

Timor-Leste EITI National Working Group

MINUTES

25 February 2009

9:00 – 11:03

EITI secretariat Office

Belarmino Lobo, Bidau Lecidere, Dili Timor-Leste

Participants

Members*

Carlos Florindo	ETADEP, CSO Representative
Peter Smith	ConocoPhillips, Timor-Leste Country Manager
Manuel de Lemos	Director, SERN (Focal Point EITI)
Florencio Fernandes, Alternate	Eni Timor-Leste, Dili Office Manager
Viriato Seac	Researcher La'o Hamutuk
Doug Adams	Country Manager, Woodside
Vidar Ovesen	Fiscal Policy and Petroleum Fund Advisor, Ministry of Finance (MoF)

Alternatives, Non-Voting, and Observers

Elda Guterres da Silva	Secretariat EITI, Finance and Administration Officer
Trifonio Flor Sarmento	Assistant Outreach Coordinator & Finance and Administration Officer for Secretariat EITI
Tony Heynen	Eni Timor-Leste, Country Representative
Tobias Rasmussen	IMF, Representative
João Demetrio Xavier,	Petroleum Tax Division MoF
Abdur Rahman Khan	Advisor, Petroleum Tax Audit

Absent:

Venancio Alves Maria	Executive Director, Banking and Payments Authority (BPA)
Cesario dos Santos	Woodside representative
Habib Rab	World Bank
Lizete de Fatima M.	Development Program Advisor, Woodside
James Kernaghan	External Relations & Communications Manager, Eni Australia
Angelo Lay	ANP
Elga Anita	Staff SERN
Joao Saldanha, Alternate	Macro economy, MoF
Mericio Akara	Program Coordinator Luta Hamutuk

Chair By

Manuel de Lemos
Director, SERN (Focal Point EITI)

The meeting was called with the aim of reviewing the EITI guidelines & EITI reporting templates of Aggregation and Disaggregating for approval by Working Group.

Draft Reporting Guidelines:

In the previous EITI Working Group meeting the Subcommittee was requested to resume its work in order to review last minute proposals from the Industry for amendments to the Reporting Guidelines. The Subcommittee met on February 17 and discussed the Reporting Guidelines as well as the Templates. In absence of the civil society, the Sub Committee agreed on changes to the Guidelines and a recommendation to the EITI Working Group.

The Sub Committee recommended extending the Reporting Period from 1 to 2 months after year end and suggested also some minor amendments to the text, mainly with the purpose to clarify the Guidelines.

One of the members of the Working Group suggested at the meeting some further amendments to the Draft Guidelines presented by the Sub Committee. This member suggested redrafting the confidentiality clause, extending the Reporting Period to 3 months and proposed also several other minor amendments to the text.

The Civil Society apologized for not being able to attend the last Sub Committee Meeting. They expressed concerns about the issue of confidentiality, as they regard petroleum revenue payments as public information and should be disclosed. Disclosing petroleum revenue payments to the Government of Timor-Leste would not affect the Company's business strategy.

The Government's representatives informed that they could not accept the proposed changes to the confidentiality clause, as the proposal indicates that the information collated could only be used for the purpose of reporting to the Aggregating Body and for preparation of the EITI Report – not for the purpose of disclosing information in the EITI Report.

The EITI Working Group discussed the issue and agreed on the following confidentiality clause to be included in the Guidelines and inserted on all templates:

“All information provided on the reporting templates shall be treated on a confidential basis and is only for the use of the Aggregating Body and Government solely for the purposes of EITI reporting requirements. No information shall be disclosed to any third party without the disclosing party's written consent, unless disclosure is required by law.”

The EITI Working Group agreed also to stick to the proposal of 2 months Reporting Period and other minor amendments to the Guidelines and Templates.

However, one member of the Working Group accepted to approve the Guidelines and Templates only subject to consensus on the final EITI Report and the issue of

aggregation/disaggregation. This member could not accept to proceed with the first stage of the Reporting Process, as the EITI Working Group previously agreed.

On that basis the EITI Working Group was not able to resolve the matter and decided not to start the first stage until the EITI Working Group has approved the final public EITI Report Template.

Next Meeting

It will held in the EITI Secretariat Office next to Xanana Reading Room, Rua Belarmino Lobo Lecidere, On 24 March 2009, at 9:00 till finishing.