

# LEITI MULTI-STAKEHOLDERS STEERING GROUP

## MINUTES OF THE 33<sup>RD</sup> MEETING

4<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR, MINISTRY OF FINANCE BUILDING, MONROVIA

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2010 AT 12:00 NOON

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### Attendance

Eugene H. Shannon  
Christopher Neyor  
Borkai Sirleaf  
Yah Kialain  
Fulton D. Reeves  
Edward S. Kamara  
John S. Deah  
Esiaka B. Konneh  
Helena Jackson-Thornes  
Roosevelt K. Forh  
Betty Mends-Cole  
Paye Gono  
Matenneh-Rose L. Dunbar  
Monique Cooper  
Alexander Deline  
Kofi Ireland  
Chief Zanzan Karwor  
Ansauah Garsuah  
Edward Y. Walker  
Thomas D. Nah  
Edward R.A Smith  
Hnede L. Berrian

### Institution

MLME  
Office of the President  
MOA  
MIA  
NOCAL  
FDA  
LTA  
Miners & Brokers  
GODIMWUL  
AmLib  
BHP  
BHP  
Oranto Petroleum  
UNDP  
IMF  
UNMIL  
NTCL  
NTCL  
NTCL  
CENTAL  
LEITI  
LEITI

### Observers:

Juanita Bropleh

MOF

### 1) Adoption of the Agenda

The meeting was chair by Mr. Borkai Sirleaf, representative from the Ministry of Agriculture since the Chairperson of the LEITI MSG Hon. Augustine K. Ngafuan was out of town on official duties and the Co-chair was running late. Fifteen minutes of silence was observed in appreciation of prayer by various religious affiliations.

Following the fifteen minutes of silence, the draft agenda was than presented to the body for adoption. No comments were made and the draft agenda was accepted as the working tool to guide the meeting.

2) **Draft Minutes of the 32<sup>nd</sup> Meeting: corrections, adoption and matters arising therefrom:**

The draft minutes of the 32<sup>nd</sup> meeting was read and corrected with the names of Atty. Alfred Brownell and Jan Rabantek corrected. Following these two corrections, it was moved and seconded that the minutes be corrected and form part of the Secretariat's archives.

3) **27<sup>th</sup> Secretariat Report**

The Deputy Head of Secretariat, Mr. Edward R. A. Smith, submitted the 27<sup>th</sup> Report of the LEITI Secretariat. His report highlighted major activities including financial matters for the period January 15, 2010 to February 2010.

Following the summary of the draft Report, a few typographical errors were made. Commenting on the Congratulatory message made by the EITI Secretariat on the publication of LEITI 2<sup>nd</sup> Report, the Secretariat was mandated to download the statement and publish in various local daily newspapers.

With these corrections made, it was moved and seconded that the Report form part of the LEITI Archives.

4) **Status of the process to recruit the new Head of Secretariat**

The Co-chairperson of the Recruitment Committee, Mr. Fulton Reeves reported that nomination for the new Head of Secretariat was made and submitted the LEITI Chairperson. He further reported that the Chairperson had requested to meet with Atty. Brownell just to inquire if there was any significant reason for his refusal to sign the Report. The Committee had not heard from the Chairperson up to the time of the meeting and it was difficult to contact the PFMU to begin contract negotiations with the candidate since the signed copy of the report was still with the Chairperson.

Dr. Shannon averred that no matter what Atty. Brownell says concerning the report, the majority will rule and that this was just a waste of time. He said that it was stated in the report that the successful applicant be contacted and given a three (3) months probationary period. Following much discussions, it was unanimously agreed that the LEITI Chairperson provide the Report to PFMU to begin contract negotiation process with the candidate.

5) **Appointment of new MSG members**

The Deputy Head of Secretariat presented an email sent by Atty. Alfred L. Brownell on the submission of the names of civil society nominees to the LEITI MSG for appointment by the President. In the mail, Atty Brownell submitted his name as representative of Publish What You Pay, Mr. Philip Sandi from the Press

Union of Liberia, Madam Helena Jackson Thornes of the Gold and Diamond Workers Union and Mr. David J. Sneh from the Forestry, Logging and Industrial Workers Union as alternate. Mr. Jerry B. Tarbolo Jr. from FLY and a member from LINSU as alternate. For women representatives, nomination was made of Mrs. Cerue Konah-Garlo from the Development Consortium and Mrs. Salome Goffan from the Integrated Center for Community Empowerment as alternative.

Following the submission of this email to members of the MSG, the Co-chairperson expressed serious concern and said that the issue with transparency in the coalition was alarming. A representative from the PWYP, the Executive Director of CENTAL, Mr. Thomas Doe Nah, said that it was troubling, and that other civil society organizations will relate to the activities of LEITI outside of the MSG if the LEITI MSG would recognize Atty. Brownell as the PWYP. Mr. Doe further said that during a meeting of the Coalition, it was agreed that the PWYP would return to the status quo by the 2<sup>nd</sup> of April and have the Constitution of PWYP restructured. He said that it was surprising that Atty. Brownell will state in his email that up to the time of his sending the email, no other organization has expressed interest in serving the LEITI MSG.

The representative from the Gold and Diamond Workers Union, Mrs. Helena Jackson Thornes said that two separate meetings was held for CSOs and that SDI nominated Atty. Brownell as the Chairman of PWYP to the LEITI MSG.

After much deliberation on this issue, it was unanimously agreed that the email from Atty. Brownell be considered nor/void and that the matter be suspended until a formal communication under the signature of the Chairman of the PWYP be sent to the LEITI MSG submitting the names of its member and alternate.

6) **AOB**

**Update on the status of the retainership of Cllr. Warner**

According to the Deputy Head of Secretariat, Mr. Edward R. A. Smith, the MSG agreed that Cllr. Warner be retained on a three months basis. He further said that the contract was drafted and submitted the Chairperson for review and approval, but up to the time of the meeting, there has been no response from the Chair or his office on the matter and that the contract has not been signed.

**Status of the Farewell Reception in honor of Cllr. Warner**

When asked as to the status of this occasion, it was agreed that the program be placed on hold until the new Head of Secretariat is contracted.

**Report of the Committee setup to review the LEITI Act on the issue of Miners and Brokers Association position on the LEITI MSG**

The Committee reported that the Miners and Brokers Association was not appropriately place under Civil Society Organizations according to the LEITI

Act, but since it has been enacted into law, unless the Act is amended, Miners and Brokers will be represented under Civil Society Organizations. They further reported that after reviewing the Act, they were suggesting that of the four (4) slots allocated for civil society organizations, one position be given to the representative of the Miners and Brokers Association. The prerequisite to this opinion is that the Association provide its Article of Incorporation to authenticate the legitimacy of its organization.

**National Traditional Council (NTCL) position on the LEITI MSG**

Chief Zanzan Karwor, Chairman of the NTCL wanted to know the position of the NTCL on the MSG since it was not specify in the LEITI Act. It was explained that seven (7) slots has been allocated for Government Agencies and Ministries and since the NTCL was part of the Government, it will be represented under the Agencies and Ministries of Government.

**7) Time and date of the next meeting**

There being no other business for discussion, the meeting was adjourned and the date and time of the next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, March 25, 2010 at 12:00 noon in the LEITI Conference Room, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Ministry of Finance Building.

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_

Hnede L. Berrian  
**Administrative Manager/LEITI**