

## MEETING MINUTES

14 January 2022

TL-EITI Office, Farol, Dili

### Participant Members

Agostinho Ramos	MoF - Tax Authority
Angelina Branco	Eni Country Representative
Ângelo Lay	Carnarvon Petroleum Timor - Country Manager
Antonio dos Santos	Woodside Petroleum - Country Representative
Estefanus Coli	CSO - MDI
Helio da Silva	CSO
Feliciano Soares	Timor Resources - Senior Accountant & Finance Manager
Florencio Sanches	SERVE, IP - Executive Director
Cesaltina Soares	SERVE, IP (Observer)
Maria Fatima da Costa	SERVE, IP (Observer)
Isabel da Silva	ANPM
Jenete Carvalho	Woodside Petroleum TL
Francisco Alegria	TIMOR-GAP E.P. (Observer)
Rui Matos	Ernst and Young Audits & Assoc.
Jenete Carvalho	Woodside Representative

### TL-EITI Secretariat:

Octavio Jordão de Araújo	Adviser
Abelina Rosario	Database Officer
Agostinho Carvalho Ximenes	Technical Officer
Fernando Fontes dos Reis	Technical Officer
Gabriel J. M. B. de Oliveira	Technical Officer
Maria Pinto Xavier de Almeida	Technical Officer

Meeting opened at 9.30 AM.

### 1. Approval of the agenda

The meeting agenda was approved by MSWG members.

## **2. Approval of document**

No document was approved in the meeting.

## **3. Discussion of TL-EITI Validation 2019**

It was the first MSG meeting of 2022. The meeting started with informing MSG on the outcome of the recent webinar between the National Secretariat and EITI Int'l Secretariat on the preparation for the upcoming 2019 Standard Validation in July. The Int'l Secretariat explained that the Validation will assess MSG implementation of the Standard requirements through the recently published EITI Report, work plan(s), meeting minutes, progress report and also, other relevant information about the country's extractive activities that are disclosed in the national websites. The MSG will be presented three (3) different Validation templates to respond that covered MSG Stakeholder Engagement (Req. 1), Transparency Reporting (Req. 2 – 6) and Outcomes and Impact from EITI Implementation (Req. 7). The EITI Int'l suggested that MSG to follow the approaches that were implemented by other nations that have been subjected to 2019 Standard Validation e.g. The Philippines and Mongolia. One approach that was taken by these countries were involving the Independent Administrator (IA) in the Validation preparation.

Furthermore, the MSG is encouraged to participate several workshop preparations in order to assist MSG and the IA to provide answers for validation templates. The proposed schedule or agenda of these activities will be prepared by the EITI Int'l and shared with MSG and TLEI-Secretariat.

MSG has addressed the importance of involving the IA in the process but informed that the current ToR for IA and IA's service contract that is not covered Validation activities. Thus, MSG would propose the stakeholders to go through each EITI requirement to assist with the Validation templates' response and once the MSG identify any complexity or issues in answering these templates than could seek consultation with the IA for further assistance. In terms of the validation preparation agenda, since the 2019 TL-EITI report has a short duration (around three months until its publication in March), the MSG suggested to revisit the schedule in order to not overlap with the report preparation. However, if MSG members from the reporting entities have submitted the required data for reconciliation by the end of January, the National Secretariat may inform MSG to discuss pre-validation activities. The MSG opine that the suitable date for stakeholders' Validation meeting would be the week(s) between post submission of revenue data and the day before the IA's consultation with reporting entities, if all members available. During this stage, MSG will review the validation templates and attempt to answer the questionnaire. TLEITI Secretariat will propose MSG suggestion to the IA.

## **4. Discussion of the 2019 TL-EITI Report Preparation**

The MSWG was informed on the progress of the referred report preparation by the National Secretariat (NS). The IA has started collecting information on 2019 revenue activities from the ANPM website and other relevant

sources (e.g. Ministry of Finance) for the preparation of the scoping study due to the short duration given after the extension approved by the Board. The IA has also communicated with the government representatives associated with the entities above mentioned since December 2021 to accelerate with the requested information for the completion of the scoping study and then the inception report. Once the inception report approved by the MSG and so with the materiality threshold, the IA will provide the list of reporting entities under scope and the draft of EITI data collection templates for these entities (government and industry) to complete. In the meantime, the IA has requested the Ministry of Petroleum & Minerals through the NS to prepare request letters for the reporting entities for data submission, including subcontractors. Due to its deadline in March, it is expected that the entities would submit their data by January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022.

The MSG members aware the importance of this reconciliation report which will be also validated on 1 July and thus, they commit to cooperate with the IA and the NS until its publication in March. MSG then suggest the NS to deliver via email the data collection templates once prepared by the IA.

## **5. Discussion of draft Work Plan 2022**

MSG was presented with the draft work plan which defines certain objectives recommended by the EITI for MSG to implement within one year period. The key information that were discussed on the content of the draft Work Plan include:

- i) Validation recommendation from the previous Validation report and TL EITI reports: despite of the satisfactory progress achieved previously and no specific recommendations were mentioned in the last Validation report, MSG is encouraged to respond to recommendations provided by the IA in the recently published TL-EITI reports. The MSG was also required to mention the validation plans for 2022 in the current work plan.
- ii) Energy transition issue: the NS has informed on the recent outcome of energy transition webinar conducted by EITI Int'l. MSWG sought the importance of this issue to be discussed in the meeting and considers to further research on any relevant activities (e.g. national workshops, international events about energy) that have occurred at national level or have involved participation of Timor-Leste. These activities may serve as the reference for MSWG and the NS to carry out further discussions in the future knowing that the actual government structure has no department governing the energy sector.
- iii) Outreach/dissemination program: MSWG has struggled to “measure” the outcome and impact from EITI implementation in the country. This can be observed from the lack of discussions about EITI with specific audience that can correspond to EITI data. MSWG proposed the NS and CSO to consider changing the method of dissemination or public dialogue programs in which these activities were often conducted in rural areas of Timor-Leste where the audiences rarely accessed

to EITI information. Hence, since the majority of the economic and industry activities are generally implemented in Dili, it would be more suitable to arrange discussions with specific audiences such as academics and broader stakeholders and NGOs, where the community members have more access to EITI data.

- iv) There is a chance that MSWG may organize another meeting to discuss on the pre-validation activities following the publication of 2019 TL-EITI report in the 4th week of March.

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 11:10 a.m.

Minutes approved and signed by: MSWG members