MINUTES OF THE 93RD MEETING OF THE MULTI-STAKEHOLDER GROUP (MSG)
Date: October 15, 2026

Time: 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Chairperson: Ms. Teijvarti Persaud (Industry)

1. Call to Order and Opening Remarks

- The meeting commenced and the Chair welcomed all participants.

- Proceedings paused briefly to establish a quorum, awaiting the arrival of one additional Civil Society representative before officially calling the meeting to order.

2. Announcements

Apologies and excuses:

- Mr. Anil Persaud- unable to attend
- Mr. Anand Gohil- unable to attend
- Ms. Sonia Roopnauth- not in office

3. Adoption of Agenda

- The amended agenda was proposed by Teijvarti Persaud and seconded by Sharukh Hussain.
- The draft agenda for the 93rd meeting was presented to guide the session.

4. Consideration of the Minutes of Previous Meetings

- The adoption of the minutes of the 92nd Meeting that was held on Wednesday September 09, 2026, was proposed by Michael Munroe and seconded by Joachim Vogt. **Minutes of the 92nd Meeting:** The minutes of the previous meeting (the 92nd meeting) were reviewed and formally adopted with no objections raised.

5. Consideration of the Minutes of MSG Special Meeting convened on October 07, 2026

- Held concurrently with the review of past minutes; no objections were recorded.
- The adoption of the Minutes was proposed by Rafeek Khan and was seconded by Michael Munroe.

6. Reporting

(i) Review of the Draft Validation Report

- **Secretariat Presentation:** A summary of the key findings on the review exercise was presented by the Secretariat (see attached) The MSG endorsed the findings presented on the review process for the draft Validation Report and

discussed the way forward. The Secretariat confirmed it will submit a cover letter summarizing key feedback alongside the report marked with track changes and supporting documentation.

- **Review Timeline:** MSG members were requested to review the draft and submit their comments by **October 20, 2026**, ahead of the final submission deadline of **October 28, 2026** (to allow the Secretariat sufficient time to make required adjustments). It was suggested that members review documentation earlier than the 20th if possible.

- **Confidentiality and Document Sharing:**

    - A proposal regarding sharing the draft validation report with individuals outside the active MSG (including former members) was addressed.

    - Mr. Michael Munroe (Gov) and Mr. Joachim Vogt (Ind) strongly opposed sharing external copies. Mr. Sam Tokpah (consultant) emphasized that sharing draft materials externally violates confidentiality protocols, despite inconsistencies encountered from Norway/international processes.

    - **Decision:** The MSG formally rejected the proposal to share the draft validation report outside the current MSG. It was agreed that an official letter will be sent to the EITI International Secretariat (Oslo) outlining the MSG's collective position, copied to all MSG members for transparency, before taking any objections to the EITI Champion if needed.

(ii) Request for Extension of the Review Period

- Discussion centered on the alignment between the interim review deadline (October 20, 2026) and the final submission deadline (noted as October 28, 2026, relative to the proposed extension period to October 30, 2026).

(iii) Convening of the Civil Society Consultation Session (Awareness and Validation Support)

- Mr. Shane Cornelius (Civil) reported significant pushback from Policy Forum Guyana regarding the civil session scheduled for October 19, 2026.

- Concerns were raised by some civil society members wishing to review the draft validation report prior to the extension deadline.

- Mr. Tokpah noted practical difficulties in incorporating civic feedback into the validation response ahead of the October 20 internal deadline.

(iv) For Information: Decisions Taken by the MSG

- **Policy & Decision Papers:** Mr. Tokpah clarified that decision papers and final decisions should be shared publicly, while confidential internal details remain

restricted. It was agreed to dispatch the formal communication to the International Secretariat as soon as possible (ideally prior to Monday).

- **Reaffirmation of Beneficial Ownership**
  The decision on beneficial ownership was approved at the Special MSG Meeting on 7 October 2026 and confirmed in the minutes adopted at today's meeting. No further action is required.

- **Definition of Small, Medium and Large-Scale Mining**
  This decision was previously approved and is now confirmed.

- **Classification of GGB**
  This decision was previously approved and is now confirmed.

- **Classification of NICIL**
  This decision was previously approved and is now confirmed

- **Social and Environmental Disclosures.**
  This decision was previously approved and is now confirmed.

- **Project Level Reporting Decision Paper**
  A one-week timeline was agreed to for the completion of the review of this paper prior to its recirculation. Industry had raised some concerns with the proposed paper.

- **Sector Documentation & Thresholds (Mining and Oil & Gas):**

  - The MSG agreed to request formal recommendations from the Independent Administrator (IA) regarding material deviation thresholds for reconciliation across both the oil & gas and mining sectors. A deadline for the end of next week was set for comments.

(v) Independent Administrator (IA) FY 2024 & 2025 EITI Reports

- **(a) Inception Report:** BDO provided an update highlighting challenge with integrating 2025 data from the Guyana Geology and Mines Commission (GGMC), noting this might necessitate splitting the assignment into two separate inception reports. The MSG agreed to grant conditional approval for the 2024 Inception Report pending the cleanup and receipt of 2025 GGMC data. A two-week deadline was set for GGMC to deliver cleaned 2025 data (with Mr. Munroe recommending prior consultation with GGMC to confirm feasibility).

- **(b) Data Templates:** BDO confirmed that all data reporting templates for 2024 would be distributed by the end of the day.

- **(c) Report Tone and Language:** MSG members raised concerns regarding overly negative language concerning GGMC's reporting and a lack of acknowledgment of GGMC's positive efforts. BDO clarified that statements reflected factual gaps in financial data and outstanding audited statements. It was agreed that members would flag specific paragraphs for the IA to review and refine.

- **(e) Schedule of Delivery:**

    - Target for the 2024 & 2025 draft reports for MSG review: **November 23, 2026**.

    - Final delivery of 2024 Report: **December 2026**.

    - Final delivery of 2025 Report: **January 2027** (extended due to data collection delays).

7. Report on the EITI Global Conference (October 8–9, 2026)

- Ms. Jagarnauth presented a comprehensive overview of the EITI Global Conference held in Brussels.

- Key highlights included new international board appointments and strategic recommendations to strengthen MSG capacity through peer-learning initiatives and updated implementation guidance.

8. Secretariat Report

- Updates were covered under the respective agenda sub-items regarding reporting timelines and validation documentation workflow.

9. Any Other Business (AOB)

a. Communications, Outreach & Secretariat Relocation Updates

- **Public Survey & Community Awareness:** Updates were presented on the distribution of the national EITI awareness survey across civil society clusters.
- **Radio Serial Drama (*Marundoi*):** Outreach efforts continue utilizing the *Marundoi* radio serial drama to broaden public engagement and demystify extractive sector governance.
- **Procurement of Roll-Up Banners:** To expand public visibility, the Secretariat is proceeding to procure **30 EITI roll-up banners** for deployment across government, industry, and civil society constituencies (with three competitive quotations to be submitted to the Permanent Secretary). Engagement with two indigenous graphic designers will also be explored for future communication projects.

- **b. Secretariat Relocation:** The MSG was notified that the Secretariat will be moving to a new office location in Upper Brickdam near the old GGMC building/compound.

10. Close and Next Meeting

- The meeting was adjourned following the conclusion of business.

- **Next MSG Meeting:** Scheduled for **November 11, 2026**.

1. Major Decisions & Action Items
A. Key Decisions Adopted

- Reaffirmation of Beneficial Ownership
  The decision on beneficial ownership was approved at the Special MSG Meeting on 7 October 2026 and confirmed in the minutes adopted at today's meeting. No further action is required.

- Definition of Small, Medium and Large-Scale Mining
  This decision was previously approved and is now confirmed.

- Classification of GGB
  This decision was previously approved and is now confirmed.

- Classification of NICIL
  This decision was previously approved and is now confirmed.
  Social and Environmental Disclosures. This decision was previously approved and is now confirmed.

- **Project Level Reporting Decision Paper**
  A one-week timeline was agreed to for the completion of the review of this paper prior to its recirculation. Industry had raised some concerns with the proposed paper.

- **Reconciliation Threshold (Mining, Oil & Gas, Forestry)**
  The Secretariat raised the matter of establishing reconciliation thresholds for mining, oil and gas, and potentially forestry sectors.
  Sam Tokpah explained that the standard process is for the IA to include threshold recommendations in the scoping report based on the raw data they have received. The templates are then approved based on those threshold recommendations. He noted that the IA appeared to have worked in an opposite direction in this instance, but clarified that the MSG must approve the thresholds for disclosure. He also noted that in many cases, the MSG simply approves the use of the previous report's threshold if the situation has not materially changed.
  The Chair confirmed that the Secretariat would prepare a formal submission to the IA requesting their proposed thresholds for the mining, oil and gas, and potentially forestry sectors. Sam recommended that the mining redefinition information recently approved by the MSG also be shared with the IA to support the threshold process.
- Decision
  The Secretariat will prepare a submission to the IA requesting their proposed reconciliation thresholds for mining, oil and gas, and possibly forestry, and will

share the mining redefinition information with the IA to assist in the threshold process.

- Decision Paper Publication Protocol
  The MSG discussed the process for publishing and sharing decision papers.
  Sam Tokpah clarified that both the decision paper and the decision itself should be shared. He explained that detailed internal write-ups may be kept in a subfolder and not necessarily made public, but the decision itself should be publicly accessible on the GY EITI website. For the purposes of validation and reporting, both the decision and supporting details should be shared directly with the IA by email, and public-facing links to approved decisions should be included in submissions to Oslo.

- **Conditional Approval for FY 2024 Report:** The MSG approved proceeding with a conditional approval of the FY 2024 Inception Report, allowing the 2024 reporting cycle to move forward while awaiting cleaned 2025 financial data from the Guyana Geology and Mines Commission (GGMC).

- **Two-Week GGMC Data Window:** A two-week window was established for GGMC to provide cleaned-up 2025 financial data (with a recommendation to consult GGMC to confirm feasibility).

- **Validation Response Extension & Internal Review:** The final submission deadline for the Validation response package to the International Secretariat was confirmed as October 28, with an internal MSG review deadline of October 20.

- **Rejection of External Sharing of Draft Validation Report:** The MSG resolved to formally reject any proposal to share the confidential draft Validation Report with former MSG members or outside parties.

- **Tone Adjustment in Inception Report:** The MSG agreed that flagged subjective or overly negative commentary regarding GGMC's control environment will be moderated to reflect objective, factual statements.

B. Action Items by Responsible Party

Responsible	Assigned Action Item	Target Deadline
GYEITI Secretariat	Review the Inception Report incorporating MSG comments and circulate it to the Independent Administrator (IA).	Immediate
	Prepare and send a formal submission requesting the IA's proposed	End of next week

Responsible	Assigned Action Item	Target Deadline
	reconciliation thresholds for mining, oil & gas, and forestry.	
	Share updated mining sector redefinition data with the IA to assist the threshold setting process.	Immediate
	Circulate the final revised Project-Level Reporting decision paper to the MSG, highlighting where prior industry/stakeholder feedback was integrated.	End of week
Secretariat	Finalize the complete Validation response package (cover letter, tracked changes, annexes) incorporating MSG input and the October 19 Civil Society session outcomes.	October 20
J. Earle	Obtain at least three competitive quotations for the production of 30 EITI roll-up banners and submit them to the Permanent Secretary (MNR) for procurement approval.	Immediate
J. Earle	Explore engaging the two indigenous graphic designers for future banner or communications deliverables.	Ongoing
Secretariat	Keep the MSG updated on logistical timelines for the Secretariat's relocation to the new office near the old GGMC compound.	Ongoing
Independent Administrator (BDO)	Distribute all reporting templates for the FY 2024 Report to reporting entities and government agencies.	End of meeting day
Independent Administrator (BDO)	Submit a revised draft of the Inception Report to the MSG reflecting toned-down, factual language.	Immediate

Responsible	Assigned Action Item	Target Deadline
Independent Administrator (BDO)	Update the FY 2025 reporting tables in the Inception Report once cleaned GGMC data is submitted.	Upon receipt (2-wk window)
Secretariat	Liaise with the Ministry of Natural Resources regarding contractual alignment covering the conditional approval of the 2024 report and pending 2025 deliverables.	Immediate
MSG Civil component	Draft and dispatch an official letter to the EITI International Secretariat (Oslo) seeking confirmation of their stance on draft report confidentiality, copied to all MSG members.	Urgent (Prior to Monday)
MSG Members	Review and submit feedback/approval on the circulated Project-Level Reporting decision paper.	End of next week / Monday
	Review the draft Validation cover letter and tracked-changes report; provide comments to the Secretariat.	October 20
	Send observations and suggestions for GYEITI website upgrades to the Secretariat via email.	Ongoing

Prepared by Approved by

Meeting attendance sheet 91st MSG August 2026				Present	Absent	
Constituency	**Organization**	**Role**	**Gender**		**With excuse**	**w/out excuse**
INDUSTRY SECTOR						
Teijvarti Persaud	ExxonMobil	Member	x			
Anand Gohil	CNOOC	Alternate				
Joachim Vogt	ECO Atlantic	Member	x			
Abbigale Loncke-Watson	SISPRO	Alternate			x	
Vishanti Balgobin	Guyana Gold & Diamond Assoc.	Member				
Avalon Jagnandan	Guyana Gold & Diamond Assoc.	Alternate				
Rafeek Khan	Guyana Manu. Services Assoc.	Member	x			
Norman McLean	Private Sector Commission	Alternate				x
CIVIL SOCIETY						
Porandatt Narine	Individual	Member			**x**	
Madhavi Indarjeet	Individual	Alternate			**x**	
Derrick John	Individual	Member	x			
Shane Cornelius	Individual	Alternate	x			
Balraj Budwah	Individual	Alternate	x			
GOVERNMENT						
Micheal Munroe	Ministry of Natural Resources	Member/Co Chair	x			
Martin Pertab	Ministry of Natural Resources	Alternate				**x**
Sonya Roopnauth	Ministry of Finance	Member	x			
Anil Persaud	Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs	Alternate				
Rafael Singh	Guyana Revenue Authority	Member	x			
Sean Richmond	Guyana Revenue Authority	Alternate				
Jennifer Persaud-Boodhoo	Prime Minister's Office	Member				
Sharukh Hussain	Prime Minister Office	Alternate	x			
GYEITI Staff						

Rajdai Jagarnauth National Coordinator (a.g)	GYEITI Secretariat	Observer	F	**x**		
Renrick Ramgobin	GYEITI Secretariat	Observer	M	**x**		
Johann Earle	GYEITI Secretariat	Observer	M	**x**		
Onica Dowridge	GYEITI Secretariat	Observer	F	**x**		
Ashanti Williams	GYEITI Secretariat	Observer	F	**x**		
Sam Tokpah	Consultant	Observer	M	**x**		