

MINUTES

EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE LEITI MULTI-STAKEHOLDERS STEERING GROUP LEITI CONFERENCE ROOM, OLD BUREAU OF THE BUDGET BUILDING ADJACENT THE EXECUTIVE MANSION • THURSDAY MAY 16, 2013 AT 9:00 AM

PRESENT

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Amara M. Konneh	Chairperson LEITI MSG & Minister of Finance
Gbehzohngar M. Findley	Liberian Senate
Harrison S. Karnwea, Sr.	Acting Managing Director, FDA
E. Ekema A. Witherspoon	Proxy for the Minister of Internal Affairs
Sizi Z. Subah	Proxy for the Minister of Agriculture
Stephen Dorbor	Proxy for the Minister of MLME & Co-chairperson LEITI

CSO

Alfred L. Brownell	PWYP/Green Advocates
Mohammed A. Nasser	FLY

Private Sector

Monique Cooper	BHP Billiton
Richard Weaver	Chevron
Esiaka B. Konneh	Brokers & Dealers Association

IN ATTENDANCE

Partners/Observers

Peter Quaqua	PWYP
Benedic B. Williams	LINSU
Alexander Deline	IMF
Paolo Nastasi	UNMIL
Mark Mattner	GIZ
Frances R. Greaves	National Civil Society Council of Liberia
Siafa T. Chowoe	MOF
Sekon N. Sanoe	MOF
Amos Z. Koukou	MOF
Edward S. Kamara	FDA
Ronnie Lawrence Sr.	FDA
Sizi Z. Subah	MOA
Christian T. L. Peah	LIPO/PWYP
Francis K. Colee	PWYP
Chea B. Garley	MOA

LEITI Secretariat

Roosevelt G. Jayjay	LEITI Board Representative
Samson Tokpah	LEITI
Samson Wonnah	LEITI
Konah D. Karmo	LEITI
Hnede Berrian-Sillah	LEITI

An extraordinary meeting of the LEITI Multi-stakeholder Steering Group was held on Thursday, May 16, 2013 at 9:00 am in the Conference Room of the Secretariat. The LEITI Head of Secretariat, Mr. Samson S. Tokpah welcomed the LEITI Chairperson, Hon. Amara M. Konneh and announced Liberia's

representation on the LEITI Board by Senator Gbehzohngar M. Findley who was elected as permanent member to the Board.

Opening prayer and Self-Introduction

Minister Konneh thanked the LEITI for such great job and also thanked Hon. Findley on his election stating that it is with no doubt that he will make Liberia proud. A volunteer was requested to perform the opening prayer followed by self-introduction by everyone.

Presentation of the Reports

The LEITI Head of Secretariat give an overview of the reports as indicated below:

Fourth (4th) Reconciliation Report

Key issues of the report:

- total amount of 117 million in extractive revenue
- inclusion of payments made by the Environmental Protection Agency, Liberia Maritime Authority, National Port Authority and the Liberia Civil Aviation Authority;
- the inclusion of a revenue tracking piece,
- “in-kind contribution;
- “amount due” column; and
- the actual reconciliation of royalties and other fees paid by extractive companies

Findings:

- failure of the General Auditing Commission to express an opinion on the GOL submission
- No attestation by an auditor, one of the key requirements of the EITI process.

Discussions:

- Members of the MSG were concern that the Auditors did not do a thorough job on the report especially on the “amount due” portion of the report which they maintained was a key requirement in the contract entered into with the Auditors.
- They maintained that the inclusion of this portion on the report will informed the Government and citizens on the actual amount a particular company is due the Government.
- Representatives of the civil society and other MSG members agreed that the Auditors should provide a supplementary report on the amount due before beginning the 5th Report.
- They averred that the report not only represent the LEITI but the entire country as such it must be properly done given Liberia’s history of quality reports produced in the past and the fact that the Liberia is EITI ++ therefore Ernst & Young should be held accountable for not implementing portion of the contract agreed between them and the LEITI.
- The Secretariat pleaded with members of the MSG to allow the report to be adopted “as is” given that the report captures “amount due” for two sectors (oil and forestry). This should serve as a precedent for the 5th Report during which time a full report on the “amount due” column would be reported for all sectors. The Secretariat reported that one of the main problems the Auditors faced in preparing this portion of the report was that they would have to conduct a production audit.

Decisions:

- That the Secretariat liaise with the Auditors to provide a supplementary report on the “amount due” portion of the 4th Report with “amount due” on fix and variable taxes for the Forestry Sector and Fix for all other sectors.
- MSG should approve the 4th Report with this addendum
- MSG will provide the necessary rules and regulations to the Secretariat on the preparation of the supplementary report
- A review of the MSG Regulations needs to be looked at

Post Award Process Audit Report

The Head of Secretariat reported on key findings of the Post Award Process Audit Report and named the Ministry of Lands, Mines and Energy as its greatest challenge even though minimum responses were received from other Government Agencies and Ministries.

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Discussions:

- The Secretariat reported that the responses received were very minimum and the was with the

Decisions:

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Meeting Adjourned.