

Dear Pablo et al,

Warm greetings from the NSWG, the MSG for Nigeria. The NSWG has asked me to extend its gratitude to the EITI Secretariat for kindly acceding to the request for the extension of the deadline of its response to the draft assessment on the second validation of Nigeria. The extension was needed to allow the NSWG to consult with its various constituencies and to meet, physically, to deliberate on this very important document. Thanks for your kind consideration.

Yesterday (15 November 2018), the NSWG held a scheduled meeting and spent considerable time on the draft assessment. After extensive deliberation, the NSWG concluded that the draft assessment is a fair and reasonable one, and submitted as follows:

▪ **Concurrence:**

The NSWG fully agrees with the recommendation of Satisfactory Progress on corrective actions undertaken by Nigeria on the following requirements: CS Engagement (#1.3), MSG Oversight (#1.4), Work-plan (#1.5), Contract Disclosure (#2.4), Production Data (#3.2), Export Data (#3.3), Barter Arrangement (#4.3), Data Timeliness (#4.8), and Economic Contribution (#6.3).

▪ **Acknowledgment and Appeal:**

The NSWG acknowledges that the corrective actions on the following requirements were fully met while the validation was going on and not before the deadline of 11 July 2018 set for the commencement of the second validation: License Allocations (#2.2), State Participation (#2.6), Comprehensiveness (#4.1), Data Quality (#4.9) and Mandatory Social Expenditure (#6.1a).

However, the NSWG wishes to appeal to the EITI Board to kindly consider adjudging Nigeria to have attained Satisfactory Progress on these five requirements since the EITI assessment team acknowledged that these five corrective actions have been fully met.

In a similar vein, the NSWG acknowledges that the requirements in these two areas were not fully met at the time the draft assessment was finalized by the EITI Secretariat: License Register (#2.3) and Subnational Transfer (#5.2).

The reason for not fully meeting these requirements then was due to lack of adequate and timely data from third parties. However, NEITI has continued to engage with these third parties and has since received and published the required data.

Here are the relevant links for License Register:

OPL and OML Data 2015:

<http://neiti.gov.ng/index.php/classes-of-records/category/173-eog-references>

Coordinates for Licensed Companies:

<http://neiti.gov.ng/index.php/classes-of-records/category/173-eog-references>

Here are the links of Subnational Transfers:

<http://neiti.gov.ng/index.php/revenue-allocation>

<http://neiti.gov.ng/images/excel/13-percent-derivation-disbursements-2015.xlsx>

The NSWG believes that these corrective actions have now been fully met, and hereby appeals to the EITI Board to kindly consider adjudging Nigeria to have attained Satisfactory Progress on them.

Conclusion

While thanking the EITI Board and the EITI Secretariat for their guidance and support to Nigeria over time, the NSWG wants to urge the EITI Board to consider awarding Nigeria Satisfactory Progress as the overall ranking for the second validation. This appeal is predicated on the fact that all the corrective actions have now been fully met, on the need to factor in the complexity and scope of EITI implementation in Nigeria, and on the imperative of saving time and money of all concerned by closing the chapter on this round of validation. Given that all the corrective actions have now been addressed, the alternative would be that the NSWG would request an immediate re-validation, with the corresponding unnecessary cost not just in time and money but also in reputation and support for the EITI process in Nigeria.

Thanks and best regards, always

Waziri