**MINUTES**

**Regular LEITI Multi-stakeholders Steering Group MEETING**

 **held in THE CONFERENCE room of the LEITI, old budget bureau building redemption**

 **road, MONROVIA, Liberia Monday, December 21, 2022**

Present in Attendance were:

**GOL**

**Private Sector**

1. Ekema Witherspoon LIBTA.

2. Marcus S. Wleh Mittal

3. Elvis Morris LACA

1. Hon. C. Mike Doryen FDA

2. Edrick Noah MOJ

3. Timothy Jarry NOCAL

4. Carlton S. Miller MME

5. Kokolo Nyanquoi LPRA

6. B. Al Dennis LRA

**CSO**

 **Observer**

1. Samuel Summerville GIZ

1. Mr. Winston W. Wreh LLC

2. Mr.Fallah B. Kamara MICSOL

3. Cecelia Danuweli PWYP

4. Loretta A. Pope Kai NSCL

 **Others**

1. Samson Tokpah
2. Francis Zayzay

**LEITI**

1. Jeffery N. Yates/HoS
2. McDonald S. Kerl Sr.-Technical Officer
3. Cedrick Kpadeh-Communications Officer

**Preliminaries:** The regular meeting of the LEITI Multi-stakeholders Steering Group (MSG) was held on Monday, December 21, 2022 in the LEITI Conference Room. Commencing at 12:12pm, the meeting was called to order by Hon. C. Mike Doryen, Chairman of the MSG who immediately instructed the HOS to read out the agenda. A seven-item agenda was read and adopted with no changes.

1. **Opening prayer:** Silent prayer was observed for religious tolerance.
2. **Welcome Remark:** Here, the Presiding asked Madam Cecelia Danuweli of PWYP to welcome the Body especially Mr. Samson Tokpah and family to Liberia. In this duty, Madam Danuweli welcomed all members in attendance thanking everyone for their contributions so far to the EITI process in Liberia. She paid special homage to Mr. Tokpah for his role in helping Liberia especially with the development of the latest report.
3. **Self-introduction**: Self-introduction was observed with at least 13 persons participating.
4. **Overview from Secretariat:** The HoS informed the Body about the vacuum created by the absence of a Deputy HOS and the strain it is putting on him. He expressed hope that the MSG would address the situation today. He also informed the MSG that the 14th EITI report for Liberia was ready and in due time, will be presented for the Body’s approval and publication. At this point, the HOS and the Independent Administrator vacated the room for an MSG CONSULTATION EXERCISE
5. **Presentation of Admin and Finance Committee Report**

Madam Cecelia Danuweli, Co-chair on the committee told her colleagues that with instructions from the Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Ojuku Nyenpan, she was making a submission of three well vetted and selected names for the Body to make a determination as to who becomes the next Deputy Head of Secretariat. The names included:

1. Isaac T. Charlieson
2. Samsom Wonnah
3. Zaza Quiqui

After her presentation, the Chair was full of praise for Madam Danuweli especially for her contributions in the getting the LEITI to where it is. He intimated a rotational chairmanship to allow the civil society to lead at some point. But this was tabled for another discussion time. At this point, the Presiding announced a break for consultations. After a ten-minute break, the Body reconvened and there came a consensus candidate in the name Zaza Quiqui.

1. Presentation of the 14th Report: The IA presented a hard copy of the report to the HOS who in turn, submitted to the Chairman of the MSG for endorsement and subsequent publication. As usual, the Chairman upon receiving the report, placed it on the floor for discussion after which Timothy Jarry of NOCAL motioned for the report to be accepted, endorsed and published. His motion was seconded by Winston Wreh of the Liberia Labour Congress. Thus, the media was called in for the chairman to read the press statement launching the report.
2. **AOB:**

Under AOB, the HOS informed the Body about an unpaid balance owed the IA due to delays from the MFDP. He disclosed that only Twenty Thousand United States dollars had been paid to the IA. He also told the Body that the MFDP was still to make good on a 119 thousand dollars allotment to the Secretariat.

The Chairman was alarmed over the revelation and called on the MFDP to make good the payment to avoid unnecessary crisis in the process.

***The meeting was adjourned at 1:04 pm.***

**Summary of key points**

* MSG through consensus, selected a new Deputy HOS
* The Body endorsed and launched the 14th EITI Report for Liberia
* Agree to engage the MFDP to make payment of remaining budgetary allotment for the LEITI
* Tabled a discussion for rotational chairmanship of the MSG
* 16 persons in attendance