



Dili 14, June 2021

Chair of EITI Board  
Ruselokkveien 26  
0251 Oslo  
Norway

**Dear Rt Hon.  
Mrs Helen Clark**

**Subject: Request for validation reschedule in accordance with 2019 EITI Standard Requirement.**

I am writing as the Chairperson of the Timor-Leste EITI MSWG to inform you about the possibility of not meeting the validation schedule proposed for the country on 1st July.

Timor-Leste acknowledges the new 2019 Standard validation procedure and the validation schedule proposed for the country is due on 1 July 2021. The Ministry of Petroleum and Minerals and the Multi-stakeholder working group (TL-MSWG) would like to request for an extension for the referred Validation, preferably until first quarter (Jan – March) of 2022. The Multi-stakeholder working groups (TL-MSWG) agree to participate in the pre-validation activities in attempt to familiarize with its mechanism of implementation. However, the country is in the State of Emergency and Lockdown due to number of people infected by pandemic Covid-19 has increased significantly. Also, the latest catastrophic flood and landslide on 4 April 2021 has caused many people lost their lives and properties. Due to such natural disaster, Government declared State of Calamity in the country. Some of the damages have affected MSWG constituents and created obstacles to access better quality of the communication. This would lead to the inability of the MSWG to engage in the pre-validation activities and the actual Validation exercise at this stage (2019 Standard's Section 4 – Art. 7.3).

I would like to reiterate Timor-Leste's commitment to transparency sector in the management of its petroleum revenue and specifically to the principles enshrined in the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI).

Yours sincerely,

**Dr. Victor da Conceição Soares**  
Minister of Petroleum and Minerals