



## ВАЗОРАТИ МОЛИЯИ ҶУМҲУРИИ ТОҶИКИСТОН

734025, шаҳри Душанбе, х. Ак. Рачабовҳо, 3. тел: (992 37) 221-14-17, факс: (992 37) 221-64-10. Min\_fin@tojikiston.com www.minfin.tj.

№ 7.2-36/857

аз « 11 » 11 соли 2016

**To the Head of the International Secretariat  
Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI)  
Mr. Jonas Moberg**

**CC: The EITI Board**

**Dear Mr. Moberg,**

I would like to express to you and through you to the Management of the EITI International Secretariat my sincere appreciation for your continued support in implementation of the EITI in Tajikistan.

I would like to remind you that after addressing the funding issue of the EITI National Secretariat for supporting EITI implementation in Tajikistan, significant results were achieved in 2015. First of all was prepared the first National Report for 2014 which allowed to restore candidacy after suspension.

It is important to note that these results were achieved mainly due to the cohesive work of the stakeholders, particularly, the active involvement of the civil society representatives in preparation of the First National reconciliation report. Especially due to their initiative and by support of the Soros Foundation the working group of experts, including the representatives of the civil society Coalition was established and the contextual report and visual version of the report were prepared.

As you know, from the July 1, 2016 the validation process has officially begun in

Tajikistan and from 15 to 19 August representatives of the International Secretariat have visited the country. As a result, the draft report on the preliminary data collection and consultation with the stakeholders has been received. Comments of the stakeholders were sent earlier, on November 1, 2016.

It should be noted that these recommendations are appropriate and timely. We, in turn, will make every effort to implement the recommendations put forward for improving the implementation of the EITI process in the country.

I would also like to draw your attention to some important points reflected in the report that need reconsideration.

1. The report shows that participation of the civil society in the initiative is of primary concern. It is recommended, "The government should ensure the civil society is able to speak out freely on the issues of transparency and natural resources management, be able to operate freely and express opinions about the EITI without restraint, coercion or reprisal". In this regard, it is important to note that the civil society initially freely advocated the EITI and actively supported the work of the EITI Council. Particularly, due to active involvement of the civil society, which has the equal representation in the National Council of the EITI, the principles of the EITI and the results of its implementation in the country are disseminated across the regions of the country and information campaigns are regularly conducted. These activities are carried out in coordination with the government agencies at both national and local levels. Initially the government and the civil society commitment was characterized as constant and stable. At the same time, with regard to civil society by the Government has not been taken any restrictions, coercion and repression.

2. In the draft report the high level of self-censorship in the civil society is indicated. It is worth mentioning that the representatives of the civil society speak at meetings of the Council most frequently, adhering to principle of openness, freely expressing and defending their position on the Council's meetings. At the same time representatives of the civil society are active not only within the EITI Council, they often make public

comments about the EITI process, proposing initiatives, implementation of which allowed introducing a number of requirements of the EITI in the country. We believe that such evaluation underestimates the contribution of the civil society in implementation of the EITI in the country and we suggest excluding from the report the self-censorship statement.

Currently Tajikistan meets the requirements of the EITI, remaining committed to the principles of the initiative through the cooperation of all stakeholders, and with the support of Government and international organizations continues its work on the successful implementation of the EITI in the country according to the Work Plan for 2016-2017. Particularly working on improving the legal framework, developing a roadmap for disclosure of information on beneficial ownership, preparation of the study on quasi-fiscal expenditure, and initiated preparation of the second National report for 2015. Parliament hearings on development of extractive industry will be hold for the first time in December 2016. This will enable to attract to the initiative the deputies and the overall Legislative body of the country.

Therefore, taking into account the significant progress achieved and the successful meeting of several specific requirements, the National Council of Tajikistan kindly requests you to make fair decision taking into account comments of the stakeholders, since the success of the EITI implementation in the country will directly affect the development of the mining industry and improve social and economic situation in the country.

Sincerely,

Chairman of the National Council of the EITI Tajikistan

Jonmamadova Mehrinamo

