

## **The 15<sup>th</sup> Multi-Stakeholder Group (MSG) Meeting Minutes**

The 15<sup>th</sup> MSG meeting of the Myanmar Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative (MEITI) was held in Horizon Lake View Hotel, Nay Pyi Taw from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM on August 3, 2018.

### **Objective**

The meeting was held to cover the following issues:

- MEITI implementation activities (Review on 14<sup>th</sup> MSG Meeting)
- Resignation of MSG Deputy Chairman
- Update from Selection Sub-committee Meeting, IA Recruitment process update for Myanmar EITI report (2016-17) and Pre-cadaster working group consultant
- Update from Technical & Reporting subcommittee meeting, Progress of Forestry report and timeline
- Progress of BO pilot report from Consultant and Mining Cadaster progress
- Launching event of Myanmar EITI reports (2014-15 and 2015-16) (Myanmar version)
- Finance and procurement matters
- NCS team reorganization: introduction of new members and task schedule
- General Discussion
  - (1) MRTV talk show and DVB debate
  - (2) Zambia trip
  - (3) SNU trip plan for initial meetings and formation workshop
  - (4) Meeting decisions and identifying next MSG meeting date

and subcommittee meetings dates

(5) SOE Reform workshop

(6) TOR of Hydro

- Update of the preparation of validation process (Documentation, technical gaps, and self-assessment exercise)
- Presentation on validation process
- List of required documents submitted to EITI Int'l Secretariat
- Tentative schedule of Initial Assessment team for validation during (8-17) August and Group discussion for validation week

### **Opening Speech by U Maung Maung Win, the MSG Chair**

*“Mingala par, everyone! Today is the 15<sup>th</sup> Myanmar Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative (EITI) Multi-Stakeholder Group (MSG) Meeting. May peace be with you to today’s meeting attendees, the National Coordinator U Soe Win and the MSG members. The previous 14<sup>th</sup> MSG meeting was held in Nay Pyi Taw on June 1, 2018. The decisions from that MSG meeting are still being implemented. And, the Leading Committee meeting, which the Union Ministers also attended was held at the Ministry of Planning and Finance on July 10, 2018. A difference, unlike the previous Leading Committee meetings, was seen in that meeting. The MSG members were able to attend that meeting as observers. The Union Minister U Soe Win invited the Office of the Auditor General of the Union and they were also able to participate in the meeting discussion as well. Since the Union Minister was recently appointed, the Leading Committee presented the EITI implementation plans, and they discussed. The Union*

*Government Notification Order dated June 29, 2018 was released for respective Union Ministries, Union Level Organizations and State or Regional Government Organizations to support the EITI process in order to sustainably implement it.*

*The next important point is the Validation Process. It has been started since July 1. The Initial Assessment Team (IST) planned to visit Myanmar on August 8 - 17 for that reason. At this point, they will assess the discrepancies between the reports that have been submitted by the IA and the ground level situations. They will also assess the EITI implementation process of Myanmar that had been done, still have been processing and will be implemented. During the assessment, they will visit and meet respective Government, Private and Civil Society Organizations (CSO), MSG members, Leading Committee members, and Working Committee members and so on. As presented in the previous meeting, I will, again, present in this meeting to coordinate with the NCS and prepare in advance. The answers and statements of interviewees are very important during the assessment meeting between the interviewers and the interviewees. Hence, it has been discussed and decided in the Leading Committee meeting that it would be better to prepare in advance. In coming Monday, there will be Working Committee meeting and after that meeting, there is a plan for the representatives of the Government sector to prepare for possible questions by the IST.*

*Another point that is included in the implementation process is Beneficial Ownership Taskforce. This Taskforce is led by the National Coordinator U Soe Win and it has been formed and announced with the members' names on July 23, 2018 and they will continue implementing the process. Another fact is the Mining Cadaster. The Mining*

*Cadaster consultant, Mr. Enrique Ortiga, visited Myanmar for his third trip to meet with respective stakeholders from the related sectors. The Selection Sub-Committee discussed and chose for hiring the Pre-Cadaster Working Group consultant. It has been reported that the the Technical and Selection Sub-Committee discussed the technical and financial proposal submitted by the chosen consultant, Mr. Chorn Nok, and it has now been in progress to contracting stage.*

*Next is the forestry sector. The Independent Administrator (IA) has delivered the pre-final 2014-2015 & 2015-2016 Forestry Reports. Those reports have been discussed in the previous Technial and Reporting Sub-Committee meeting and the points that need to be improved have also been raised. It is now in the progress. Furthermore, the 2017-2018 Annual Progress Report has been submitted to the EITI International Secretariat at the end of March.*

*It has been informed that the Press Conference for the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> EITI reports was held in Yangon successfully. Hence, I hereby thank everyone who participated in that press conference. It has also been reported that the IA for the 4<sup>th</sup> MEITI report has been selected on July 30, 2018 and further procedure will be continued by the respective teams.*

*Summing up, the EITI process was started by the previous Government and has been still carried out by the present administration. This is a continuous process and we still have to work on it. The Validation Process is a very important period. After submitting the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> reports, the Validation Process is started. It is required to achieve a satisfying result. On the Government side, in order to improve the fiscal and the budget transparency, the reports and the auditing reports that are supporting the*

*budget implementation of the Government have been tried to be delivered to the public. To conclude, I'd like to encourage all to work on the extractive industries transparency and collaborate each other to achieve that”.*

## **Speech by U Soe Win, the National Coordinator**

*“Good morning! First of all, I wish for the health and prosperity to today’s meeting attendees, the Myanmar EITI MSG Chair, the Deputy Minister of Ministry of Planning and Finance, the MSG members and distinguished guests from respective departments and sectors. There are several developments since the 14<sup>th</sup> MSG Meeting that was held on June 1. While some activities were uncomplicated, there were some difficulties in some activities. I have reported with a separate letter for the activities that I think should be paid close attention to. My letter has been distributed to the attendees here. Representatives from National Coordination Secretariat (NCS) will later present the respective sectors from that letter. I kindly request you to discuss upon their presentations.*

*Now I mainly want to focus on three points.*

*The first point is the Validation Process. As the Chair mentioned earlier, Myanmar is under the six month period of the Validation Process from July 1, 2018 to the end of December. The Validation Process includes many steps from the initial assessment to the decision making by the EITI International Board. This process will assess whether Myanmar meets the EITI standards as well as the member EITI status of Myanmar. If Myanmar meets the required standards, Myanmar will then change from*

*the Candidate Country to the Compliant one. Hence, I would like to highlight that the Validation Process is very important for our country. Your collaboration is very crucial for the success of this process. The EITI International Secretariat will visit Myanmar for the Initial Assessment on upcoming August 8 - 17 and they have planned to meet with you by sectors. Therefore, I request your active collaboration in meeting them.*

*The second point is related to the scope of work of Myanmar EITI process. In my letter, you can see which tasks have been done, which tasks have difficulties in carrying out, and so on. To speak frankly, we have put our utmost effort to implement the Myanmar EITI tasks from the Work Plan with the current NCS work force and capacities. Still, you might notice that some activities have been delayed. Besides, all of us need to perform our respective parts from the rest of the work plan to complete them in time responsibly. It would be overloaded if the scope of work were to be expanded in time like this. Hence, the scope of work should not be expanded with the current situation. Despite expanding the scope of work, we should focus on finding ways to overcome the current problems we are facing in the implementation.*

*The last point I would like to present is my resignation from the position as the National Coordinator of Myanmar EITI. It is time for me to choose the priority of the tasks that required full-time commitments rather than having difficulties in the implementation. This is also with consideration of age and health factors. I believe I could focus and put more effort on the chosen prioritised task this way. Hence, I am now kindly requesting to resign from the the position of the National Coordinator of Myanmar EITI. Yet, I will continue assisting as the National Coordinator until the end of October as it is required to find an appropriate person for this position and to*

*systematically hand over my tasks to that person. I also request your recommendations for the new National Coordinator. I look forward to good resolutions from this meeting. Before resigning, I will hand over the expenses and the financial data, and responsible tasks on October 31, 2018 accountability. One thing that I would like to request is to create a better financial policy for the next National Coordinator to implement the process.*

*I hereby would like to express that it has been a pleasure and an honor for the Renaissance Institute to act as the National Coordinator of the Myanmar EITI process since March 23, 2017. I will always remember the collaboration with this family and wish the continuous success for the Myanmar EITI process. Thank you, everyone!"*

## **Meeting Decisions**

<b>No</b>	<b>Decisions</b>	<b>Period</b>	<b>Implementation Body</b>
1	To review the MSG TOR and MSG governance structure for a better and more sustainable MEITI process implementation		MSG
2	To discuss and explore the improved strategies for MEITI process including financial and procurement policies between MOBD, NCS and Donors  To find strategies for more independent implementation of MEITI process		MOBD, Donors , NCS, MSG

3	<p>To nominate MSG Vice-Chairman</p> <p>To recommend MEITI National Coordinator to continue being as one</p>		MSG
4	<p>To discuss in details for conducting EITI Conference in Technical and Reporting Sub-Committee meeting and to discuss with International Secretariat for that conference</p>	Aug 30, 2018	Sub-Committee, NCS
5	<p>To allocate the deficient amount US\$ 5,500 from Work Plan Budget Line 3.1.7 Mineral and Gemstone Cadaster (activity-Development and Installation of Cadaster- US\$ 458,000) to meet the proposed budget amount by Pre-Cadaster Working Group Consultant and the planned budget amount in the Work Plan</p>		MOBD   NCS
6	<p>(1) To include the explanation for the difference % in Forestry Report (2014-2015 fiscal year)</p> <p>(2) To correct the statement “No Stock Exchange” in Forestry Report (2015-2016 fiscal year)</p> <p>(3) To correct the usage of “annual summary report” from page 81 of the Forestry reports with the usage from official</p>		Forestry IA, NCS, OAG



	translation of the 2014-2015 fiscal year report of the Office of the Auditor General of the Union		
7	To send a letter to the respective Ministry to implement the recommendation of the Mining Cadaster Consultant Enrique Ortega		MSG, NCS
8	To send the required MSG representative selection records (meeting minute, notification, etc) for Validation to NCS by Aug 6, 2018		Respective Sector of MSG
9	<p>(1) To include the statement of “renting office to NCS as long as Myanmar EITI process exists” in the rent contract</p> <p>(2) To contract the NCS office renting agreement annually</p> <p>(3) To discuss the renovation budget of NCS office in details at the Work Plan and Governance Sub-Committee</p>	Aug 30, 2018	Work Plan and Governance Sub-Committee, NCS
10	<p>To hold the Report Launch with the executive summary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To propose the Report Launch event details to MSG</li> </ul>		NCS

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To create Infographic, Booklets, IIEC materials and brief statement on policy, and to submit to MSG for approval before the report launch</li> </ul>		
11	To review the full Report (2015-2016) in one month time		MSG Members
12	To send the draft TOR for the Hydro SectorIA TOR to MSG		NCS
13	To send "Statement of Sources and Uses of Fund" Powerpoint by MOBD to MSG		MOBD
14	To allow alternates and observers at the Beneficial Ownership Taskforce meeting  To extend the contract period of Beneficial Owner Pilot Project-Consulting Period to October 31, 2018		MSG
15	To allow to buy the required materials (furniture, computer related materials, etc) for Pre-cadaster Working Group		MSG
16	To send a letter to Sagaing Region Government for SNU trip during 18 <sup>th</sup> to 24 <sup>th</sup> of Aug, 2018		NCS

17	<p>To set the Sub-Committee meeting date</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To hold the first Beneficial Ownership Task Force meeting on August 20, 2018</li> <li>• To hold the Selection Sub-Committee meeting on August 23, 2018</li> <li>• To hold the Technical and Reporting Sub-Committee meeting on August 30, 2018</li> <li>• To hold the Work Plan and Governance Sub-Committee meeting on August 30, 2018</li> <li>• To hold the Mining Cadaster Sub-Committee meeting on August 31, 2018</li> </ul>		<p>BO Task Force</p> <p>NCS, Respective Sub-Committee</p>
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**Adjournment**

*“Good evening! I would like to express my appreciation to colleagues who are like family giving much of their time with great tolerance. During my time as the National Coordinator, I sincerely thank the MSG members, MOBD – EITI Unit, the representatives from the related departments and organizations alike, World Bank, UK Aid, US Aid and AUS Aid who helped and supported me with good will. It has been my pleasure and honour to work with you. I look forward to your kind support and guidance until October 31, 2018. May peace be with you.”*