

# EITI Candidature Application Form

# Dominican Republic

# EITI CANDIDATURE APPLICATION FORM

## CONTENTS

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EITI Candidature Application Form.....	2
Contents.....	2
Introduction .....	3
Applicant country information.....	4
EITI SIGN-UP REQUIREMENTS .....	5
EITI REQUIREMENT 1.1 .....	5
EITI REQUIREMENT 1.2 .....	7
EITI REQUIREMENT 1.3 .....	9
EITI REQUIREMENT 1.4 .....	16

## INTRODUCTION

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A government intending to implement the EITI is required to undertake a number of steps before applying to become an EITI Candidate country (See EITI Requirements 1.1 – 1.4)<sup>1</sup>).

**When the country has completed the “sign-up” steps and wishes to be recognised as an EITI Candidate country, the government should submit an EITI Candidature Application, endorsed by the multi-stakeholder group, to the EITI Board. The application should describe the activities undertaken to date and provide evidence demonstrating that Requirements 1.1 – 1.4 have been met. The application should include contact details for government, civil society and private sector stakeholders involved in the preparations for implementing the EITI. Application materials will be published on the EITI website and be available for public comment.**

Once submitted, the application will be made publically available on the EITI website. The EITI Board, working through the Outreach and Candidature Committee, will review the application and assess whether the sign-up requirements have been met. The International Secretariat will contact stakeholders at the national level to ascertain their views on the sign-up process, and seek comments from supporting governments, international civil society groups, supporting companies and supporting organisations and investors. The International Secretariat will work closely with the senior individual appointed by the government to lead on EITI implementation in order to clarify any outstanding issues. Based on this and any other available information, the EITI Board’s Outreach and Candidature Committee will make a recommendation to the EITI Board on whether a country’s application should be accepted. The EITI Board takes the final decision.

The EITI Board aims to process applications within 8 weeks of receiving the application. The EITI Board prefers to make decisions on admitting an EITI Candidate country at EITI Board meetings, although may consider taking a decision via Board circular between meetings where appropriate.

When the EITI Board admits an EITI Candidate, it also establishes deadlines for publishing the first EITI Report and undertaking Validation. An implementing country’s first EITI Report must be published within 18 months from the date that the country was admitted as an EITI Candidate. EITI Candidate countries will be required to commence Validation (<http://eiti.org/validation>) within two and a half years of becoming an EITI Candidate. Further information on deadline policies is available in Requirement 1.6 of the EITI Standard (<http://eiti.org/document/standard>).

### Box 1 – Main steps in the Candidature application process

- 1. Country submits application for EITI Candidature.** The government should submit a formal application, endorsed by the MSG, in writing to the EITI Chair via the International Secretariat.
- 2. The EITI Board, working through the Outreach and Candidature Committee, will review the application and assess whether the sign-up requirements have been met.** The International Secretariat will ensure that the application is complete and will contact stakeholders at the national and international level to ascertain their views and seek comments. The International Secretariat will publish the application on the EITI international website.
- 3. The Outreach and Candidature Committee will make a recommendation to the EITI Board.** The recommendation will stipulate whether a country’s application should be accepted or not.
- 4. The EITI Board will take a decision on admitting the applicant as a Candidate country** in accordance with the EITI Standard.

<sup>1</sup> The requirements are provided in *The EITI Standard*: <http://eiti.org/document/standard>

## APPLICANT COUNTRY INFORMATION

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Please complete fields in blue

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>DOMINICAN REPUBLIC</b>
<b>Government Contact Point</b>	<b>Dr Antonio Isa Conde</b> <b>Minister</b> <b>Ministry of Energy and Mines</b>  Av. Tiradentes N° 53, Edificio B, Ensanche Naco Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic Post Code 10124 Tel. +1 809 373 1800  <a href="http://www.mem.gob.do">www.mem.gob.do</a>
<b>Date of Application</b>	<b>18 December 2015</b>

## EITI SIGN-UP REQUIREMENTS

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### EITI REQUIREMENT 1.1

**The government is required to issue an unequivocal public statement of its intention to implement the EITI.**

The statement must be made by the head of state or government, or an appropriately delegated government representative.

<Describe the activities undertaken to date and provide evidence demonstrating that the requirement and sub requirements have been met>

<List and attach supporting documentation as appropriate>

On **12 May 2011**, the seminar was held, "Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative", at which the Minister of Economy, Planning and Development, Mr Juan Temístocles Montás spoke. In his speech, Minister Montás highlighted the current and future relevance of mining activity in the economy and social development. He also stressed the importance for the country of financial transparency in the mining sector.

In this respect, the Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development promoted and sponsored implementation of the EITI in the Dominican Republic, with the goal of having mining companies publish what they pay, of the Government publishing what it receives from mining activity, and of civil society being aware of what is done with the resources, while facilitating drawing up of the balance sheet of environmental costs.

On **7 May 2012**, Danilo Medina Sánchez, as the Dominican Liberation Party (PLD) candidate for the Presidency, signed the "Protocol for Transparency and Institutionalality in the Dominican Republic", in which he pledged before the people to take forward the following measures against corruption and for transparency and institutionalality, among which he cited:

"16. Implement in the country the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI), which is promoted by Transparency International and which seeks to achieve transparency in exploration and exploitation contracts by the State with mining companies and accountability for the use of the tax revenues from this sector."

On **10 February 2015**, the then Minister of Energy and Mines, Mr Pelegrín Castillo, led the first international meeting "Towards Transparency in the Mining Industry of the Dominican Republic", with the goal of ensuring the proper management of the metallic and non-metallic mining resources in the extractive industry. In this respect, Mr Castillo stated that the main objective of the Ministry of Energy and Mines (MEM) was to responsibly, securely and strategically raise the level of transparency in the mining industry, stating at the same time that the Dominicans, rather than impugning the mining industry, aspired to the incomes generated by the mines being translated into substantial economic growth, especially in the communities adjacent to the production areas.

It is noteworthy that this event, held in the Mother and Teacher Pontifical Catholic University (PUCMM) was attended by Mr Jonas Moberg, Head of Secretariat of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) and by Mr Francisco Paris, EITI Regional Director for Latin America and Caribbean.

On **30 July 2015**, in his speech at the Act of Commemoration of the second anniversary of the creation of the Ministry of Energy and Mines and presentation of its new image and institutional identity, the Minister of Energy and Mines, Dr Antonio Isa Conde, confirmed the commitment made by the President of the Dominican Republic, Mr Danilo Medina Sánchez, a few days before he was elected President of the Republic, that the country would join the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative, an international standard that, applying strict controls, would guarantee the transparency of the extractive industry from concessions to operations, guaranteeing sustainable economic development and care for the environment.

### **Supporting documents**

1. Speech by the Minister of Economy, Planning and Development, Mr Temístocles Montás. (12 May 2011)
2. Extractive Industries Transparency Protocol (7 May 2012)
3. Speech by the former Minister of Energy and Mines at the international Meeting, "Towards Transparency in the Mining Industry of the Dominican Republic", held in the Mother and Teacher Pontifical Catholic University (PUCMM). (10 February 2015)
4. Speech by the Minister of Energy and Mines, Dr Antonio Isa Conde, at the Act of Commemoration of the second anniversary of the MEM. (30 July 2015)

## EITI REQUIREMENT 1.2

**The government is required to appoint a senior individual to lead on the implementation of the EITI.**

- a) The appointee should have the confidence of all stakeholders
- b) The appointee should have the authority and freedom to coordinate action on the EITI across relevant ministries and agencies
- c) The appointee should be able to mobilize resources for EITI implementation.

<Describe the activities undertaken to date and provide evidence demonstrating that the requirement and sub-requirements have been met>

<List and attach supporting documentation as appropriate>

On **18 May 2015**, by communication No. PR-IN-2015-12428, the Government of the Dominican Republic, through the Ministry of the Presidency, appointed the Minister of Energy and Mines, Dr Antonio Isa Conde, as Leader for implementation of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) in the Dominican Republic.

Dr Antonio Isa Conde is a lawyer who has undertaken postgraduate studies in Administration and Banking at the University of Rome, Italy. He also undertook studies in Industrial Policy and Business Consultancy. He has had a distinguished career in the industrial private sector. He was President of the Herrera Association of Industrial Enterprises and has held executive positions in major Dominican companies. In the public sector, he was chair of the Commission on the Reform of Public Enterprises and was a member of the Executive Management Team for development of the National Development Strategy 2010-2030. In civil society, he was a founder member of the Citizen Participation Civic Movement and the Citizen Network of Election Observers.

To support his work as leader, by communication No. MEM-DESP-01986-15 of 25 May 2015, Dr Isa Conde appointed Ms Vilma Arbaje as National Coordinator of EITI in the Dominican Republic, with the goal of her chairing the EITI steering committee. This committee was established with representatives from the three sectors: government, the extractive industry and civil society, with the main purpose of coordinating the operational management of the process of preparation of the candidacy of the Dominican Republic for EITI, and consolidating documents for the application, for presentation and approval by the National Commission for implementation of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative.

On 29 May and 2 June 2015, communications were sent to the Minister of Finance, Mr Simón Lizardo Mézquita, and the Minister of Economy, Planning and Development, Mr Juan Temístocles Montás, and also to Mr Guarocuya Félix, Director-General of Internal Taxes, with the purpose of informing them of the appointment of Dr Antonio Isa Conde as Leader of the Initiative in the country and of the work that was to begin from then by the Ministry of Energy and Mines for implementation of the Initiative in the country.

Since then, the country has pursued the preliminary work to obtain candidacy for the Initiative.

**Supporting documents**

1. Communication No. PR-IN-2015-12428, of 18 May 2015, designating the Minister of Energy and Mines, Dr Antonio Isa Conde, as Leader for implementation of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) in the Dominican Republic.
2. Communication No. MEM-DESP-01986-15, of 25 May 2015, designating Ms Vilma Arbaje as National EITI Coordinator.
3. Communication No. MEM-DRIC-294-15, of 29 May 2015, to Mr Juan Temístocles Montás, Minister of Economy, Planning and Development.
4. Communication No. MEM-DRIC-295-15, of 29 May 2015, to Mr Simón Lizardo Mézquita, Minister of Finance.
5. Communication No. MEM-DRIC-305-15, of 2 June 2015, to Mr Guarocuya Félix, Director-General of Internal Taxation



## EITI REQUIREMENT 1.3

**The government is required to commit to work with civil society and companies, and establish a multi-stakeholder group to oversee the implementation of the EITI.**

- a) The government, companies and civil society must be fully, actively and effectively engaged in the EITI process.
- b) The government must ensure that there is an enabling environment for company and civil society participation with regard to relevant laws, regulations, and administrative rules as well as actual practice in implementation of the EITI. The fundamental rights of civil society and company representatives substantively engaged in the EITI, including but not restricted to members of the multi-stakeholder group, must be respected.
- c) The government must ensure that there are no obstacles to civil society or company participation in the EITI process.
- d) The government must refrain from actions which result in narrowing or restricting public debate in relation to implementation of the EITI.
- e) Stakeholders, including but not limited to members of the multi-stakeholder group:
  - i. must be able to speak freely on transparency and natural resource governance issues;
  - ii. must be substantially engaged in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the EITI process, and ensure that it contributes to public debate;
  - iii. must have the right to communicate and cooperate with each other; and
  - iv. must be able to operate freely and express opinions about the EITI without restraint, coercion or reprisal.
- f) In establishing the multi-stakeholder group, the government must:
  - i. ensure that the invitation to participate in the group is open and transparent;
  - ii. ensure that stakeholders are adequately represented. This does not mean that they need to be equally represented numerically. The multi-stakeholder group must comprise appropriate stakeholders, including but not necessarily limited to: the private sector; civil society, including independent civil society groups and other civil society such as the media and unions; and relevant government entities which can also include parliamentarians. Each stakeholder group must have the right to appoint its own representatives, bearing in mind the desirability of pluralistic and diverse representation. The nomination process must be independent and free from any suggestion of coercion. Civil society groups involved in the EITI as members of the multi-stakeholder group must be operationally, and in policy terms, independent of government and/or companies;
  - iii. ensure that senior government officials are represented on the multi-stakeholder group; and
  - iv. consider establishing the legal basis of the group.
- g) The multi-stakeholder group is required to agree clear public Terms of Reference (ToRs) for its work. The ToRs should at a minimum include provisions on:

**The role, responsibilities and rights of the multi-stakeholder group:**

- i. Members of the multi-stakeholder group should have the capacity to carry out their duties.
- ii. The multi-stakeholder group should undertake effective outreach activities with civil society groups and companies, including through communication such as media, website and letters, informing stakeholders of the government's commitment to implement the

EITI, the central role of companies and civil society, as well as widely disseminating the public information that results from the EITI process such as the EITI Report.

- iii. Members of the multi-stakeholder group should liaise with their constituency groups.

**Approval of workplans, EITI Reports and annual activity reports:**

- iv. The multi-stakeholder group is required to approve annual workplans, the appointment of the Independent Administrator, the Terms of Reference for the Independent Administrator, EITI Reports and annual activity reports.
- v. The multi-stakeholder group should oversee the EITI reporting process and engage in Validation in accordance with chapter 3.

**Internal governance rules and procedures:**

- vi. The EITI requires an inclusive decision-making process throughout implementation, with each constituency being treated as a partner. Any member of the multi-stakeholder group has the right to table an issue for discussion. The multi-stakeholder group should agree procedures for nominating and changing multi-stakeholder group representatives, decision-making, the duration of the mandate and the frequency of meetings. This should include ensuring that there is a process for changing group members that respects the principles set out in Requirement 1.3(f).
- vii. There should be sufficient advance notice of meetings and timely circulation of documents prior to their debate and proposed adoption.
- viii. The multi-stakeholder group must keep written records of its discussions and decisions.

*Applicants should also take note of protocol note #4 regarding the participation of civil society<sup>2</sup>*

<Describe the activities undertaken to date and provide evidence demonstrating that the requirement and sub-requirements have been met>

<List and attach supporting documentation as appropriate>

**Steering Committee**

To meet this requirement and taking into account that the process must guarantee participation, inclusion and transparency, the Minister of Energy and Mines, as Leader of the process, formed a Steering Committee with representatives of the government sector, extractive industries and civil society, charged with taking the processes forward of raising public awareness and providing information on the EITI standard. This Steering Committee held eleven (11) meetings; the first was held on 29 July 2015 and the last on 19 November 2015.

In addition to the 11 sessions of the Steering Committee, its members took part in eight (8) workshops facilitated by international consultants, with the goal of deepening the technical work of preparing the documents to be presented to the National Commission.

The documents prepared in these meetings to be presented to the National Commission are as follows: a) Proposed Principles of the Dominican Republic for implementation of the Extractive Industries

<sup>2</sup> See *The EITI Standard*: <http://eiti.org/document/standard>, pp. 41-42.

Transparency Initiative; b) Proposed Action Plan of the Dominican Republic for implementation of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative; c) Proposed Internal Governance Rules of the National Commission for Implementation of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative.

### **Membership of the EITI-DR National Commission**

The multi-stakeholder group, named the National Commission for Implementation of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI National Commission - Dominican Republic), was established to make decisions and implement actions on the Initiative. In this regard, it will propose the measures and actions necessary to achieve it, at the same time as promoting participation and coordination among all the stakeholder sectors involved. It is represented by representatives of the government sector, the extractive industry and civil society.

For structuring the EITI-DR National Commission best practice from other implementing countries was studied. These included: Guatemala, Honduras, Colombia and Peru.

The EITI National Commission - Dominican Republic, is composed of twelve (12) members, being four (4) representatives from each sector: government. In addition, each member has a substitute.

The National Commission will be led by the Minister of Energy and Mines and will have the following powers:

- a) To define the scope of the Initiative in the country.
- b) To develop, design and approve the EITI Action Plan in accordance with the timescales laid down for countries accepted as candidates.
- c) To monitor implementation of the EITI-DR Action Plan and to issue reports on the level and status of compliance.
- d) To prepare and recommend to the Minister of Energy a proposed Internal Governance Rules for the actions of the EITI National Commission - Dominican Republic.
- e) To discuss and decide on issues, matters and actions related to EITI through compliance with the procedures established in the Internal Governance Rules; and periodically, to make these available to the public through various dissemination mechanisms.

- **Selection of representatives by sector:**

#### **1. Government sector**

The government sector was formed on guidelines of the Presidency of the Republic, assessing the responsibilities of bodies with regard to the Initiative and their level of commitment to it.

Through communication No. MEM-DRI-643-15 of 30 November 2015, to the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of the Economy, Planning and Development and the Ministry of the Presidency, the Leader of the Initiative requested the appointment of representatives and substitutes from the government sector.

Each of these institutions proceeded to nominate their representatives and substitutes, and the Minister of Energy and Mines appointed his substitute. The communications of appointment are attached.

The representatives of the government sector are the following:

One (1) representative from the Ministry of Energy and Mines (MEM): **Dr Antonio Isa Conde**, Minister and Leader of the EITI Initiative in the Dominican Republic, who will have as his substitute **Mr Alberto Reyes**, MEM Deputy Minister of Hydrocarbons. The Ministry of Energy and Mines has among its functions that of formulating, adopting, directing and coordinating national policy on the exploitation, transformation and processing of metallic and non-metallic minerals.

One (1) representative from the Ministry of the Presidency: **Ms Zoraima Cuello**, Deputy Minister of the Presidency for Government Monitoring and Coordination, who will have as her substitute **Mr Mario Grullón**, Secretary of Intergovernmental Coordination. The purpose of the Ministry of the Presidency is to work on coordinating presidential work, helping the President of the Republic in the management and implementation of public policies and inter-institutional relations, ensuring transparency, institutionality, efficiency and continuous innovation in all the agencies of the Public Administration as a basis of a social and democratic state of law.

One (1) representative from the Ministry of Finance (MIH). **Mr Martín Zapata**, Deputy Minister of Finance for Tax Policies, who will have as substitute **Ms Ruth de Los Santos**, Director-General of Tax Policy and Legislation. The main objective of the Ministry of Finance is to administer the public finances, defining, overseeing and controlling tax policy, applying criteria of efficiency, transparency and modernisation, in accordance with the needs of the budget, external and internal debt and the assets of the Dominican State.

One (1) representative from the Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development (MEPyD). **Mr Juan Monegro**, MEPyD Deputy Minister of Planning, who will have as substitute **Ms Ruth Montes de Oca**, Sectoral Analyst of the General Directorate of Economic and Social Development. The Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development coordinates conduct of the planning system with other cross-cutting systems of the Dominican State, such as the budget, government accounting, treasury, and public credit systems, among others, to ensure development with economic, social, territorial and administrative unity.

## 2. Extractive industry sector

Through Communication No. MEM-DRI-525-15 of 12 October 2015, the Minister of Energy and Mines, in his capacity as Leader of the Initiative, requested the selection of four (4) representatives and substitutes from the extractive industries, taking the following criteria into account:

- One (1) representative of the Mining and Petroleum Chamber, Inc. (CAMIPE, from *Cámara Minera – Petrolera, Inc.*)
- Three (3) representatives of the extractive industry.

Through a communication of 6 November 2015, the Mining and Petroleum Chamber of the Dominican Republic (CAMIPE) presented the members representing the extractive sector for the creation of the multi-stakeholder group (EITI National Commission - Dominican Republic).

The representatives of the extractive sector are the following:

One (1) representative of the company Barrick PVDC: **Mr Luis Eduardo Diaz**, Barrick PVDC Manager of Government Relations, who will have as his substitute **Mr Francisco Aponte**, Consultant Administrative Secretary of the Dominican Lime Company (DOCALSA, from *Dominicana de Cales, S.A.*).

A representative of Barrick PVDC was chosen as it is the largest mining company in operation and it has a special lease contract with the Dominican State with very specific clauses.

One (1) representative of the company Falconbridge Dominicana, S.A. (FALCONDO): **Ms Rosa de los Santos**, Senior Institutional Relationships Specialist at FALCONDO, who will have as her substitute **Mr Carlos Rodriguez**, Environmental Manager of the company PANAM Cement (*Cemento PANAM, (Star Group, Grupo Estrella)*).

Falconbridge Dominicana (FALCONDO) is a long-established mining company, with extensive experience in community work.

One (1) representative of the Dominican Mining Corporation (CORMIDOM, from *Corporación Minera Dominicana*): **Ms Elizabeth Mena**, CORMIDORM Legal Director, who will have as her substitute **Ms Julissa Báez**, Executive Director of the Dominican Association of Portland Cements (ADOCEM, from *Asociación Dominicana de Productores de Cementos Portland*).

The Dominican Mining Corporation (CORMIDORM) is the only mining company that does not have a special contract but is working under the terms of Dominican mining legislation.

Altogether, the three companies cover the different regimes under which the Dominican State has granted mining concessions and the different tax regimes applicable.

One (1) representative of the Mining and Petroleum Chamber of the Dominican Republic, Inc. (CAMIPE): **Mr José Sena**, President of CAMIPE, who will have as his substitute **Ms Cristina Thomén**, Secretary of the Board of CAMIPE.

CAMIPE promotes the development of the mining and petroleum industry, promoting the Dominican Republic as a destination for domestic and foreign private investment through the transfer and use of appropriate technologies and the development of human resources, applying sustainable criteria for the protection of the environment.

### **1. The civil society sector**

Through its media release of 18 September 2015, the Minister of Energy and Mines, in his capacity as national leader for implementation of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative, **invited civil society organizations, bodies and associations that promote transparency and accountability** to take part in the national effort for the organisation of EITI-Dominican Republic. To do this, organisations were asked to present written "expressions of interest", including a brief description of the applicant organisation.

**On 28 and 29 September 2015**, through press announcements, the Minister of Energy and Mines repeated the invitation to civil society to express interest in participating in the EITI Initiative effort.

**On 21 October 2015**, the Minister of Energy and Mines invited the civil society organisations that had expressed interest in the EITI-DR Initiative to participate in a video conference entitled "Opportunities for Transparency and Accountability in the Dominican Republic Mining Sector", with Mr Francisco París, Regional Director for Latin America of the EITI Secretariat. In this event, Mr París gave a presentation on general aspects of EITI, including information on candidate and compliant countries, the content of the reports and the benefits of the Initiative, among others.

In addition, he commented on the stage the Dominican Republic was at in the process of submitting an application to the EITI International Secretariat and the steps to follow. The video conference also covered essential aspects of the content of the workplan and the Multi-Stakeholder Group, and its composition.

Awareness-raising workshops were held from **2 to 5 November 2015** as part of the dissemination process for the Initiative. Four (4) activities were conducted in an open manner with the organisations and institutions that expressed interest in joining in with and supporting the process. The workshops were held in the following Dominican cities: Santo Domingo, Santiago de los Caballeros, Cotuí and San Juan de la Maguana.

Regional workshops were held from **18 to 20 November 2015**, to explain the role of civil society in implementation of EITI in the Dominican Republic, and the role of the EITI-DR National Commission. The workshops were focused on transparency, instruments for the inclusive participation of members and those represented, internal rules and criteria for the election of their representatives on the Multi-stakeholder Group (EITI-DR National Commission). These workshops were held in the following Dominican cities: Santo Domingo, Azua, Santiago de los Caballeros and Bonao.

The National Assembly for election of civil society representatives to the EITI-DR National Commission was held on **28 November 2015**. It was organized in a participatory and independent manner, in line with EITI principles.

To hold the Assembly, the civil society organising committee coordinated the participation of observers as functional figures to ensure the legitimacy and transparency of the election process. After the Assembly, civil society named its representatives and substitutes as follows:

One (1) representative from Citizen Participation (PC, from *Participación Ciudadana*): **Ms Rosalia Sosa**, Executive Director of PC, who will have as her substitute, **Mr Juan Javier Cruz Benzán**, President of the Cuayá Foundation.

One (1) representative of the Dominican Public Policy Observatory (ODPP, from *Observatorio Dominicano de Políticas Públicas*) of the Autonomous University of Santo Domingo (UASD, from *Universidad Autónoma de Santo Domingo*): **Ms Maritza Ruiz**, an ODPP-UASD researcher, who will have as her substitute **Mr Apolinar Beato Ramos**, Organisation Secretary of the Dominican College of Economists (CODECO, from *Organización del Colegio Dominicano de Economistas*)

One representative from the organisation the National Peasant Farmer Coordination (*Articulación Nacional Campesina*): **Mr Hero Antonio Pérez**, Coordinator, who will have as his substitute **Mr Santiago José**, Member of the Dominican Foundation for the Protection of the Environment, Life and Health (Fundación Dominicana para la Protección del Medio Ambiente Vida y Salud).

One (1) representative of the Guayacan Foundation for Energy and the Environment (*Fundación Dominicana para la Protección del Medio Ambiente Vida y Salud*), Environmental Chapter: **Mr Carlos Peterson**, General Coordinator, who will have as his substitute **Mr Ricardo Reynoso**, Treasurer of the Dominical Geological Society (SODOGEO, from *Sociedad Dominicana de Geología*).

#### **Supporting documents:**

1. Invitation messages to meetings of the Steering Committee and confirmations.
2. Minutes of meetings of Steering Committee (11 sets of minutes).
3. Presentations by the Executive Coordinator of the Initiative, Ms Vilma Arbaje, to the three sectors (three presentations).
4. Internal rules of the EITI-DR National Commission.
5. Communication No. PR-IN-2015-35451 from the Ministry of the Presidency, of 16 December 2015, naming its representative and substitute.
6. Communication No. 01618 from the Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development (MEPyD) of 15 December 2015, naming its representative and substitute.
7. Communication No. 7788 of 8 December 2015 from the Ministry of Finance naming its representative and substitute.
8. Communication from the MEM of 12 October 2015 asking the extractive industries sector to designate its representatives and substitutes.
9. Communication from the Mining and Petroleum Chamber Inc. of 6 November 2015, giving the names of the representatives and substitutes for the extractive industries sector.
10. Advertisements (press releases) of 28 September 2015 from Minister Antonio Isa Conde calling for civil society to express interest in joining with the EITI Initiative.
11. Message of invitation to civil society of 21 October 2015 to take part in a presentation (video-conference), "Opportunities for Transparency and Accountability in the Dominican Republic Mining Sector".
12. Minutes and PowerPoint presentation from the video-conference "Opportunities for Transparency and Accountability in the Dominican Republic Mining Sector".
13. Report on awareness-raising workshops of 2 to 5 November.
14. Lists of participants.
15. Flyer for awareness-raising workshops.
16. Report on regional workshops of 18 to 20 November.
17. Lists of participants.
18. Message of invitation to the National Assembly of 28 November for the election of civil society representatives.
19. Attendance list.
20. Official email from civil society of 12 December 2015 naming its representatives and substitutes.

## EITI REQUIREMENT 1.4

**The multi-stakeholder group is required to maintain a current workplan, fully costed and aligned with the reporting and Validation deadlines established by the EITI Board.**

**The workplan must:**

- a) set EITI implementation objectives that are linked to the EITI Principles and reflect national priorities for the extractive industries. Multi-stakeholder groups are encouraged to explore innovative approaches to extending EITI implementation to increase the comprehensiveness of EITI reporting and public understanding of revenues and encourage high standards of transparency and accountability in public life, government operations and in business;
- b) reflect the results of consultations with key stakeholders, and be endorsed by the multi-stakeholder group;
- c) include measurable and time bound activities to achieve the agreed objectives. The scope of EITI implementation should be tailored to contribute to the desired objectives that have been identified during the consultation process. The workplan must:
  - i. assess and outline plans to address any potential capacity constraints in government agencies, companies and civil society that may be an obstacle to effective EITI implementation;
  - ii. address the scope of EITI reporting, including plans for addressing technical aspects of reporting, such as comprehensiveness and data reliability (Requirements 4 and 5); and
  - iii. identify and outline plans to address any potential legal or regulatory obstacles to EITI implementation, including, if applicable, any plans to incorporate the EITI Requirements within national legislation or regulation.
- d) identify domestic and external sources of funding and technical assistance where appropriate in order to ensure timely implementation of the agreed workplan;
- e) be made widely available to the public, for example published on the national EITI website and/or other relevant ministry and agency websites, in print media or in places that are easily accessible to the public;
- f) be reviewed and updated annually. In reviewing the workplan, the multi-stakeholder group should consider extending the detail and scope of EITI reporting including addressing issues such as revenue management and expenditure (3.7-3.8), transportation payments (4.1.f), discretionary social expenditures (4.1.e), ad-hoc subnational transfers (4.2.e), beneficial ownership (3.11) and contracts (3.12)<sup>3</sup>. In accordance with requirement 1.3 (g)(viii), the multi-stakeholder group is required to document its discussion and decisions;
- g) include a timetable for implementation that is aligned with the EITI reporting and Validation deadlines established by the EITI Board<sup>4</sup> and that takes into account administrative requirements such as procurement processes and funding.

<Describe the activities undertaken to date and provide evidence demonstrating that the requirement and sub-requirements have been met>

<List and attach supporting documentation, including the workplan endorsed by the MSG >

<sup>3</sup> See *The EITI Standard for specifications of these issues*: <http://eiti.org/document/standard>, pp. 35-39.

<sup>4</sup> See *The EITI Standard*, paragraph 1.6 a) *EITI reporting deadlines*, p. 15.



To meet this requirement the Multi-Stakeholder Group (EITI-DR National Commission) was created. **The National Commission for Implementation of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI-DR National Commission) was formally established on 3 December 2015**, composed of representatives and substitutes from the three sectors. The government sector, the extractive industries sector and the civil society sector. The EITI-DR National Commission held its first working meeting on the same date.

Work meetings were held both in person and virtually, through the exchange of emails and communications. Face-to-face meetings were held in the Ministry of Energy and Mines in an atmosphere of consolidation, cooperation and adaptation of the decisions made, with consensus between the parties prevailing. The decision to hold virtual meetings was agreed by all parties, this decision being recorded in the minutes of 3 December 2013.

The second meeting of the **EITI-DR National Commission** was held on **10 December 2015**. In this meeting, after a wide-ranging debate on the proposed Principles presented by the Executive Secretariat, the members present approved the **Governing Principles in the Dominican Republic for implementation of EITI**.

The third meeting was held on **14 December 2015**. At this meeting the **Internal Rules for the National Commission** were reviewed; these cover the objectives and guidelines for representative and substitute members from the three sectors that make up the Commission. The document was approved after a thorough review.

The fourth meeting of the **EITI-DR National Commission** was held on **17 December 2015**. At this meeting the Dominican Republic Work Plan for implementation of EITI-DR was reviewed and approved. It was also decided that the first report would be submitted within 12 months from the date upon which the Dominican Republic was declared a candidate country. After reviewing the candidacy application form, the Commission finalised it and approved it. Finally, the presentation of the Dominican candidacy to EITI was approved by consensus.

All the information related to Dominican EITI will be placed for public use on the Ministry of Energy and Mines public web portal.

The workplan includes targets and measurable objectives with their timescales, and establishes specific actions to achieve its objectives. During the initial stage of implementation of the workplan, the Multi-Stakeholder Group will define the scope of information to be included in the Report according to the Dominican situation and reality, setting the level of detail of the information to be reported. In this first phase of implementation, the Government and the National Commission will identify the sources of funding to implement the activities included in the workplan.

If accepted as a Candidate Country, the Dominican Republic undertakes to present its first EITI Report within 12 months of the date upon which it is formally notified of the decision to admit it. This report will cover information from the last tax year.

The workplan will be updated annually; the Dominican Republic will start with basic implementation of EITI and will gradually move forward, in line with legislation, in implementation of the EITI Standard.

**Supporting documents:**

1. Signed minutes of working meetings of the National Commission.
2. Attendance list of members of the National Commission.
3. Photographs of meetings.

## INFORMATION ABOUT THE MULTI-STAKEHOLDER GROUP

Provide a list of members from the national Multi-Stakeholder Group, their organisational affiliation and contact details. If appropriate, attach information regarding additional government, civil society and private sector stakeholders involved in the sign-up process.

### Government Sector

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## ANNEXES

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Supporting information is available in the full candidature application file.