Validation of Chad

Response to MSG Feedback CowaterSogema Independent Validator 25th March 2019

The Validator wishes to thank the MSG for their helpful and considered feedback. What follows is the Validator's response to the feedback from the MSG.

Requirement 2.2: License Allocations

In the initial draft validation report, this requirement was downgraded from meaningful to inadequate based on a long series of omissions and weaknesses. Based on the arguments from the IA relating to license information in the 2015 and 2016 reports, limitations were perhaps over-emphasized in the draft validation report. Broadly speaking, technical and financial criteria was provided (with the proviso that the award of oil licenses by tender was incomplete). Based on this, the requirement should be considered meaningful rather than inadequate and the validation report has been updated to reflect this.

We also note that the EITI report referred to the Official Gazette, and thus we have adjusted the recommendation related to this in the final Validation report.

Requirement 2.3: License Registers

We acknowledge that the IA believes that the score should be upgraded from meaningful to satisfactory, arguing that all the required data is available for both sectors. However, the assessment had highlighted that application and expiry dates were missing for some companies, and coordinates/size were missing for some mining companies.

We understand that the EITI report included government plans to strengthen the cadastre system, and we have referenced this in the final validation report. This does not however have an impact on the assessment.

Requirement 5.2: Sub-national transfers

Having examined publicly available data, we have decided not to change our assessment.

Requirement 6.2: SOE quasi fiscal expenditures

Having examined publicly available data, we have decided not to change our assessment.

The validator has also made various changes to the validation report in order to take account of MSG comments, including several changes in language and some adjustments to recommendations to take account of newly provided information.