

Timor-Leste EITI National Working Group

MINUTES

25 May 2010

9:30 – 12:20

Secretariat EITI Office, Belarmino Lobo, Bidau Lecidere

Participants Members*

Cristina Costa, Alternate	Conocophillips
Manuel de Lemos	National Coordinator EITI
Venancio Alves Maria	Executive Director, Banking and Payments Authority (BPA)
Tony Heynen	Eni Timor-Leste, Country Representative
Honesia Araujo, Alternate	ANP
Abdur Rahman Khan	Advisor, Petroleum Tax Audit
Mericio Akara	CSSO Representative Luta Hamutuk
Filipe Nery Bernardo, (Alternate)	Petroleum Fund Analyst- MoF
Martinha da Silva	Director FHF

Alternatives, Non-Voting, and Observers

Elda Guterres da Silva	Secretariat EITI, Finance and Administration Officer
Fernando da Silva	Chief Accountant –BPA
Remigio Vieira (LAKA) Alternate	CSSO Representative FSG
John Gommers	ANP

Absent:

Peter Smith	ConocoPhillips, Timor-Leste Country Manager
Trifonio Flor Sarmento	Assistant Outreach Coordinator & Finance and Administration Officer for Secretariat EITI
David Hook	World Bank
João Demetrio Xavier, (Alternate)	Petroleum Tax Division MoF
Angelo Lay	ANP
Carlos Florindo	ETADEP, CSSO Representative
Florencio Fernandes (Alternate)	Eni Timor-Leste, Dili Office Manager
Brendan Augustin	Deputy Country Manager for Sunrise (Woodside)
Vidar Ovesen	Fiscal Policy and Petroleum Fund Advisor, Ministry of Finance (MoF)

Chair By: Manuel Lemos National Coordinator EITI

1) Review Minutes

Working Group (WG) reviewed and agreed the meeting minutes on 06 April 2010.

2) Letter from the East Timor NGO Forum (FONGTIL) regarding to the replacement of Mr. Veriato Seac from Civil Society Organization (CSO) Lao Hamutuk.

The letter from FONGTIL regarding the formal replacement of Mr. Viriato Seac of NGO Lao Hamutuk with Ms. Martinha da Silva of NGO Feto Hadomi Familia (FHF) as the representative of the CSO at the EITI WG was circulated to the WG.

FONGTIL also nominated Ms. Maria Cabral of NGO HAFOTI, Mr. Remizio Vierra Laka of NGO FSG, and Mr. Domingos de Andrade of NGO FMTL as the alternate representatives of CSO at the EITI WG.

The WG welcomed the new member and requested to be included in the Timor-Leste EITI WG's mailing list.

3) Upcoming Workshop

The WG discussed the upcoming workshops on issues related to Timor-Leste EITI, including socialization of the EITI 2008 Report.

It was informed by the CSO that they are planning to conduct a national workshop (seminar?) on EITI in Dili in June 2010, tentative, where a representative of each pillar will be invited to present its role at the EITI WG to the audiences. The final program will be provided to the WG as soon as it is available.

The CSO also informed that they had held several workshops (community discussion?) at the district/suco level on various issues including the EITI activities in several districts and welcomed the WG to join them in the future workshops. The WG seen it as a proper channel to disseminate information regarding EITI, thus to avoid duplication of workshops, taking into account limited resources and time of WG.

In this regards, CSO suggested to conduct "training of presenters" on issues related to the role, process and technical terms used by each pillar on the petroleum sectors (e.g. withholding payments, VAT, etc.) to the members of CSO that will conduct the workshops/seminar.

It was agreed that EITI Secretariat will arrange a meeting with CCPF/KKFP and CSO to discuss further the mechanism of organizing the workshops and resources (cost sharing, etc.). On this issue, it was decided that the EITI Secretariat will update the WG on the outcome of the meeting in the next EITI WG meeting.

4) Road show (Regional Level)

The WG discussed and agreed that the WG will carry out activities on the socialization of the EITI 2008 Report, which is agreed to be held in 3 regional levels and in Oecusse separately.

The WG agreed on the following timetable:

Region/Districts	Centralized in	Tentative Date	Expected/target participants*	Remarks
A (Manatuto, Baucau, Viqueque, & Lospalos)	Com (Lospalos)	2 July 2010	100 (rep.: local community leaders(DA, Chefe Suco, etc.), local NGO, youth and religion representative, etc.	EITI Sec. to cover the cost, including accommodation, transportation, and per diem
B (Aileu, Ermera, Ainaro and Same)	Maubisse	30 July 2010		
C (Suai, Maliana, Liqueca and Dili),	Maliana	13 August 2010		
Oecusse	Oecusse	16 July 2010		

*number of participants is subject to EITI Secretariat cost proposal

It was also agreed that the information to be disseminated during the seminar should be around the role of each pillar, EITI, EITI report, validation process, etc..

5) Lesson learnt from the TL-EITI 1st report and preparation for the 2nd report

On this issue, WG generally content with TL-EITI 1st report and the process taken. WG noted that one of the issues raised in the report was the engagement of the aggregator body (reconciler) through single source process, although the justification was accepted i.e. due to the time constraint and the legal basis that is already in place i.e. PF Law. The WG acknowledged the concern raised by the members on the appointment of the aggregator body, which should be transparent i.e. through an open tender process. Another issue raised in the meeting was the amount of information provided in the report by the aggregator body/reconciler which was only the reconciliation of the figures paid by the companies and figures received by the government, however, WG also noted that information such as general discussion on EITI process was not addressed in the Scope of Work. Therefore, WG agreed on the following:

- WG agreed that given the same reason, it is not practical to go for open tender option for the 2nd EITI report, thus WG has considered to re-engage previous aggregator body with modified scope of work to cover additional works which is more comprehensive, outlining the EITI process in general, EITI process in Timor-Leste, petroleum sector, the fiscal regime, the discussion on the process of reconciling the figures, findings, [including discussion on discrepancies](#)

- The EITI Secretariat to draft a Memorandum of Understanding between the WG and Government and Industry which sets out the agreement of each parties to provide data to the aggregator body based on the agreed guidelines and template. The draft MoU will be provided to WG for consideration in the next coming meeting.
- The above-mentioned MoU shall be the basis of the process of open tender of aggregator body going forward.

WG also discussed the issue on the “delay” in the decision on Timor-Leste status as compliant country by the EITI Board (?). It was noted that the validation report has been submitted prior to the deadline in April 2010. WG also noted that there is a sub validation committee which should review Timor-Leste validation report and provide recommendation to the Board as the basis for its final decision. The Committee is expected to meet in September 2010.

On this issue, WG has requested EITI Secretariat and other members to seek for more information and update the WG as soon as it is available.

5) Next Meeting

The next meeting is schedule on 15 June 2010 at 9:30 until finishing, held in the EITI Secretariat Office next to Xanana Reading Room, Rua Belarmino Lobo, Lecidere.