

Minutes

63rd EITI Board meeting

OVERVIEW

These Minutes capture the discussion and agreed outcomes of the 63rd EITI Board meeting.

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Abbreviations

CCCMC - China Chamber of Commerce of Metals, Minerals & Chemicals Importers & Exporters
 CSO - Civil Society organisations
 DRM - Domestic Resource Mobilisation
 EU – European Union
 FC – Finance Committee
 GOC – Governance and Oversight Committee
 IC – Implementation Committee
 IPR - Implementation Progress Report
 KPIs - Key Performance Indicators

LAC – Latin America and the Caribbean
 MEL - Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning
 MSG – Multistakeholder group
 OCC – Outreach and Candidature Committee
 OECD - Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
 OPR - Outreach Progress Report
 ToR - Terms of Reference
 VC – Validation Committee

63-1 Welcome and adoption of the agenda

The **EITI Board Chair, Helen Clark**, welcomed participants to the 63rd EITI Board meeting. She emphasised the Board's role in addressing strategic issues to help guide implementation and financial planning in an uncertain context. She then introduced the draft Board meeting agenda which was approved.

Apologies were received from the following Board members:

- Sara Yun, Director, Bureau of Energy Resources, Office of Policy Analysis and Public Diplomacy, U.S. Department of State

The Board Chair advised that the Companies' constituency will soon fill the two vacant seats left by departing Board members. She noted that there were 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 those positions. The Chair then called on Mark Robinson to speak to reports from the Secretariat.

Mark Robinson noted that, following the Board meeting in Arusha, the EITI International Secretariat had reviewed current procedures to improve the efficiency and conduct of Board and committee processes. This review, informed by the Board survey, aimed to preserve effective practices while reducing the time burden on members. Mark recalled that the previous Board reaffirmed the current practice of two in-person meetings (in implementing and supporting countries) and one virtual meeting annually, balancing engagement with cost-effectiveness. He reported that the International Secretariat is streamlining papers by reducing length, applying consistent formats, and maintaining two-page summaries. He added that staff are undergoing training to improve the writing of Board and Committee papers. He further explained that committee leads are reviewing the frequency and duration of meetings. The Governance and Oversight Committee (GOC) has approved a time-bound arrangement for supporting country Board members to delegate technical work. Mark concluded that the International Secretariat is exploring the use of GenAI for internal translations to improve turnaround and reduce costs, while maintaining quality assurance and excluding sensitive documents. He invited feedback from Board members on these proposals.

63-2 Report from the Secretariat

Board Paper 63-2-A Implementation Progress Report February – May 2025 – for information

Mark Robinson presented the Implementation Progress Report (IPR), focusing on activities from February to May 2025.

Board members raised the following points:

- The IPR's focus on civic space was welcomed, as was the need for ongoing dialogue, including at the November Board meeting. It was noted that shrinking civic space is not solely a civil society issue, but rather one that demands attention from all constituencies involved in the EITI process.
- CSO representatives requested information on countries granted reporting deadline extensions in March and on the number of reports expected by end of June. They raised concerns about potential conflicts of interest among civil society members in Gabon's Multi-Stakeholder Group (MSG). They called for stronger oversight of Requirement 1.3(f), encouraging MSGs to address protocol breaches and assess compliance ahead of the 2026 Global Conference. While acknowledging differing views on major revisions to the 2023 Standard, they expressed their view that even minor changes could significantly impact and help mitigate geopolitical risks. They advocated ongoing discussions in the Implementation Committee with proposals targeted for Board review by November.

- Supporting Countries’ representatives expressed concern over the rise of “foreign agents” laws, and called for close monitoring of their impact on EITI implementation and civil society engagement.
- Implementing Countries’ representatives highlighted the importance of continuing to provide training for MSGs and national secretariats, along with maintaining the flow of information to all members in implementing countries. They expressed concern that countries are being penalised for laws on civic space, when some individuals may misuse MSGs, alongside concerns over foreign funding for money-laundering purposes.

The International Secretariat:

- acknowledged Board members’ concerns regarding civic space, and agreed that this is not solely a civil society issue but a broader concern for the EITI as a whole. It noted that the IPR’s focus on civic space is a starting point and reaffirmed its commitment to continuing the discussion ahead of the November Board meeting. The International Secretariat welcomed input from all constituencies, particularly on shared concerns.
- provided an update on countries that requested extensions for not producing 2022 EITI reports. Seven countries submitted such requests: Chad, Colombia, Indonesia, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Suriname, and Tajikistan. Indonesia has since published its report. Chad, Colombia, Iraq, Kazakhstan, and Tajikistan are on track to publish their reports by the end of June, with Iraq expected to report by September. Suriname, however, is facing delays.
- reported that Gabon’s MSG governance and civil society participation have been a key focus this quarter due to recent government restructuring. Concerns over conflicts of interest have been raised with the relevant constituency and a new process for renewing the civil society representation is underway. The process is expected to be completed by August, which the International Secretariat is closely monitoring.
- acknowledged the importance of improved coordination in planning training. It is committed to sharing training plans and ensuring stakeholder involvement in the process.
- reaffirmed the importance of protecting civic space. It continues to remind implementing countries of their obligations under the civil society protocol. This is done through various means, including official letters, negotiations, and behind-the-scenes training. The International Secretariat remains open to further guidance on additional actions that could help address the trend of shrinking civic space.

Actions

- The International Secretariat to continue monitoring of civic space and support adherence to the civil society protocol as part of EITI implementation.
- The International Secretariat to consult the civil society constituency on follow-up sessions to the deep dive for the Armenia Board meeting in November.

Board Paper 63-2-B Outreach Progress Report February - May 2025 – for information

Mark Robinson presented the Outreach Progress Report (OPR), focusing on activities from February to May 2025.

EITI Board members raised the following points:

- Board members noted persistent challenges in securing Chinese company participation, and welcomed the International Secretariat’s outreach to the China Chamber of Commerce of Metals, Minerals & Chemicals Importers & Exporters (CCCMC). CSO, Supporting Countries and Company representatives stressed the strategic importance of this engagement, offering support through embassies, networks, and company contacts.

- Board members welcomed Chile’s prospective candidature. CSO representatives noted the constructive involvement of civil society in the development of Chile’s work plan and governance framework, while raising concerns about long-term funding and recommending outreach to the banking sector.
- Other outreach developments—including interest from Brazil, Finland, Portugal, and the Solomon Islands—were positively received.
- Members encouraged the International Secretariat to share a calendar of upcoming events to facilitate Board involvement.

The International Secretariat noted the following:

- Outreach to Chinese stakeholders, including CCCMC, is being undertaken.
- Chile is an upper-middle income country and must fund its own implementation.
- The International Secretariat expressed appreciation for the engagement of Board members in outreach efforts and acknowledged the support of the German and Swiss governments in relation to outreach to Brazil.

Actions:

- The International Secretariat to provide an update on ongoing discussions with Chinese companies at the Board meeting in November 2025.
- The International Secretariat to provide an update on the Great Lakes region, including on work by the EU and OECD on transparency and accountability.
- The OCC to review Chile’s candidature application when it is received and to share its recommendation with the Board.

Item 63-2-C Board Chair Nominations Committee Update – for information

This session was closed door.

63-3 Report from the Implementation Committee

Board Paper 63-3 Evolution of the 2023 EITI Standard – for discussion

The Implementation Committee (IC) Chair presented the paper on the Evolution of the 2023 EITI Standard. The paper set out the recommendation of the International Secretariat that a longer timeframe be adopted for revisions to the EITI Standard, to allow countries sufficient time to undertake necessary legislative and regulatory changes and ensure alignment with other standards. While there had been broad agreement in the Implementation Committee that there should be no major revisions to the EITI Standard in 2026, the Committee has not reached a consensus on whether there should be scope for minor adjustments ahead of the EITI Conference in 2026.

Board members raised the following points:

- CSO representatives suggested that minor adjustments to the EITI Standard could help implementing countries navigate new global challenges, including a reduction in development funding, increased competition for critical minerals, and shrinking civic space. CSO representatives submitted a brief memorandum a few days in advance of the Board meeting outlining provisions in the 2023 EITI Standard which they believe could be strengthened to advance the EITI’s strategic priorities in the

current geopolitical and economic climate, and thereby enhance the EITI's value proposition. CSO representatives suggested that the Implementation Committee discusses the changes proposed in the circulated memorandum, which they described as minor, and reach consensus on how to proceed in time for the next Board meeting.

- Implementing Countries' representatives emphasised the importance of giving countries sufficient time for implementation of the 2023 EITI Standard, and called attention to the comparatively weaker Validation performance of many countries relative to assessments against the 2019 EITI Standard. They therefore expressed support for the recommendation to defer changes, and highlighted the importance of sustained investment and technical support in the implementation of the 2023 Standard.
- Company representatives underlined the need to give companies sufficient time to embed reporting in internal processes alongside other reporting requirements. The issues of increasing country suspensions, low implementation capacity, and poor Validation outcomes were cited as further reasons for adopting a longer timeframe for changes to the EITI Standard. Company representatives commended the 2023 EITI Standard for striking a good balance between mandatory and encouraging provisions, and suggested that outreach and technical support be used to help implementing countries navigate the changing global context in the meantime.
- The International Secretariat proposed an overnight discussion between a small group of Board members later the same day to discuss the process for considering changes to the EITI Standard moving forward.
- Company representatives indicated that the Company constituency needed more time to absorb the changes proposed by CSO representatives in the previously circulated memo and that it would therefore not be helpful to continue discussions at this point.
- CSO representatives clarified that the memo outlining proposed adjustments to the 2023 EITI Standard had not been intended for decision at this Board meeting and that an overnight discussion would not allow Board members to consider the proposal in sufficient depth.

The Board Chair clarified that the proposed overnight discussion would not have focused on the content of the memo submitted by the CSO constituency but on finding agreement on the process for considering changes to the EITI Standard moving forward.

The Board Chair noted that there was no support for the offer to convene an additional meeting from any of the constituencies. She concluded that there was no consensus on changes to the EITI Standard. In the absence of that consensus, the 2023 EITI Standard prevailed. The Chair tasked the Implementation Committee with recommending the process and timeline for revisions to the EITI Standard in the future, including consultation processes, for consideration by the Board at its next meeting.

Actions:

- The Implementation Committee to recommend a process and timeline for changes to the EITI Standard in the future at the next Board meeting.

63-4 Report from the World Bank

Robert Schlotterer presented the report from the World Bank.

The World Bank Group remains a dedicated partner of the EITI, emphasising that transparency is a key aspect of its engagement in the extractives sector, supported by both EGPS 2 and EGPS 3.

Robert highlighted several recent developments, including new lending operations in Bosnia (coal mine closure under the just transition agenda), in Central African Republic (digitalisation of geological data), Democratic Republic of the Congo (support through the Inga hydropower project), and Mauritania (supporting sector framework and pilot of a major hydrogen initiative).

A new World Bank extractives strategy is under development and will be presented to the World Bank's Board later this year. The strategy will shape future mining and minerals' sector support, in coordination with the International Finance Corporation (IFC) and Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA).

Robert updated the Board on EGPS 2 implementation: nine projects are active across countries including Albania, Iraq, Kyrgyz Republic, Papua New Guinea, Uganda, Ukraine and Tajikistan. A new project in Zambia is in the pipeline, aligned with broader sector support under EGPS 3's RISE (Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy) initiative. Most projects are expected to conclude by June 2026, with Zambia extending to October 2027. He clarified that no further extensions are planned beyond current revisions, in line with the intention to close EGPS 2 by 2027. Robert reported that a transparency-focused window under EGPS 3 has been established but remains unfunded. He invited donors to consider pledging support, emphasising the importance of long-term and integrated governance support.

He concluded by thanking EITI stakeholders and donors for their continued partnership and support.

Board members raised the following points:

- CSO representatives asked whether lessons had been learnt from the low disbursement rates under ongoing EGPS 2 projects. They also requested additional background on the Mining Sector Diagnostic. They again urged the World Bank to consider using grants rather than contracts in the next phase of support for the Citizen Engagement and Accountability work. The contract format is very difficult for CSOs, which typically do not have the cash flow to pay for a project in advance and be reimbursed at the end. This also requires CSOs to pay service taxes and other expenses not provisioned for under the project.

The World Bank answered the points as follows:

- The low disbursement levels remain a concern and reflect the limitations of the EGPS 2 model. This has informed the shift under EGPS 3 toward larger, programmatic operations. The World Bank noted limited progress and warned that corrective action may be taken if needed, as EGPS 2 must close by 2027.
- The Mining Sector Diagnostic has become a flagship tool of the World Bank, with recent work in Burundi and Malawi. Findings from Malawi were published in February in Malawi Economic Monitor.
- Robert acknowledged institutional constraints to move away from contracts but welcomed continued dialogue as EGPS 3 develops.

63-5 Report from the Validation Committee

The Board Chair noted that all cases were suggested for decision, with the recent updates provided through the addendum to Board Circular 363.

Targeted assessment of Niger (for decision)

The Validation Committee (VC) chair presented the VC's recommendation to the Board and invited the International Secretariat to present the case.

No comments were received.

Board members approved the suggested recommendation.

Actions:

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

Validation of Kazakhstan (for decision)

The VC Chair presented the VC's recommendation to the Board and invited the International Secretariat to present the case.

Board members raised the following points:

- CSO representatives noted that despite positive steps since March taken by the government, recent concerns have emerged regarding the government's publication of new TORs for the MSG without consulting the other constituencies. The draft Terms of Reference (ToR) changed the decision-making process from consensus to a simple majority, and the new composition of the MSG did not reflect previous MSG discussions and gave a majority of votes to the government constituency. It was suggested by the CSO representative that supporting countries and the World Bank should raise these concerns through respective ambassadors and local offices. They approved the recommendation, but noted continued deep concerns on stakeholder engagement, especially 1.1 and 1.4.
- A Supporting Countries representative noted that the concerns would be communicated with regional units and the ambassador.

Board members approved the suggested recommendation.

Actions

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

Validation of Angola (for decision)

The VC Chair presented the VC's recommendation to the Board and invited the International Secretariat to present the case. The Validation has been upgraded for decision following the VC meeting on 16 June.

No comments were received.

Board members approved the suggested recommendation.

Actions:

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

Validation of Peru (for decision)

The VC Chair presented the VC's recommendation to the Board and invited the International Secretariat to present the case. The Validation has been upgraded for decision following the VC meeting on 16 June.

Board members raised the following points:

- CSO representatives expressed concerns about the deteriorating civil society environment in the region, impacting on CSOs working on the extractive sector. Peru's recent announcement to reconsider membership in the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights was of concern. EITI implementation at the subnational level in Peru was at risk given the withdrawal of USAID support and there was an urgent need for financial support to sustain Peru's EITI efforts. There was a lack of transparency in the development of oil and gas projects on indigenous lands and in protected natural areas. Peruvian CSOs were commended for gathering critical evidence that informed the final assessment. This level of capacity was not present in all countries with limited civic space. Board members underlined the importance of the International Secretariat's follow-up with the Peruvian government on the corrective

actions related to EITI Requirement 1.3, as well as a call for continued monitoring of the situation of civic space.

- A Supporting Countries representative supported the recommendation to conduct a stock take on EITI Requirement 1.3 in 18 months and noted that the APCI law could jeopardise EITI implementation, potentially leading to Peru's suspension.
- An Implementing Countries representative noted that the International Secretariat should consider the country context when assessing breaches of the Protocol, given that in some countries laws are adopted in response to certain CSOs or "uncivil" organisations that spread misinformation that goes against specific situations or persons..

Board members approved the suggested recommendation.

Actions:

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

Validation of Ukraine (for decision)

The VC Chair presented the VC's recommendation to the Board and invited the International Secretariat to present the case. The Validation has been upgraded for decision following the VC meeting on 16 June.

Board members raised the following points:

- A Supporting Countries representative commended Ukraine's significant progress and achievements during the ongoing war. It was noted that contract transparency and beneficial ownership disclosures were particularly important to progress on to contribute meaningfully to post-war reconstruction and European Union (EU) accession process. The EITI had a critical role to play, and the International Secretariat should support Ukraine to ensure that the country's natural resources are managed for the benefit of the Ukrainian people.

Board members approved the suggested recommendation. The Board Chair commended Ukraine on its achievements under conditions of the ongoing war.

Actions:

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

63-6 Report from the Finance Committee

Board Paper 63-6 Q1 Financial Updates: Q1 Accounts and Updated 2025 Budget Outlook – for information

The Finance Committee (FC) reported a surplus and a healthy cash position for Q1 2025 for the EITI International Secretariat, with reserves remaining untouched. The projection for the full year remains a balanced budget, supported by the full utilisation of the 2024 carryover.

The International Secretariat informed the Board that contributions from Belgium, the Netherlands and Switzerland remain pending and have therefore not been included in the current outlook. Should any of this income materialise, the need to draw on the carry-over will be reduced accordingly.

The International Secretariat also noted that while some governments have deprioritised aid, efforts to maintain support for the EITI continue. Engagement with Belgium and Switzerland is progressing well, and it is hoped that the Q2 report will reflect these countries' multi-year contributions.

The FC Chair acknowledged the International Secretariat's efforts in managing the budget and securing both new and existing contributions.

No comments were received.

Actions:

- The International Secretariat to continue to follow up with donors whose contributions are pending and explore new funding opportunities.

63-7 Report from the Governance and Oversight Committee

Board Paper 63-7-A Risk and opportunities arising from EITI evolving context – for discussion

The Governance and Oversight Committee (GOC) Chair noted that the paper was prepared in response to Board concerns raised in Arusha. It outlined key strategic challenges and opportunities amid rising demand for transparency. Despite financial and civic space constraints, the EITI remains relevant, with strong positioning in transition mineral-producing countries and continued donor interest. Implementation of the EITI 2023 Standard poses challenges, with many countries needing support to meet new requirements. The International Secretariat is focusing on flexible country support, enhanced communications, adaptive Validation, and strengthening multi-stakeholder groups to mitigate risks and deliver on strategic priorities. The purpose of the discussion is to guide the International Secretariat on mitigation strategies and possible follow-up actions, including planning for 2025 and 2026 with a focus on prioritisation and value delivery.

The International Secretariat presented an overview of EITI's financial risk exposure, current mitigation strategies, and key considerations for the Board:

- Financial risk exposure: The potential withdrawal of a major donor was identified as a high-impact, low-likelihood risk. Emerging risks could affect staffing and resourcing.
- Cost control (2025–2026): The International Secretariat reported that active measures are in place to ensure that spending aligns with the 2025 budget. For 2026, these controls will be reviewed during the upcoming budget cycle. EITI currently has 92% of its income categorised as secured or highly likely.
- Long-term planning (2027–2028): Emphasis was placed on strengthening contingency planning, including scalable cost controls and prioritised spending frameworks for low-income scenarios.
- Existing risk mitigation: The International Secretariat highlighted that budget execution is guided by revenue monitoring and the Board-approved Projected Budget Implementation (PBI) process, which assesses financial and strategic alignment of proposals.
- Multi-year donor agreements: The International Secretariat reported that nearly all donors are now on multi-year funding agreements, improving predictability. Most outstanding agreements are nearing finalisation. While the risk of sudden donor withdrawal is low, recent experience with USAID underscores the need for continued vigilance.
- Expenditure risks: Cost development and lack of system redundancy were noted. The International Secretariat recommended the Finance Committee actively monitor these risks and support contingency planning.

Board members raised the following points:

- CSO representatives called for strengthening the EITI Standard to protect civic space and address limited political will in many countries. They also highlighted the need to strengthen provisions (currently expected) for MSGs to monitor and report on civic space in the EITI Standard's Requirement 1.3 and respond more directly to breaches of the Civil Society Protocol, by making Requirement 1.3(f) mandatory. Finally, they emphasised the Standard's role in mitigating risks and supporting anti-corruption and energy transition efforts, including enhancing Requirement 2.5.
- Company representatives viewed the paper as a good basis for discussion and supported improving communication of EITI's value proposition. They stressed the importance they placed on not updating the Standard and instead focusing on simplification and effective implementation. Additionally, they called for forward planning, including worst-case funding scenarios and flexible financial mitigation strategies. They concluded by urging prioritisation of activities, cost control, and agility.
- Supporting Countries representatives acknowledged the International Secretariat's proactive role, and supported revising the communication strategy to strengthen EITI's value proposition, including on Domestic Resource Mobilisation (DRM). They also supported assessing which parts of the Standard may need revision in future while avoiding implementation fatigue. Then encouraged ongoing monitoring of civic space conditions.

Actions:

- The International Secretariat to update the EITI communication strategy to better convey EITI's value, including for DRM, energy transition and transparency.
- The International Secretariat to closely monitor developments in civic space.
- The International Secretariat to maintain close engagement with donors and monitor multi-year agreement renewals.
- The FC, in consultation with the GOC, to review financial planning mechanisms, enhance long-term contingency planning for 2027–2028, and advise on activities to deprioritise under financial stress.
- All Board committees to apply the Board approved procedure of financial and strategic alignment (PBI) assessments to future proposals systematically.

Board Paper 63-7-B Refinement of the EITI's Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) Framework – for decision

The GOC Chair noted that the paper was submitted for decision and concerns the refinement of the EITI's Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) Framework. The proposed Framework was discussed at the 62nd Board meeting and refined with input from a working group composed primarily of GOC members. The revised framework is aligned with the 2024–2028 strategic priorities. It aims to enhance learning and adaptation and strengthen evidence-based decision-making. The working group will continue to meet ahead of the next Board meeting, with a focus on refining and streamlining the EITI's key performance indicators in line with the framework. In presenting the framework, the International Secretariat further noted its applicability to support countries implementing the EITI in developing their own results framework and building robust work plans.

Board members raised the following points:

- Company representatives supported the framework's results-focused, learning-oriented approach. They called for more outcome-focused KPIs aligned with the MEL framework. They also considered the paper a positive step, noting that the development of KPIs remains work in progress.
- Supporting Countries representatives supported the revised MEL framework and saw it as a move towards more strategic planning. They concluded by highlighting the need for technical support for implementing countries in relation to the framework.

Actions:

- The GOC and the International Secretariat to refine EITI Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) further with the support of the working group, to ensure they are outcome-focused and aligned with the MEL framework.
- The International Secretariat to support implementing countries to use the MEL framework to strengthen their work planning and performance management.

63-8 2026 EITI Global Conference

Board Paper 63-8 Hosting of the 2026 EITI Global Conference – for decision

The EITI Board Chair advised the Board of the offer made by the Government of the Philippines to host the 2026 EITI Global Conference, and invited the Board Member for the Philippines, Undersecretary Bayani Agabin, to take the floor. Undersecretary Agabin reiterated his country's offer to hosting the 2026 EITI Global Conference in Manila, emphasising its alignment with shared goals of transparency, accountability, and good governance in the extractive industries. He outlined what the Government's in-kind contributions would be, including the provision of a venue, security protocols, and streamlined visa assistance, and endorsed the formation of a Board Working Group to shape an inclusive and relevant conference agenda.

Board members raised the following points:

- A CSO representative acknowledged the International Secretariat's consultation with local stakeholders, including civil society groups. They suggested that the conference should highlight key issues such as civic space, and urged the inclusion of local voices in the working group to ensure diverse perspectives in shaping the agenda.
- Company representatives raised questions regarding budget provisions. They asked whether the International Secretariat had developed a contingency plan in the event that required additional funding did not materialise. They also requested clarification on the fundraising target.

The International Secretariat confirmed that up to USD 800,000 would be available for the Global Conference from cumulative savings for this purpose and that the additional USD 900,000 fundraising target would be sought separately from the International Secretariat's core budget, consistent with past practice. Fundraising efforts would actively engage stakeholders – including supporting countries and companies with regional interests – while also exploring in-kind contributions, from organisations such as the Asian Development Bank. It noted that fundraising would begin in Q3 2025, with involvement from the working group, and added that close to fifty per cent of the total budget had already been set aside from previous years' income by the International Secretariat for the event. Other risk mitigation actions included aligning expenditure with the available resources - for example, by reducing the number of sponsored participants as a contingency measure if needed.

Board members approved the suggested recommendation.

Actions:

- The International Secretariat to work with the Government of the Philippines on hosting arrangements for the 2026 EITI Global Conference in Manila, Philippines, in June 2026, alongside an EITI Members meeting.
- The International Secretariat to establish an inclusive working group to support preparations for the event.

AOB

Mark Robinson noted that preparations are underway for the in-person Board meeting in Yerevan, Armenia, in November 2025. It will include regular Board and committee sessions, as well as a learning event on beneficial ownership transparency, reflecting five years of work supported by BHP Foundation and USAID. Details will be shared over the summer, and issues raised during the virtual meeting, including geopolitical changes and shrinking civic space, will be addressed in a dedicated session in the November meeting.

Looking ahead, Mark confirmed that Board meetings are planned for March, June and November 2026, with one likely to be held virtually. A decision on the location and format will be announced by September 2025.

The meeting was closed.

Participant List – 63rd EITI Board meeting

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**, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, 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

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

TBC

Alt: TBC

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: TBC

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: TBC

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

Ms Pilar ACOSTA, Project Administrator, TI Australia

Mr Joe BARDWELL, Director of Communications and Campaigns, Publish What You Pay (PWYP), UK

Mr Torge BARTSCHT, Advisor, D-EITI Secretariat, Germany

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