

MINUTES of the 72nd MEETING OF THE MULTI-STAKEHOLDER'S GROUP
FEBRUARY 14, 2024 held virtually via ZOOM MEETING: 10:00 HRS

1. Call to Order and Welcome:

Announcements: The following members were excused:

- Micheal Munroe(G)
- Hema Khan(G)
- Sonya Roopnauth(G)
- Valenda Harris (G)
- Anand Gohil(I)

2. Adoption of AGENDA

Proposed for adoption: Denise De Souza(C) as amended

Seconded by: Sean Richmond(G)

3. MINUTES OF THE 71st MSG – consideration and Adoption. Amendments were made to Agenda item no.3. (iv) (pg 3.)

Proposed for adoption: William Thompson (I) as amended

Seconded by Rafeek Khan(I)

4. Reports from MSG Committees

(i) IA Committee:

(A)TOR for FY 2022 Report

- Two Meetings of the IA Committee were held in the last week.
- The TOR is still a work in progress. Significant work was undertaken with the current draft to make it more streamlined. Comments from some Members, the Secretariat, and the EITI Secretariat were incorporated. Additional comments received, the latest from Civil Society about an hour ago, will be incorporated.
- The review is paused pending the MSG consideration and decision on key elements as set out below.

The IA Committee's **recommendations for MSG's decision were tabled as set out below:**

- **To complete the FY 2022 and FY 2023 EITI Reports in 2024 using one TOR and once approved undertake the adjustments that will be necessary to be made in the TOR for the IA.**

The advantages for completing the two reports were outlined.

- Decreased reporting burden from the organization
- Cost savings
- Better analysis and longer -term outlook and trend analysis
- More effective planning and strategy development
- Helps to get reporting current and more meaningful.
- The collection of the data can be done together but the analyses done separately.

- **To consider a Materiality Threshold by sector rather than one threshold across the board for all sectors.**

The recommendation was made in the context of the skewness of revenues from the oil /petroleum sector which does not allow for the proper recognition of the other sectors contribution- mining, forestry, and fisheries.

Oil and Gas revenue now accounts for 95% of the extractive sector revenue for Guyana. Currently, the extractive companies included in the reconciliation exercise is based on setting materiality using all extractive revenue. This has reduced the number of extractive companies that fall within materiality because of the large contribution of oil and gas revenue.

Having a materiality threshold for each sector can provide stakeholders with a clearer picture of extractive companies and reducing the domination of one sector in the report.

The Chair of the IA Committee was requested to submit:

- (a) Briefing note on the TOR for the FY 2022 and FY 2023 by Friday February 16th, 2024 and round robin to members**
- (b) Briefing note on the new approach for materiality to be done by sector to be submitted by Friday, February 16, 2024 for round robin approval.**
- (c) To complete the TOR for IA for approval as soon as possible, preferably before the March MSG- March 13th. This will be subject to the round robin decision on the two recommendations.**
- (d) The MINUTES of the IA Committee meetings will also be made available. It will reflect the progress on the finalization of the TOR.**

(B) Chairmanship of the IA Committee.

The Meeting was informed that Mr. Ryan Ramjit ceded the chairmanship of the IA Committee to Mr. William Thompson.

Mr. Ramjit remains a member of the IA Committee.

(ii) Communications Committee

The Chair of the Communications Committee presented two critical and important levels of reporting that are related to the work of the Communications Committee.

- (a) The collaborative work of the MSG, the Communications Committee and the Secretariat.** He pointed to the manner in which stakeholders engagements are approached. It was noted that in 2023 the focus was on getting the two reports and the newsletters out. The outreach meetings –(in persons)in communities have not been done and the MSG ought to be mindful that these are important for our EITI status and critical for validation. Therefore, the outreaches that were approved by the MSG are critical and must be implemented.
- (b) The execution of the preparatory work.**

The preparation process has to be completed by the secretariat so that the MSG can consider the details. The lack of this process does not allow him, in the capacity of Chair of the Communications Committee, to provide a report to the MSG. He underscored the

need to start the collaborative work. There should be an understanding of what needs to be done and to effectively get it done.

- He outlined the Weekly reporting system he has initiated to present feedback from the Secretariat on progress on the approved projects. This will also help to identify hurdles and challenges and for them to be addressed. It also serves as a traceability mechanism.
- Projects identified that were already approved

UG outreach: This outreach was approved some time back. He reiterated that the key to the engagement is educating and bringing awareness to the next generation and the focus therefore will be on the students and the academic community. The format for the outreach is an open presentation and discussions; debate by the 3 co-chairs with the students to demonstrate the EITI process and its benefits to the society.

- An agenda to be prepared.
- A power point presentation to be made
- The administrative and logistics arrangements to be in place.
- A March 7, 2024 date is proposed.

A variation of the same project can be done for the University of Guyana- Berbice Campus.

Lethem: MSG Outreach

This project was approved in principle. The Secretariat to complete for MSG approval:

- The plans and Budget which should be pre-approved by the Permanent Secretary.
- List of Stakeholders in Lethem
- Draft Agenda: Topics and scope for discussions of interest to stakeholders.

It was noted the month of March may not be appropriate given the activities in Region 9. A date before the end of June will be more appropriate.

- A reconnaissance visit will be necessary to ensure that the logistics and other details are in place to ensure the objectives of the mission are met.

The Port Kituma outreach should follow the same approach. Lethem can be used as a model.

Others:

- Secretariat to share the copy of letter sent to the GGDMA
- A booth space at the Energy Conference was not possible.
- Secretariat and MSG members can identify other projects for consideration.

The Chair of Communications Committee reiterated the need for a pragmatic way forward. The need for a strong support from the secretariat to facilitate optimal reporting was emphasized. A close collaboration is needed or else the opportunities in 2024 and 2025 will be missed.

The Chair of the MSG noted the wake up call and the need to get “cracking” and requested a briefing note of the matters discussed. The National Coordinator welcomed the approach and the need for the output to be measurable.

(iii) Workplan, MSG -TOR and Validation Committee

Committee has not met.

(iv) Legal and Regulatory Committee:

No additional members to the Legal and Regulatory Committee. Chair to be advised accordingly.

5. Status Update: Sam Tokpah, WB Consultant.

(a) Mainstreaming/ Systematic Disclosure Feasibility Study/ Inception Report

The Inception report on Mainstreaming feasibility Study will be circulated after the Co -Chairs meeting. The need to meet the deadline for data collection, (which has started), and the submission of a first draft of the feasibility by mid-March.

(b) Capacity Building.

The Consultant reported that 45% response was received from all respondents. The first draft of the report is being finalized and will be submitted shortly. Some immediate capacity building efforts have started. Weekly meetings with the Secretariat, clarity and understanding of the standards, other countries approach and knowledge exchange initiatives.

He reported as well his back-office support to MNR with respect to the beneficial ownership and his availability to offer any further assistance to the BO consultant if necessary.

He will be in Guyana until February 25, 2024.

He reminded the MSG of validation in 2025 and supported the position of the Communications Committee to advance work in this regard.

A meeting between Sam Tokpah and Chair of the Communication Committee will be convened.

6. Update: Beneficial Ownership Consultancy

The Chair informed the meeting that the process has advanced. One bidder meets the requirements and qualified.

Full details will be submitted to MSG as received from Permanent Secretary-J Mc. Kenzie.

7. Secretariat Report

The Secretariat’s report was presented.

Areas where work is ongoing was highlighted:-

- Annual progress report for FY 2023 and FY 2021 and 2022. These are being worked at simultaneously.
- Need for members information for Webpage
- First quarter Newsletter underway.
- Status of the posting of Minutes
- Ongoing review of the website.

8. Any other Business and Close of meeting:

The Chair thanked everyone for their participation and announced the date for the next meeting.

The date for the next MSG is March 13,2024

Summary of Decision and follow-up actions.

Agenda Item	Issue	Decision/ action	Status
3	<p><u>Reports from MSG Committees</u></p> <p><u>IA Committee:</u></p> <p>FY 2022 and FY 2023 EITI reports.</p>	<p>(a)Chair of IA Committee to submit: Briefing Note on the TOR for the FY 2022 and FY 2023 by Friday February 16th, 2024 and round robin to members for approval.</p> <p>(b)Briefing note on the new approach for materiality to be done by sector to be submitted by Friday, February 16, 2024 for round robin approval.</p> <p>(c)Submit the finalized TOR for the IA for approval, as soon as possible before the March MSG- March 13th. This will be subject to the round robin decision on the two recommendations.</p>	

	<p><u>Communications Committee</u></p> <p><u>Outreach Activities</u></p>	<p>UG Outreach An agenda to be prepared . A power point presentation to be made The administrative and logistical arrangements to be in place. A March 7, 2024 date is proposed.</p> <p><u>Lethem: MSG Outreach</u> The Secretariat to complete for MSG approval:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Logistical arrangements. Plan and Budget should be pre-approved by the Permanent Secretary. • List of Stakeholders in Lethem • Draft Agenda: Topics and scope for discussions of interest to stakeholders. • A reconnaissance visit will be necessary to ensure that the logistics and objectives are met. <p>➤ Secretariat to share the copy of letter sent to the GGDMA</p> <p>.</p>	
4.	<p><u>Update & Status by Secretariat of Beneficial Ownership Consultancy.</u></p>	<p>The recruitment is at the finalization stage and NPTAB's award.</p>	

Prepared by: Johanne Earle

GYEITI Secretariat

March, 2024

Signed:



Vanda Radzik
Chairperson, Multi-Stakeholder Group.

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FEBRUARY 14, 2024

VIRTUAL ZOOM MEETING: 10:00 HRS

AGENDA

1. Call to Order and Welcome:
 Announcements: excuses /attendance
2. Adoption of AGENDA
3. MINUTES OF THE 71st MSG – consideration and Adoption.
4. Reports from MSG Committees
 - (v) IA Committee: Status of the TOR: FY 2022 Report
 - (vi) Communication and Outreach Committee
 - (vii) Workplan, MSG -TOR and Validation Committee
 - (viii) Legal and Regulatory Committee
 - (ix) Co- Chairs
5. Status Update: Sam Tokpah, WB Consultant.
 - (c) Mainstreaming/ Systematic Disclosure Feasibility Study/ Inception Report
 - (d) Capacity Building
6. Update: Beneficial Ownership Consultancy
7. Secretariat Report
8. Any other Business
9. Close and announcement of date for the next meeting.

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Attendance:

	Name/Sector	Gender	Present	Absent	Alternate		Present	Absent
Industry								
1	W. Thompson	M	X		A. Gohil	M		w/e
2	R. Ramjit	M	X		J. Vogt	M	X	
3	A. Alphonso	M			A. Jagnandan	M	X	

4	R. Khan	M	x		N. McLean	M		wo/e
Civil Society								
5	D. De Souza	F	X		M. McCormack	M	x	
6	I. Fiedtkou	F	X		B. Clenkian	F	x	
7	V. Radzik	F	X		G. Singh	M	X	
8	K. Cort-Kansinally	F	X		M. Williams	M	X	
Government								
9	S. Roopnauth	F		X w/e	T. Balgobin	M		wo/e
10	H. Khan	F		X w/e	S. Richmond	M	X	
11	V. Harris	F		Xw/e	S. Hussain	M	X	
12	M. Munroe	M		X w/e	M. Pertab	M	x	

Secretariat

		Gender	Present	Absent
1	P. Misir	M	X	
2	Renrick Ramgobin	M	X	
3	Johann Earl	M	X	
4	Richard Budhu	M	X	
5	R. Jagarnauth	F	X	
	Sam Tokpah, Consultant	M	X	

GYEITI Secretariat. February 2024.