termination of US support and outlined efforts to address that through risk assessments and mitigating actions. She highlighted issues such as political instability, fiscal uncertainty, and shrinking civic space, which have contributed to eight implementing country suspensions and reporting delays in twelve others. She also expressed concern over the pause in enforcement of the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, which is an important tool for addressing some of the most egregious corruption cases in recent years. She reaffirmed EITI's commitment to anti-corruption and urged continued collaboration for transparency in the extractive sector. The Board Chair then introduced the draft Board meeting agenda which was approved.

She welcomed the following new Board members:

- Nolwenn Delaunay, General Counsel, TotalEnergies, who succeeded Nathalie Mognetti as a Board member representing Company constituency
- Javkhlanbaatar Sereeter, State Secretary of the Ministry of Industry and Minerals, Mongolia, who succeeded Bayani Agabin as an alternate Board member representing Implementing Countries constituency
- Deborah Yu, Director General, Explosives, Regulatory and Business Services Branch, Natural Resources Canada, who succeeded Hieu Vu as Board member representing Supporting Countries constituency

She noted two vacant seats in the supporting countries sub-constituency and one vacant seat in the implementing countries constituency. She urged those constituencies to enhance their efforts to fill the positions and elect a constituency lead.

Apologies were received from the following Board members:

- Mike Anderson, Senior Vice President, Sustainability and External Affairs, Kosmos Energy
- Francess Alghali, Minister of State, Office of the Vice-President, Sierra Leone

- Isabel Chuvambe, EITI National Coordinator, Mozambique
- Chinonso Emehelu, Senior Director, Public & Government Affairs, Exploration, Strategy & Business Development, ExxonMobil
- Hasmik Manukyan, EITI National Coordinator, Armenia
- Antoine Mimba, EITI National Council Chairman, Côte d'Ivoire
- Christopher Rice, Executive Vice President, Taxation and Corporate Structure, Shell
- Javkhlanbaatar Sereeter, State Secretary of the Ministry of Industry and Minerals, Mongolia
- Sara Yun, Director, Bureau of Energy Resources, Office of Policy Analysis and Public Diplomacy, U.S. Department of State

The Board Chair acknowledged the contributions of the following departing Board members:

- Nick Cotts, Senior Vice President, Sustainability and External Relations, Newmont Corporation
- Richard Morgan, Head of Government Relations, Anglo American

On behalf of the EITI Board, she expressed appreciation for their valuable contributions and longstanding engagement.

The Board Chair then invited Johan Borgstam, European Union Special Representative (EUSR) for the Great Lakes Region to address the meeting.

Johan Borgstam said his focus is on fostering greater alignment among EU Member States and institutions in tackling challenges in the Great Lakes region. He stressed that shared situational awareness is key to a coherent EU response and support for African-led solutions, especially amid escalating tensions in eastern DRC and the risk of regionalisation. He noted his engagements span not only high-level meetings but also dialogues with civil society and the private sector which broadly support formalising regional economic integration despite political tensions. He reaffirmed the EU's strong partnership with the EITI, highlighting transparency as vital to addressing regional issues and confirmed the EU's intent to deepen cooperation with the EITI, emphasising that lasting peace relies on region-led solutions rooted in transparency, accountability, and good governance.

## 62-2 Report from the Secretariat

### **Board Paper 62-2-A Implementation Progress Report– for information**

Mark Robinson presented the Implementation Progress Report (IPR), focusing on activities from October 2024 to January 2025.

EITI Board members raised the following points:

- CSO representatives indicated that a complaint had been sent to the Nigeria EITI on the divestment of assets by oil and gas companies, some of which are also EITI supporting companies, in the country. While Nigeria EITI had responded, the constituency was considering escalating the complaint to the EITI Board. The constituency stated that the issue is intimately tied to the energy transition, transparency, and good governance, and they expect the EITI to be a platform that promotes dialogue on such a crucial topic. They noted that the IPR did not fully reflect the concerns of civil society in producing countries citing restrictions on civic space in Dominican Republic and Peru, and the government

transition in Indonesia. They requested an update on Seychelles and called for a clearer articulation of the EITI's added value in the changing geo-political landscape.

- Supporting Country representatives re-enforced the need for a more detailed discussion on the impact of the USAID funding freeze at the June Board meeting, recognising the broader trend of cuts to overseas development assistance.
- Company representatives encouraged further strategic discussion of ongoing trends, including declining political will for anti-corruption initiatives, shrinking bilateral finance and increased expectations of implementation. They emphasised the need for flexibility and strong financial management, with effective oversight by the Finance Committee.

The International Secretariat noted the following:

- The IPR serves as a composite indicator of EITI implementation, a report on the International Secretariat activities, and a repository of best practices. The International Secretariat noted a time lag between IPR preparation and Board discussion, during which relevant events - such as those in Peru - may have influenced assessments.
- The International Secretariat is receiving more requests for support in resolving MSG conflicts and stalled implementation, including in the Dominican Republic, which have significant resource implications for the International Secretariat. In Indonesia, the International Secretariat's assessment reflected progress in systematic disclosures and MSG engagement.
- The Seychelles joined the EITI during oil and gas exploration, though no major discoveries followed. EITI Implementation has supported reforms, including a public beneficial ownership register. The IC's workplan includes the development of a policy on engaging with countries with limited extractive sectors, which will be discussed by the Board in June.
- The International Secretariat acknowledged the complaint to NEITI, noting it remains open at the national level in Nigeria. While the EITI Standard includes a provision for disclosure on the legal framework for decommissioning, some aspects of the complaint fall outside the EITI's scope.

**Actions:**

- The International Secretariat to draft a paper for the June Board meeting on the implications of financial uncertainties and global trends on International Secretariat funding and priorities.
- The International Secretariat to consider opportunities to share a more granular assessment of the status of implementation through the Implementation Progress Report.
- The Implementation Committee to develop a policy on engaging countries with limited or no extractive sector for consideration by the Board in June.

## **Board Paper 62-2-B Outreach Progress Report – for information**

Mark Robinson presented the Outreach Progress Report (OPR), focusing on activities from October 2024 to January 2025.

EITI Board members raised the following points:

- Company representatives questioned whether outreach efforts reflect the current geopolitical context and offer a strong value proposition. They called for clearer targeting, greater company involvement, and stronger links between supporting companies and home countries, citing Ma'aden from Saudi Arabia and Hindustan Zinc in India. They noted that outreach targets exist but are not adequately tracked or met.
- CSO representatives requested clarification on why certain companies included in the last quarter's outreach report were not in the current report, and asked what factors deterred companies from becoming supporting companies.
- Supporting Countries representatives welcomed progress in engaging with key industry players, Chile's progress on the candidature application, and Serbia's outreach. They noted that a planned German development cooperation project in Brazil may support further outreach efforts. They saw potential for EITI to support transparency and accountability in Rwanda, and proposed a regional outreach event for Central Asia, focusing on Uzbekistan, Kyrgyz Republic, and Kazakhstan. They also suggested involving Board members in future outreach missions.
- Company representatives welcomed the appointment of a new outreach manager and commended the efforts to bring Chile into EITI. They sought to identify lessons learnt from the data on company outreach and to explore new trends in the interest that EITI has generated among them. They suggested analysing the commodity and resource representation among companies to guide the outreach strategy.
- Implementing Countries representatives referred to an EU representative's remarks on Rwanda and asked whether the EU's position had shifted. They also sought clarification on any developments since the last update.

The International Secretariat noted the following:

- The International Secretariat acknowledged concerns from Board members about outreach and the need to assess strategic priorities. While outreach remains important, this has implications for resource allocation. CMOC's engagement, including coordination with the Chinese Embassy in Oslo, was highlighted as a positive example of links between company and country outreach. The International Secretariat expressed interest in pursuing similar opportunities elsewhere.
- The International Secretariat clarified that the OPR covers only new developments within the reporting period. Outreach targets without updates are not included. It confirmed no proactive outreach had been conducted in Rwanda. The International Secretariat welcomed engaging with Board members to adjust the outreach strategy moving forward and to identify opportunities for engagement in outreach missions.
- The International Secretariat reiterated the importance of the supporting company assessment process, seeing it as a valuable opportunity for outreach and alignment.

**Actions:**

- The International Secretariat will review the Outreach Strategy and prepare a discussion paper for the Outreach and Candidature Committee.

## 62-3 Report from the World Bank

Nina Inamahoro, Operations Officer, Energy & Extractives, presented the World Bank report.

First reporting on EGPS 2 implementation, Nina reiterated its core objectives: strengthening governance, enhancing multi-stakeholder dialogue, building trust, improving sector data access, fostering investment, and supporting reforms for GDP growth. She reported that EGPS 2 Component 1 includes nine active projects, with two in the pipeline. As the program winds down, most projects will close by December 2025, except three set to conclude by mid-2026. She emphasised ongoing civil society collaboration on projects to ensure EITI compliance, with partners such as NRGi, Transparency International Australia, Publish What You Pay and other local partners. She informed the Board of efforts to extend EGPS 2 until June 2027 to allow full fund disbursement, particularly for pipeline projects such as Zambia's EITI Project, a test case for integrating transparency in the Energy Transition Mineral Roadmap at national and regional levels. She reported an \$800,000 balance in the portfolio, with discussions underway to allocate remaining funds to transparency initiatives in Southern and Eastern Africa, pending Partnership Council endorsement.

Nina then provided an update on EGPS 3 preparations, confirming that over the past five months, EGPS Partnership Council members, World Bank management, and the EITI International Secretariat have reached broad agreement on the World Bank's approach to supporting EITI implementation, as detailed in Board Paper 64-3. She announced that EGPS 3 will introduce a Transparency in Extractive Industries funding window with a dedicated results framework, alongside climate-smart mining, resilient and inclusive supply chains (RISE), and artisanal and small-scale mining. She explained that the new grant criteria will follow a programmatic approach, considering country capacity needs and allowing for larger, longer-term grants with a strong focus on country ownership. She assured the Board that the World Bank will continue working with the International Secretariat to validate country needs during project design and implementation.

The International Secretariat will also retain observer status on the EGPS Partnership Council. She informed the Board of an open call for pledges to EGPS 3, encouraging contributions from supporting countries. Donors will be able to indicate funding preferences for the Transparency in Extractive Industries window, and these will be considered in the development of work plans, budgets, and progress reports.

She concluded by thanking EGPS donors and EITI stakeholders for their ongoing support and partnership.

EITI Board members raised the following points:

- CSO representatives noted that the report lists the civil society contract as beginning in July 2024, when it actually began in January 2025. They also asked for clarity on the disbursement timeline for grants accorded to CSOs, notably about the discrepancy between 'project dates' in the EGPS report and 'CSO contract' dates. They requested that under EGPS 3 this is taken into account, and that EGPS 3 is built to disperse grants that can effectively support civil society in addition to governments.
- Supporting Country representatives raised concerns about the short implementation time and low disbursement rates of EGPS 2 and asked what measures are planned to prevent underutilisation of funds at the end of the cycle. Under EGPS 3 they requested details on how the World Bank plans to handle "preferences" and "non-preferences" contributions. They emphasised the need for targeted fundraising and synergies with other funding windows. They called for the creation of a clear consultation mechanism between the

International Secretariat and the World Bank, suggesting that EGPS Partnership Council meetings and EITI Board meetings be held back-to-back to improve participation and efficiency. They stressed that EITI implementation should not exclude high-risk or low-capacity countries.

Echoing Supporting Countries representatives' appreciation, the EITI International Secretariat commended the World Bank leadership for the progress toward a final agreement. The International Secretariat highlighted the importance of ensuring a formal consultation mechanism to complement its observer status in the Partnership Council. It also urged contributors to support the World Bank's target of securing funds to advance systematic disclosure through EGPS 3.

The World Bank noted the following:

- Disbursements are reported based on the World Bank approval dates which could explain the discrepancy between reported start dates and disbursement rates.
- Contextual factors such as short implementation timeline may explain the use of contracts instead of grants in certain cases.
- All remaining EGPS 2 funds are intended for disbursement. The remaining funds are linked to a regional engagement on energy transition minerals in Southern and Eastern Africa, with Zambia as a key focus.
- The World Bank does not have a predefined approach regarding "preferences" or "non-preferences" of funding streams. The donors are to decide which window they wish to support.
- The World Bank reiterated its commitment to discuss further the modalities of collaboration for the set-up of the new EGPS window 'Transparency in Extractive Industries' over time.
- While there is no pre-set exclusion of countries, funding constraints and competition for resources require prioritisation based on demonstrated impact.
- The World Bank took into account CSOs constituency request regarding possibility to open grant (not only contractual) funding within EGPS 3 and will work on this.

## 62-4 Report from the Implementation Committee

### **Board Paper 62-4 Assessment of reporting extension requests – for decision**

The co-chair of the Implementation Committee (IC) presented the paper emphasising that the IC had updated its recommendations following an in-person meeting. Four countries (Albania, Argentina, Cameroon and Indonesia) had published their EITI reports since the preparation of the paper and no longer required consideration for extension. Six countries (Chad, Colombia, Indonesia, Iraq, Malawi and Tajikistan) were deemed eligible for an extension. Suriname was deemed ineligible for extension but was already suspended, so the decision has no impact on its status. The IC recommended that Kazakhstan is not eligible for extension because the procedures for an extension request were not followed. The IC recommended temporarily suspending Kazakhstan for reporting delays despite continued progress on systematic disclosures.

Board members raised the following points:

- CSO representatives emphasised that the decision to suspend Kazakhstan was due to a procedural issue concerning the lack of MSG approval for the extension request. They urged the International Secretariat to pay close attention to extension requests from EITI countries where it is well known that the MSG is not functioning well. They emphasised that suspension should only be lifted if there was a return to a proper respect for procedures regarding MSG approval.
- Implementing Countries representatives emphasised the importance of proper procedures. They noted that the IC had carefully deliberated the issue and been unanimous in its recommendation to suspend Kazakhstan. They also noted that in instances where countries request an extension due to funding constraints (e.g., Tajikistan) such requests should be considered.

The Board Chair noted that the high-level mission highlighted implementation challenges in Kazakhstan, despite government commitment and progress on systematic disclosure. The Board Chair urged the IC to assess the materiality of procedural issues linked to the extension request, clarify the impact of possible suspension on Validation for Kazakhstan; and consider the precedent of granting extensions due to funding constraints.

The International Secretariat emphasised that the proposed recommendation would set two precedents. Firstly, granting an extension on the basis of systematic disclosures, which is the default expectation of the EITI Standard. Secondly, granting an extension on the basis of funding constraints. On Kazakhstan, the International Secretariat noted that the Board should consider the potential implications of suspending the country now rather than considering such a decision as part of the country's ongoing Validation.

Board members approved the proposed recommendation.

**Actions:**

- The International Secretariat to publish the Board decision on extension requests, including the temporary suspension of Kazakhstan.
- The Implementation Committee is tasked to clarify the criteria under which funding constraints can be considered an exceptional circumstance.

## 62-5 Report from the Validation Committee

### Board Paper 62-5-A Report from the Validation Committee – for decision

#### Validation of Ecuador

The Chair of the Validation Committee (VC) presented the VC's recommendation to the EITI Board and invited the EITI International Secretariat to present the paper.

Board members raised the following points:

- CSO representatives highlighted the role of CSO and Company constituency cooperation in supporting EITI implementation in Ecuador. They emphasised the potential impact of the removal of USAID funding on civil society and EITI implementation and requested partners

to continue supporting the EITI process in the country. They asked for continuous monitoring of the process with an update after 15 months.

- Company representatives agreed with the CSO representatives' remarks regarding the importance of joint efforts by the CSO and Company constituencies in implementing the EITI in Ecuador. They noted a need for further work with the government constituency to ensure further improvement, in particular continuous progress on the transparency component.
- Supporting Countries representatives also raised the issue of the US funding and its potential direct and indirect impact on EITI implementation in Ecuador.

Board members approved the suggested recommendation.

**Actions:**

- The Board Chair to write to the Government of Ecuador to communicate the Board decision.
- The International Secretariat to publish the Board decision on Ecuador's Validation and the Validation report.

**Targeted assessment of Honduras**

The VC Chair presented the VC's recommendation to the Board and invited the International Secretariat to present the paper. The International Secretariat noted that should the Board decide to delist Honduras, in line with the recommendation, the corrective actions from the targeted assessment would be moot and not published.

Board members raised the following points:

- CSO representatives agreed with the assessment, noting limited engagement of the government constituency in Honduras.

Board members approved the suggested recommendation.

**Actions:**

- The Board Chair to write to the Government of Honduras to communicate the Board decision.
- The International Secretariat to publish the Board decision on Honduras' targeted assessment.

**Validation of Gabon**

The VC Chair presented the VC's recommendation to the EITI Board and invited the International Secretariat to present the paper. The VC Chair noted that the paper has been upgraded for decision following the VC meeting the previous day.

Board members raised the following points:

- Implementing countries representatives emphasised the importance of continuing support to ensure the implementation of the EITI in Gabon, particularly with regard to the transparency component, in accordance with the 2023 EITI Standard.

Board members approved the suggested recommendation.

**Actions:**

- The Board Chair to write to the Government of Gabon to communicate the Board decision.
- The International Secretariat to publish the Board decision on Gabon's Validation and the Validation report.

**Validation of Iraq**

The VC Chair presented the VC's recommendation to the Board and invited the International Secretariat to present the paper. The VC Chair noted that the paper has been upgraded for decision following the VC meeting the previous day.

Board members raised the following points:

- Supporting Countries representatives commended the disclosures in challenging times but noted potential for further improvements, for example, related to state participation.
- Company representatives noted backsliding and the need for continuous support to further strengthen disclosures.
- CSO representatives highlighted that stakeholder engagement was overall low and requested to continue monitoring and facilitating engagement of all constituencies.

Board members approved the suggested recommendation.

**Actions:**

- The Board Chair to write to the Government of Iraq to communicate the Board decision.
- The International Secretariat to publish the Board decision on Iraq's Validation and the Validation report.

## Board Paper 62-5-B Validation model recommendations – for decision

The Chair of the Validation Committee (VC), with support from the EITI International Secretariat, presented the paper and the recommendation to the EITI Board.

Board members raised the following points:

- Implementing Countries representatives agreed with the suggested recommendation, timelines, labels and mid-term monitoring. They noted that the updated model would better reflect efforts of implementing countries and serve as a tool to encourage progress, especially considering the proposed ranges for scoring.
- CSO representatives expressed their overall support to the updated model. At the same time, they asked if the timeline of five years could be set for completion of a Validation, rather than commencement. They noted the need to ensure that mid-term monitoring mechanism is robust, especially safeguarding the tool against conflicts of interest, and requested to firstly introduce it as a pilot. They asked if one constituency can request a targeted assessment, when needed, and called for further alignment of various monitoring tools.
- Company representatives noted that the recommendation for the updated Validation model was an integrated set of changes which combined formed a compromise solution supported by all constituencies. They noted that adjustment of some aspects could affect

the interconnectedness of the whole model. They noted their initial reservation to the suggested timeline but emphasised the availability of other monitoring tools.

- Supporting Countries representatives supported the recommendation.

The International Secretariat noted that the guidelines and procedure for mid-term monitoring (MTM) would be further discussed and developed by the Implementation Committee (IC). It added that a targeted assessment could be requested by one constituency in case there is evidence of backsliding, but would need to be approved by the Board. The International Secretariat clarified that the availability of other tools to safeguard against backsliding, such as the use of Validation templates, the procedure adopted by the Board when engaging with countries undergoing political instability, and the usual recourse via the Rapid Response Committee. Lastly, the importance of predictability was noted as a crucial factor considered in the updated timelines. The International Secretariat explained that the recommended period for setting Validation schedules is a range, and that the VC and the Board would have discretion whether it wants to go for the maximum or the minimum number of years within each range. Further guidelines on this could be included in the updated Validation guide. The International Secretariat noted the possibility of piloting the mid-term monitoring mechanism after the IC has developed an initial draft of the guidelines, which could be further revised based on lessons learned from the pilot. The International Secretariat further noted that the proposed monitoring mechanism was not a tool for an assessment, but a stocktake

Board members approved the suggested recommendation, while noting the need to further refine and align all monitoring tools and undertake a pilot of the MTM.

**Actions:**

- The International Secretariat to publish the Board decision on the changes to the Validation model.
- The International Secretariat, via a paper to the Validation Committee, to update the relevant provisions of Part 2 of the 2023 EITI Standard to reflect changes in the Validation model.
- The International Secretariat, via a paper to the Validation Committee, to update the Validation Guide to reflect factors to consider when setting the Validation schedule within the agreed range, and to reflect guidelines for scoring of sustainability indicators as noted in the paper.
- The Implementation Committee to further develop the Terms of Reference or guidelines for the mid-term monitoring mechanism and to conduct a pilot of the model.

## 62-6 Report from the Finance Committee

### Board Paper 62-6-A 2024 EITI Annual Accounts – for approval

The EITI International Secretariat presented the paper noting that following the EITI Board's approval, the 2024 Annual Accounts will be signed by all Board members and submitted to the Norwegian authorities.

The EITI Board Chair highlighted the well-managed finances and the positive 2024 financial outcome of the International Secretariat.

Board members raised the following points:

- Company representatives expressed appreciation for the International Secretariat's commitment to maintaining solid financial management procedures. They acknowledged that this approach secured a surplus in 2024 and recognised the clean audit and the timely implementation of all the auditor's recommendations.
- CSO representatives welcomed the 2024 surplus and the replenishment of the reserve fund. The constituency appreciated the reduction in consultancy costs and the delay in recruitment and noted the extra workload taken on by staff at the EITI International Secretariat in light of financial prudence measures.
- Supporting Countries representatives emphasised the importance of maintaining a cautious approach due to capacity constraints, the implementation of the 2023 Standard, and potential future funding reductions. The constituency acknowledged the International Secretariat's prudent financial management.

Board members approved the 2024 EITI Annual Accounts.

**Actions:**

- The International Secretariat to arrange for the 2024 Annual Accounts to be signed by all Board members and submitted to the relevant authorities in Norway.

## Item 62-6-B Finance Update – for information

The EITI International Secretariat provided an update, noting that its financial situation remains strong. It is now exploring ways to mitigate the impact of the termination of the USAID grant. It was emphasised that the funding cut did not affect the 2024 outcome.

The International Secretariat noted that its activities and costs will be revised to minimise disruption and enhance planning flexibility in 2026. It was highlighted that collaboration with partners would be beneficial in identifying sustainable solutions.

To mitigate 2025 expenditures, the International Secretariat intends to:

- Keep travel expenses within budget,
- Maintain current staffing levels while reviewing new recruitments and
- Conduct quarterly reviews of planned events and capacity-building activities.

The International Secretariat summarised three key ways for mitigating the impact of the USAID funding withdrawal:

1. Finalisation of three outstanding multi-year contributions – a more detailed overview will be provided in a paper at the June Board meeting.
2. BHP Foundation exit grant – this grant aims to sustain the activities the Foundation currently funds through the EITI, ensuring their continuity through 2026 despite the donor's shifting priorities.
3. Funding from Founders Pledge – the International Secretariat has submitted a multi-year proposal and is in ongoing negotiations with the donor. The funding would support areas such as outcomes, outreach and systematic disclosure in Africa. In the meantime, the Secretariat has secured a grant of USD 200,000 from the donor, which may be used to cover core expenditures previously funded by USAID.

Board members raised the following points:

- Company representatives endorsed the use of the surplus to cover the funding gap in 2025 but stressed that, given the uncertainty of future funding, the International Secretariat must undertake a comprehensive review of activities, expenditures, and revenue for 2025-2026. A financial review based on a sustainable long-term approach, rather than short-term solutions, was recommended. They emphasised that the financial review should be aligned with the strategic priorities review to ensure consistency.
- Supporting Countries representatives suggested that the International Secretariat implements the new Validation model previously discussed by the Board, incorporating new ways of working while maintaining the integrity of the country assessment processes and reducing costs.
- CSO representatives suggested that the EITI takes a more proactive approach in light of the current funding situation, including the potential organisation of a donor event to discuss funding opportunities.

**Actions:**

- The International Secretariat to undertake a review of activities, expenditures, and revenue for 2025-2026, in alignment with the strategic priorities review to ensure consistency.
- The International Secretariat to prepare a Board paper outlining the proposed way forward, risk mitigation measures for 2025, and risk management plans for 2026.
- The International Secretariat to provide an update on three multi-year contributions at the Board meeting in June 2025.

## 62-7 Report from the Governance and Oversight Committee

### Board Paper 62-7-A Full Year 2024 Audit – for approval

The EITI Board Chair invited the auditor to present the EITI International Secretariat's 2024 audit report. The auditor summarised the report. The auditor reported that no significant issues were identified during the audit and that all recommendations from previous audits were addressed, resulting in a clean audit opinion.

No comments were made.

Board members approved the 2024 audit report.

### Board Paper 62-7-B Summary of the 2024 EITI Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) – for information

The Chair of the Governance and Oversight Committee (GOC) introduced the item, noting work underway to revise the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). She highlighted the EITI International Secretariat's progress on gender equality and staff retention and noted that the National Coordinators' survey underscored the importance of in-person post-Validation meetings.

The International Secretariat explained that the KPIs are grouped into three categories: Secretariat effectiveness, country implementation and context and global indicators. Regarding the first category, the International Secretariat highlighted positive trends in fundraising and efficiency as well as improved staff retention. The International Secretariat noted that Validation

was undertaken for different countries in different years and countries, each with its own context, so year-to-year comparisons should be made with caution. It was highlighted that data on country support shows alignment with strategic priorities, and country implementation data is reported throughout the year in IPRs.

It was noted that the global indicators show a positive trend and are grouped into the following three categories: investment; membership; contribution to global debate.

Board members raised the following points:

- Company representatives raised concern about declining stakeholder engagement and stressed the importance of analysing data to demonstrate EITI's global impact. They welcomed the reduced number of indicators but called for further streamlining, noting gaps between what is measured and EITI's objectives.
- Company representatives further suggested considering the inclusion of data from the Outreach Progress Report on countries joining the EITI in the period under review, and endorsed the need for further reduction and rationalisation of the KPIs.

**Actions:**

- The Governance and Oversight Committee to continue to improve and refine the KPIs with the International Secretariat's support.

## Board Paper 62-7-C Refinement of the EITI's Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) framework – for discussion

The Governance and Oversight Committee (GOC) Chair noted that the paper was initially submitted for approval but, following Committee discussions, would first be presented for discussion, with approval to follow via Board circular. The Board was informed that the GOC will hold a workshop to develop a comprehensive Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) framework. Board members interested in participating are invited to contact the EITI International Secretariat.

The International Secretariat outlined the following suggestions and highlighted that the development of the MEL framework aligns with recommendations made by the consultant engaged mid-2024 to support further development of the EITI's strategic framework:

Board members raised the following points:

- Company representatives welcomed the International Secretariat's approach to the MEL framework and stressed the need to further refine and test the KPIs. They recommended accelerating implementation and highlighted the value of strengthening Board understanding of the theory of change.

The Board Chair emphasised the importance of aligning the reduction of KPIs, the development of the MEL framework, and the strategic framework.

**Actions:**

- The Governance and Oversight Committee to further develop the MEL framework through a workshop with Board members, with the International Secretariat's support.

## Board Paper 62-7-D Board self-assessment survey results 2024 – for information

The EITI International Secretariat highlighted the highest and lowest areas of satisfaction reflected in the survey and presented four suggestions:

- Strengthen Board selection processes, emphasising gender balance and cultural diversity.
- Enhance induction processes to deepen the Board’s understanding of the EITI Standard, Validation and governance.
- Aim for shorter Board papers, provide executive summaries, and allow more time for review and translations.
- Assess delegation of authority for Board committees to reduce workload and boost participation.

The Board Chair requested that constituency-related issues be addressed by the constituencies themselves.

Board members raised the following points:

- CSO representatives stressed the importance of timely distribution of documentation. They noted that disaggregated survey data results shared in Committee show discrepancies in satisfaction between constituencies that should be discussed. Regarding forward-looking recommendations, they expressed concern that some committee members were communicating as a constituency unilaterally with the International Secretariat in the review of guidance and papers, rather than expressing their concerns and feedback directly in Committees, where all constituencies are represented. They urged this practice to be discontinued and suggested this be formalised in Committee ToRs to support consensus-building.
- Supporting Countries representatives agreed in principle with the CSO constituency. They also called for the question of delegation of authority among Board members to be addressed as it will help ensure strong representation both on the Board and in committees.

The Board Chair reminded Board members that the paper was presented for discussion.

### **Actions:**

- The International Secretariat to continue working with the Board members to address the issues identified in the survey.
- The EITI committees to formalise communication rules when next reviewing committee Terms of Reference.
- Constituencies to work on improving their own selection processes in line with the feedback expressed in the survey.

## AOB

Mark Robinson gave an update on the progress made by the Nominations Committee. He reported that the Nominations Committee has held three meetings to date. Based on the

International Secretariat's proposed list of candidates that was considered a credible starting point, the Committee aims to develop a shortlist of potential candidates by June and hold interviews in early July. Company representatives questioned the non-involvement of a recruitment agency in the process. Mark responded that the Committee unanimously rejected the involvement of a recruitment agency at the outset. He added that cost was a factor and there was scepticism about whether an agency would provide better candidates than those identified through constituency brainstorming.

Mark announced the dates for the upcoming Board meetings:

- **63<sup>rd</sup> virtual Board meeting** taking place on **18-19 June 2025**
- **64<sup>th</sup> in-person Board meeting**, taking place on **19-20 November 2025**, in **Yerevan, Armenia**. A thematic learning event on beneficial ownership transparency is planned alongside the meeting

Regarding the host of the 2026 EITI Global Conference, Mark gave an update on the prospective host for the 2026 EITI Global Conference, expected to be in Asia. He reported that a formal proposal will be presented at the virtual Board meeting in June.

CSO representatives raised concerns about new legislation in Peru that severely restricts civil society's ability to use international funding for advocacy or legal action against deemed state interests or entities. They highlighted that the extractive sector is one of the most dangerous for civil society activists, and that these laws have further negative impact on freedom of expression and civic space. They highlighted that, coupled with the risks of global backsliding on anti-corruption safeguards, this ongoing decline in civic space and use of laws to silence civil society is putting the gains made by EITI over the last 22 years at risk.

CSO representatives requested the International Secretariat to include a civic space assessment in the Implementation Progress Report and Dedicate a deep-dive session to civic space issues at the next Board meeting in light of a global trend towards repressive anti-NGO laws which risk the gains being lost in many contexts made by the EITI over the last two decades.

**Acknowledgements:** The EITI Board Chair expressed gratitude to the translators for their excellent work, to the staff for their dedicated committee support, and to the Board members for their active participation and effective contributions. She also thanked the large number of observers for their interest and engagement.

## Annex - Participant List – 62<sup>nd</sup> EITI Board Meeting

Grey – not attending in person /not yet confirmed/virtual

### CHAIR

Rt Hon. Helen CLARK

### COUNTRIES

#### Implementing Countries

**Mr Mohamed Lemine AHMEDOU**, EITI National Coordinator, Mauritania  
Alt: **Mr Antoine Kocounseu MIMBA**, Chairman, EITI National Council Côte d'Ivoire

**Ms Isabel CHUVAMBE**, EITI National Coordinator, EITI Secretariat, Mozambique  
Alt: **Ms Francess ALGHALI**, Minister of State, Office of the Vice-President, Sierra Leone

**Mr Bayani AGABIN**, Undersecretary, Department of Finance, Philippines  
Alt: **Mr Javkhlanbaatar SEREETER**, State Secretary, Ministry of Industry and Minerals, Mongolia

**Mr Jean-Jacques KAYEMBE**, EITI National Coordinator, Democratic Republic of Congo  
Alt: **Mr Florent Michel OKOKO**, EITI National Coordinator, Republic of the Congo

**Mr Miguel Angel DÍAZ**, Vice-Minister of Mines, Dominican Republic  
Alt: **Mr Gregory McGUIRE**, Chairman of TTEITI Steering Committee, Trinidad & Tobago

**Ms Hasmik MANUKYAN**, EITI National Coordinator, Armenia  
Alt: TBC

## Supporting Countries

TBC  
Alt: TBC

**Mr Ms Deborah YU**, Director General, Explosives, Regulatory and Business Services Branch, Natural Resources Canada  
Alt: **Ms Sara YUN**, Director, Bureau of Energy Resources, Office of Policy Analysis and Public Diplomacy, US State Department

**Mr Paul GARAYCOCHEA**, Director, Sustainable Transformation of Supply Chains, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Germany  
Alt: **Mr Taco WESTERHUIS**, Policy Advisor Circular Economy and Raw Materials, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Netherlands

## CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS

**Mr Aliou Ba COULIBALY**, President, Publish What You Pay (PWYP) Coalition, Mauritania  
Alt: **Mr Kossi KOUGBLENOU**, Executive Director, ACOMB, Togo

**Ms Diana EL KAISSY**, Advisory board member at the Lebanese Oil and Gas Initiative-LOGI, Lebanon  
Alt: **Mr Matthieu SALOMON**, Lead, Anti-corruption, Natural Resource Governance Institute, France

**Ms Vanessa CUETO LA ROSA**, Environmental Lawyer, Derecho Ambiente y Recursos Naturales, Peru  
Alt: **Ms Yessica PRIETO RAMOS**, National Director, Projects & Research, Crudo Transparente, Colombia

**Ms Mariya LOBACHEVA**, Executive Director, Echo - Public Association, Kazakhstan  
Alt: **Ms Olena PAVLENKO**, President, DiXi Group, Ukraine

**Mr Clancy MOORE**, Chief Executive Officer, Transparency International, Australia  
Alt: **Ms Tamika HALWIINDI**, Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability Lead, Transparency International, Zambia

## COMPANIES INCLUDING INVESTORS

**Ms Kathryn CASSON**, Chief Adviser, Civil Society and Outreach, Rio Tinto  
Alt: **Mr Richard MORGAN**, Head of Government Relations, Anglo American

**Mr Chinonso EMEHELU**, Senior Director, Public & Government Affairs, Exploration, Strategy & Business Development, ExxonMobil

Alt: **Mr Mike ANDERSON**, Senior Vice President, Sustainability and External Affairs, Kosmos Energy

**Mr James ENSOR**, Vice President, External Affairs, BHP

Alt: **Mr Nick COTTS**, Senior Vice President, Sustainability and External Relations, Newmont Mining

**Ms Nolwenn DELAUNAY**, General Counsel, TotalEnergies

Alt: **Mr Roberto NARDI**, Head for Consolidated Financial Statements and Reporting, Eni

**Mr James NICHOLSON**, Head of Corporate Responsibility, Trafigura Group

Alt: TBC

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

Alt: **Ms Jaqui FREEMAN**, Vice President, Tax Policy, bp

## BOARD SECRETARY

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

## OBSERVERS

**Mr Abdulrahman MWANGA**, Commissioner for Minerals, Ministry of Minerals, Tanzania

**Mr Adam ABRAHAM**, Executive Director, HakiRasilimali, Tanzania

**Mr Ashraf BANDA**, Chief Economist, Ministry of Mining, Malawi

**Ms Margarita BATLLE**, Principal Advisor, Rio Tinto, UK

**Mr William Aliga BETHSMITH**, Director General, Ministry of Mining, South Sudan

**Mr Bakari BIRIKA**, Head, ICT and Statistics, EITI, Tanzania

**Mr Thomas BOAK**, Policy Officer, Resources and Energy Section, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), Australia

**Ms Hannah CLAYTON**, Just Transition Lead, Strategy & Sustainability, bp

**Ms Briony COLEMAN**, Group Head Safety & Sustainability Governance, Newmont, Australia

**Ms Sophie DONSZELMANN**, Manager, ICMM, United Kingdom

**Mr Christopher ELLINGER**, Deputy High Commissioner, Australian High Commission in Kenya (accredited to Tanzania), Australia

**Mr Thialy FAYE**, President, EITI, Senegal

**Ms Klara GIESLER**, Junior Advisor, D-EITI Secretariat, Germany

**Ms Mareike GOEHLER-ROBUS**, Advisor, D-EITI Secretariat, Germany

**Mr Alex GORDY**, Senior Policy Advisor, Extractive Sector Transparency and Taxation Division, Natural Resources, Canada

**Mr David Benjamin HALSTENBERG**, Advisor, Extractives & Development, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, Germany

**Mr Vincent HANAPPIER**, VP Corporate, Expertise and Methods in Exploration & Production Legal Department, TotalEnergies

**Mr Jan-Petter Holtedahl**, Senior Adviser, Section for Governance, Department for Human Development, Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD), Norway

**Ms Nina INAMAHORO**, Operations Officer, Energy & Extractives, World Bank

**Mr Fred KABANDA**, Division Manager, African Development Bank, Côte d'Ivoire

**Mr Eric KENDRICK**, Counsellor - Political, Economic, Public Affairs, Canadian High Commission, Tanzania

**Mr Erick KETAGORY**, Manager, Accountability and Transparency, EITI, Tanzania

**Mr John Simon KINUNO**, State Attorney, Office of the Attorney General, Tanzania

**Ms Josephine KOCH**, D-EITI MSG Member, Forum on Environment and Development, Germany  
**Ms Desire KUBWIMANA**, Burundi  
**Ms Victoria LECOMTE**, Advisor, Governance - Extractive Sector, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, France  
**Mr William LUKUDO**, South Sudan  
**Ms Laila MACHARIA**, Director, Aspen Initiative Africa (AIA), Kenya  
**Ms Isabelle MAGNE**, Head of Sector, DG for International Partnerships, European Commission, Belgium  
**Mr Mussa MAKAME**, Managing Director, Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC), Tanzania  
**Mr Robert MWANYUMBA**, Regional Coordinator, Transparency International Secretariat, Kenya  
**Mr Hans MERKET**, Research & Policy Manager, IPIS, Belgium/Tanzania  
**Mr Aslan MESBAH**, Director, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), Australia  
**Ms Mariam MGAYA**, Executive Secretary, EITI, Tanzania  
**Mr Dorian MOUKETOU**, Foreign Service Officer, Global Affairs, Canada  
**Mr Leonard MUSHANI**, Secretariat Manager, EITI Malawi  
**Ms Julieth MOSHI**, Head, Legal Services, EITI, Tanzania  
**Ms Mecktilder Mbanjo MCHOMVU**, Executive Director Tanzania Women in Mining & Mineral Industry (TWIMMI), Tanzania  
**Ms Theonestina MWASHA**, Executive Secretary, Foundation of ASM Development (FADev), Tanzania  
**Ms Martha NANGOLO**, Senior Research Associate, Institute for Public Policy Research (IPPR), Namibia  
**Ms Emily NICKERSON**, Deputy Director, Extractive Sector Transparency Office, Natural Resource Governance (NRCan), Canada  
**Mr Régis NIYONGABO**, Conseiller Attaché à la Direction Générale de l'Office Burundais des mines et carrières et Point Focal ITIE, Burundi  
**Ms Edith NYABICHA**, Policy Analyst-East & Southern Africa, Global Financial Integrity, Kenya  
**Mr Silas OLAN'G**, Africa Energy Transition Advisor, Natural Resource Governance Institute  
**Mr Oleksiy ORLOVSKY**, Programme Director, International Renaissance Foundation, Ukraine  
**Ms Anne-Laure PELCERF**, Director Company Legal Affairs, TotalEnergies  
**Mr Martin Kaluluma PHIRI**, Principal Secretary (Regulation), Ministry of Mining, Malawi  
**Ms Ketakandriana RAFITOSON**, Executive Director, Publish What You Pay  
**Ms Haley RICE**, Consultant, Publish What You Pay (PWYP), UK  
**Mr Sven RICHTERS**, Head of Component, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, Germany & Burundi  
**Ms Mary Ann RODOLFO**, National Coordinator, Philippines  
**Mr Gabriel RUFYIRI**, Burundi  
**Ms Amy RUSSELL**, Senior Legal Counsel, bp  
**Ms Anastazia RYOBA**, Head of Compliance and Reconciliation, EITI, Tanzania  
**Ms Mageni SAGENGE**, Head of Administration and Human Resource Management, EITI, Tanzania  
**Mr Yahya SAMAMBA**, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Minerals, Tanzania  
**Ms Christine SAULICH**, Senior policy Officer, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Germany  
**Mr Tim SCHLOESSER**, Head of Project, Extractives Development, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, Germany  
**Ms Marie-Christine SCHROEDER-VAN WAES**, Senior Legal Counsel Sustainability, Legal Services Corporate (LSC), Shell International  
**Mr Simon SHAYO**, VP Sustainability & Corporate Affairs (Africa), Geita Gold Mine Company Ltd., Tanzania  
**Mr Eole SURY**, Political advisor, EU Special Representative for the Great Lakes region, Rwanda

**Mr Genci TËRPO**, General Director global, EITI, Albania  
**Mr Joachim TIBENDA**, Principal Economist, EITI, Tanzania  
**Mr John-Bosco TINDYEBWA**, MSG Member, EITI, Tanzania  
**Mr Kouadio Julien TINGAIN**, Technical Director, EITI, Côte d'Ivoire  
**Mr Jean TRABAND**, Desk Officer - Fight against corruption, Accountability, Financial Transparency, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, France  
**Mr Ludovic UTOUH**, Chair, EITI, Tanzania  
**Mr Reinout VAN VAERENBERGH**, Strategic Advisor Natural Resources and Financial Management, D5 – Humanitarian Aid and Transition, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Belgium  
**Ms Hannah WESTERHAUS**, Policy Officer, DG for International Partnerships, European Commission, Belgium  
**Ms Marie WETTINGFELD**, Policy Advisor, FÖS e.V., Germany  
**Ms Petra YLIORTIMO**, Team Leader (Financing capacity of developing countries), Finland

## EITI INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT

(Please find the updated organogram for [EITI Staff at this link](#))

**Ms Tatiana ALVARENGA**, Senior country Officer  
**Mr Bady Mamadou BALDÉ**, Deputy Executive Director  
**Ms Christina BERGER**, Validations Director  
**Mr Espen FAUSKO-JOHANSEN**, Finance Manager  
**Ms Gisela GRANADO**, Policy Director  
**Ms Gay ORDENES**, Technical Director  
**Ms Joanne JONES**, Strategy & Communications Director  
**Mr Nassim BENNANI KABCHI**, Regional Director, Francophone Africa and MENA  
**Ms Leah KROGSUND**, Board Support  
**Mr Gilbert MAKORE**, Regional Director, Anglophone & Lusophone Africa