GUYANA EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES TRANSPARENCY INITIATIVE (GYEITI)

MINUTES OF THE 91st MULTISTAKEHOLDER GROUP (MSG) MEETING

- **Date:** Wednesday, August 12, 2026
- **Time:** 10:00 hrs. – 11:45 hrs.
- **Location:** Virtual (Zoom)
- **Presiding Chairs:** Mr. Michael Munroe (Government) from 10:00 hrs. to 11:16 hrs.; Ms. Sonya Roopnauth (Government) from 11:16 hrs. onward (acting in the absence of substantive Chair, Mr. Derrick John, Civil Society).

1. Call to Order and Opening Remarks

- The meeting was called to order at 10:00 hrs.
- In the absence of substantive Chair, Mr. Derrick John (Civil Society), Mr. Michael Munroe (Government) assumed the chair.
- Mr. Munroe noted early in the meeting that he would need to depart by 11:00 hrs.
- At approximately 11:16 hrs., Ms. Sonya Roopnauth (Government) took over the chairing duties for the remainder of the session.

2. Attendance and Excuses

- **Attendance:** Virtual attendees were documented via the official meeting attendance sheet.
- **Excuses:** Formal excuses were recorded for:
    - Mr. Anand Gohin (Industry)
    - Mr. Joachim Vogt (Industry) *(noted possible late arrival)*
    - Ms. Jennifer Persaud (Government)
    - Ms. Teijvarty Persaud (Industry) *(noted possible late arrival)*

- Mr. Porandatt Narine (Civil Society)

- **Announcements / Correspondence:** The Secretariat reported receipt of a letter of appreciation from the Chief Librarian of the National Library for the FY 2023 Independent Administrator (IA) Report, confirming it has been catalogued and made accessible for public perusal.

3. Adoption of the Agenda

- **Mover:** Mr. Anil Persaud (Government)
- **Seconder:** Mr. Rafeek Khan (Industry)
- **Decision:** The draft agenda for the 91st MSG meeting was formally adopted as presented.

4. Consideration of the Minutes of the 90th MSG Held on July 17, 2026

- **Mover:** Mr. Rafeek Khan (Industry)
- **Seconder:** Mr. Anil Persaud (Government)
- **Decision:** The minutes of the 90th MSG meeting were reviewed, confirmed, and adopted.

5. Reports from Committees

- **Co-Chairs' Committee:**

  - Received updates on Guyana's planned participation in the EITI Global Conference scheduled for October 2026 in Brussels, Belgium.
  - Received progress briefs regarding the compilation of the FY 2024 IA Report and the inaugural meeting of the fully constituted IA Committee.
  - Reviewed progress on the new Communications Strategy, including the national survey instrument prepared by Consultant Sam Tokpah.
  - Expressed concern regarding member attendance at MSG and committee meetings; reiterated provisions in the approved MSG Policy Manual and requested Co-Chairs urge their respective constituent groups to improve attendance.
  - Deliberated on the Beneficial Ownership (BO) threshold paper.

- **Communication and Outreach Committee (Meeting held August 6, 2026):**

    - *New Communications Strategy:* Draft completed and circulated to Co-Chairs. Consultant Sam Tokpah developed a survey for MSG feedback prior to national deployment to reinforce the strategy.

    - *Distribution of FY 2023 IA Report:* First-round distribution to reporting agencies and entities completed; second-round distribution to unrelated ministries and public entities commences shortly.

    - *Plain Language FY 2023 Report:* Delayed due to consultant Ms. Kiana Wilburg's urgent assignments a revise draft is committed for mid-August 2026.

    - *Proposed Blood Drive:* Scheduled for Friday, September 18, 2026, in collaboration with the National Blood Transfusion Service; venue options include the Blood Bank or GPHC Multiplex, Kingston.

    - *PinkTober Cancer Awareness:* Engagement initiated with One Communications Guyana; follow-up underway awaiting response.

    - *CJIA Airport Branding:* Quotations received from Impressions Branding for arrival and departure terminal areas at Cheddi Jagan International Airport.

- **Work-Plan, Validation and TOR Committee (Meeting held August 7, 2026):**

    - *FY 2023 Gap Analysis:* Reviewed consultant submission; the Secretariat will collaborate with the consultant to disaggregate gaps by sector into a structured "To-Do" list.

    - *Contract Transparency Statement:* Reviewed data hosted on the GYEITI and Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) websites. Acknowledging that online mining records do not yet reflect 100% of contracts, permits, and licenses. The committee recommended instituting mechanisms for public access via the Guyana Geology and Mines Commission (GGMC).

    - *IMF Mission Engagement:* The Chair briefed the MSG on discussions with an International Monetary Fund (IMF) assessment team regarding EITI implementation in Guyana.

- **IA Committee (Meeting held August 10, 2026):**

- Held its meeting chaired by newly installed Mr. Rafeek Khan (Industry) to review FY 2024 reporting progress.

- Identified that the GGMC holds the bulk of outstanding reporting data among public entities; consolidated reporting was confirmed for the Ministry of Finance, Natural Resource Fund, and MNR.

- *FY 2024 Timeline Agreed by the Independent Administrator (IA) were noted:*

    - **September 14, 2026:** Reporting templates deployed to reporting entities.

    - **September 28, 2026:** Reporting templates return deadline.

    - **November 9, 2026:** Draft IA Report submission.

    - **December 7, 2026:** Final IA Report submission (incorporating a one-week review window for the Minister of Natural Resources & EITI Champion, Hon. Vickram Bharrat).

    - **December 21, 2026:** Targeted public release of the FY 2024 IA Report.

6. Consideration of Paper: Beneficial Ownership Threshold (Secretariat)

- The MSG reviewed the paper presented by the Secretariat regarding the Beneficial Ownership threshold and Politically Exposed Persons (PEP) definitions.

- The paper recommended maintaining Guyana's current legal threshold of **25%**, established under the Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT) Act, while acknowledging that the EITI Standard encourages a 10% threshold.

- **Decision:** The MSG approved maintaining the status quo threshold of 25%. Further discussions on potentially lowering the threshold were deferred to the Work-Plan, Validation and TOR Committee.

- The MSG informed the Beneficial Ownership paper and discuss to the Work Plan and Validation Committee.

7. Close and Announcement of Date for the Next Meeting

- **Adjournment:** There being no other business, the Chair thanked members for their participation and adjourned the meeting at 11:45 hrs.

- **Upcoming Meetings:**

    - *Work-Plan, Validation and TOR Committee (Deep dive on Beneficial Ownership):* September 4, 2026 (11:00 – 12:00 hrs.)

    - *92nd MSG Meeting:* September 9, 2026 (10:00 – 12:00 hrs.)

Action Items Matrix

Prepared by J. Earle.	Approved by
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GYEITI Secretariat	Chairman

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