Timor-Leste EITI National Working Group

MINUTES

18 June 2009 9:30 – 11:53 EITI Secretariat Office Belarmino Lobo, Bidau Lecidere, Dili, Timor-Leste

Participants Members*

Carlos Florindo	ETADEP, CSO Representative
Abdur Rahman Khan	Advisor, Petroleum Tax Audit
Mericio Akara	Program Coordinator Luta Hamutuk
Tony Heynen	Eni Timor-Leste, Country Representative
Peter Smith	ConocoPhillips, Timor-Leste Country Manager
Doug Adams	Country Manager, Woodside
Viriato Seac	Researcher La'o Hamutuk
Manuel de Lemos	Director, SERN (Focal Point EITI)
Angelo Lay	ANP

Alternatives, Non-Voting, and Observers

João Demetrio Xavier, Florencio Fernandes (Alternate) Elda Guterres da Silva	Petroleum Tax Division MoF Eni Timor-Leste, Dili Office Manager Secretariat EITI, Finance and Administration Officer
Trifonio Flor Sarmento	Assistant Outreach Coordinator & Finance and Administration Officer for Secretariat EITI
Tobias Rasmussen	IMF, Representative
Absent:	
Vidar Ovesen	Fiscal Policy and Petroleum Fund Advisor, Ministry of Finance (MoF)
Cipriana Tita Sousa	ANP
Habib Rab	World Bank
Elga Anita	Staff SERN
Venancio Alves Maria	Executive Director, Banking and Payments Authority (BPA)
James Kernaghan	External Relations & Comms Mgr, Eni Australia
Chair By	Manuel de Lemos Director, SERN (Focal Point EITI)

Introduction

Agenda for the meeting:

- 1) Review previously minutes of the meeting on 18 May 09
- 2) ToR for Validator
- 3) Panel for Selection of the Validator
- 4) Up Coming Workshop on June 22-26 June 09
- 5) Set up for Next meeting

1) Review Minutes

Group members reviewed and agreed the minutes meeting on 18 May 2009, incorporating to mini amendment by Civil Society.

2) ToR for Validator

EITI WG has discussed the issues of the final EITI template public report in several meetings finally those template has been approved, then next step is move forward with the ToR for validator which is required to endorse by working group (WG), afterward WG have to prepare progress of the contract, regarding to the contract can be access through the EITI International Secretariat, lastly this ToR for validator has been send it to the EITI International Secretariat base in Oslo.

Question by Industry

How is the country going through the validation process?

Answer

Azerbaijan as an example has went through validation process with an aggregate report and achieved as compliant Country, 22 countries has deadline on 9 March 2010 for complete validation process including Timor-Leste, that means just 7 accredited validator are available in the EITI Secretariat International, at this stage WG need to announce /publishing out this ToR as soon as possible that Timor-Leste request for validator.

This ToR is standard use all the country. WG propose an amendment to the time schedule and the payment process.

Time Schedule

Request for Proposals	1-31 July 2009
Selection of Validator	1-15 August 2009
Contract Signing	25 August 2009
Inception period	September 2009
Draft Report	1 October 2009
Final Report	1 Novembers 2009

Payment process

Will cover by Government of Timor-Leste which is 50 % pay in advance then extra payment 50 % after finishing draft final EITI public report, WG worried the validator can be charge high rate when the completion of report? Government will cross check with procurement regarding to this matter.

On attachment below of the ToR required Company together with sub contract to filling out the form list of company active in Extractive Industry, for the current members, and previously members, will filling by EITI Secretariat National including of the attachment of the EITI national work plan.

Mini adjust and some suggestion by CS

Endorsement ToR 19 June 09 change to 18 June 09.

On line 4 Scope of the Service, this report which has provides by validator is it possible to send it first to MSG, before it going to the EITI board and Government, which means not in simultaneously. The answer is base on the MSG workshop which is facilitated by Revenue Watch Institute on the 25 June 09, regarding to the validation process and criteria which has explain by Sam Bartlett, after completion of draft report it will come with recommendation and it should send parallel to the MSG, EITI Board and Government report, this report is review and comments.

Industry query

In term of going through the validation process which means that the validator will check against the several criteria, in Industry opinion the validator not have any information, and experience what WG really need to add into, also what WG actually add to it giving the validator ticking the box to really said that go forward T-L has satisfy all criteria require for validator, how much change WG can make to this process.

Industry does not need to writing report in correct way, make state which is mistake the order and law can often give company clear draft copy, incase not one can change any thing and the conclusion.

ToR for Validator is endorsing by MSG but subject to the mini revision.

3) Panel for selection of the Validator

MSG needs to have panels from each difference institute reps to deal with the issues for select validator, 2 person reps from industry, CS and Government. Industry propose that all members are involve in the selection process, then Government suggested to nominated one person from each pillars and an alternate in the selection of the validator. It was agreed by WG.

4) Up Coming Workshop on June 22-26 June 09

Regarding to the EITI national work plan in 3 b Activity this workshop is host by CS in collaboration Secretariat national EITI, the workshop is facilitate by Revenue watch Institute, Publish What You Pay and EITI Secretariat International on 22-24 June 09 this workshop is dedicate to CS, 25 June 09 for MSG, and 26 June 09 for member of Parliament, in related to the Validation process and criteria.

It was noted that Tobias Rasmussen from IMF were leaving because of their office is already closing down, The WG thanked him for excellent contribution and support of the committee since its inception.

Next Meeting

Next meeting will be held in the EITI Secretariat Office next to Xanana Reading Room, Rua Belarmino Lobo, Lecidere, on 16 July 2009, at 9:30 till finishing.