Liberia Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (LEITI)
Old Budget Bureau Building Redemption Road Monrovia, Liberia.

1st Regular MSG Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Date: February 13th, 2026
Time: 12:00am-2:30pm
Venue: LEITI Secretariat
Meeting Type: LEITI Regular MSG Meeting

Present in Attendance were:

GOL		CSO	
Fahnsett B. Mulbah	MME	Cecelia Danuweli	RJN/PWYP
Fabian M. Lai	NOCAL	George Kingsley	NCSCL
J. Albeh Greaves	MOJ	Winston W. Wreh	LLC
Robert Sonkarlay	LPRA	Abraham B. Gappie	MICSOL
Andrew N. Ngolloe	MFDP		
Rufus Scott Sr.	LPRA		
Rudolph J. Merab Sr.	FDA		
Emmanuel E.A. Witherspoon	LRA		
Abednego Barning	HOR		

Private Sector		Observer	
Elvis Morris	GVL	Djomba Mara	GIZ
Eliza D.J Kronyaneh	LIBTA		
James M. Strother	LIBA		
Samuel Na-Kronda	LIBA		
Micheal V. Suah	LCM		

Preliminaries: The meeting was called to order by the Deputy Minister Fahnsett B. Mulbah proxy of the Minister of Mines and Energy at 12:50pm. An opening statement was delivered, emphasizing the importance of transparency and accountability in Liberia's extractive sector.

1. Silent Opening Prayer: Silent prayer was observed for religious tolerance.

2. Reading and Adoption of the Agenda: Head of Secretariat Mr. Jeffrey Yates read the draft agenda, and the agenda was moved by Cllr. Micheal V. Suah and was seconded by Madam

Cecelia T. Danuweli. The agenda was adopted without amendments, followed by self-introduction.

3. Self- Introduction: Self Introduction was observed by all members present.

4. Welcome Remarks: In his remarks, Deputy Minister Fahnseth Mulbah proxy of the Minister of Mines and Energy, reminded his colleagues of their respective roles in the Multi Stakeholder group, admonishing them to be more engaging for the betterment of the country, especially during the course of the validation.

5. Brief Purpose of the Meeting

The purpose of the meeting was outlined by Head of Secretariat Jeffrey N. Yates. HOS did a presentation of the draft agenda presented to the MSG.

Presentation of Items outlined in the Agenda

MSG Call Meeting Draft Agenda

- Opening prayer …….Silent
- Welcome Remarks……Chairperson
- Self-Introduction……Everyone
- Presentation of the draft workplan…….LEITI Secretariat
- Presentation of the draft MSG Scorecard…..LEITI Secretariat
- Presentation of the GAC and PMCS Reports…LEITI Secretariat
- Presentation on draft meeting schedule…..LEITI Secretariat
- Selection of the MSG Representatives to the Global Conference…MSG Members
- Questions and Answers….MSG and LEITI Secretariat
- AOB
- Adjournment
- Closing Prayer- silent….Everyone

6**. Secretariat Update**

The LEITI Secretariat presented updates on:

16th Report Data

The LEITI Secretariat has begun data imputation for the 16th EITI Report to the Data Portal**.** This initiative aims to ensure the public has timely, accessible information on Liberia's extractive sector. The process underscores LEITI's commitment to transparency, accountability, and improved governance in natural resource management.

Virtual Meeting with the Validation Team

On Friday, February 6, 2026**,** the LEITI Secretariat participated in a virtual meeting with members of the International EITI Validation Team for Liberia. The meeting provided an opportunity to present a clearer understanding of LEITI's systems and processes and to address specific questions raised by the validation team. This engagement was crucial in demonstrating Liberia's compliance with the 2023 EITI Standard and reinforcing the Secretariat's dedication to continuous improvement.

Provisional Approval of the Procurement Plan and LEITI draft Workplan 2026

The LEITI Secretariat presented a draft work plan to MSG Members for review, discussion provisional approval before finalization. Following the body's review and discussion of the draft work plan, the Body provided approval for the Secretariat to proceed with consultations with stakeholders outside the MSG.

The Secretariat also informed the MSG that it submitted its 2026 Procurement Plan to the Public Procurement and Concessions Commission (PPCC) for review. Following a compliance assessment, the PPCC granted provisional approval**,** thereby authorizing the Secretariat to proceed with operational procurement activities. This approval reflects LEITI's adherence to national procurement regulations and its commitment to transparent financial management.

Administration

Workshop

On February 12, 2026, the LEITI Secretariat hosted, sponsored, and actively participated in **a** one-day women's capacity-building workshop organized by Sustain Earth Equity Defenders (SEED)**.** The workshop aimed to increase women's participation in natural resource governance and deepen their understanding of extractive sector management. This initiative aligns with LEITI's broader objective of promoting gender inclusion, equity, and empowerment within resource governance.

MSG Scorecard

The Body agreed to adopt a scoring card to improve attendance at meetings. The scoring was agreed as follows:

- Principal attendance- 25%
- Alternate attendance- 20% and
- Other- 15%

GAC Audit Implementation Report for LEITI and LEITI PMCS Report

The HOS informed the Body that the LEITI scored 82% (fully compliant status) in the GAC report and 86% in the first draft of the PMCS report from the Office of the President.

Funding:

The LEITI Secretariat, as appropriated for fiscal year 2026, received a total of 1,186,485.00 United States Dollars as LEITI budget for fiscal year 2026. However, the HOS informed the Body that

USD 300,000.00 of this amount was placed into the contingent account. The HOS also informed the Body that the AfDB is expected to provide US$350,000.00 through the IPRPESP Project to develop the LEITI Mainstreaming Portal. GIZ is expected to provide US$150,000.00, and MFGAP is expected to provide US$30,000.00 as funding support for the LEITI.

Pre-validation Mission

As part of Liberia's ongoing validation process under the 2023 EITI Standard, the International EITI Validation Team is scheduled to visit the country from March 2–5, 2026. The mission will focus on stakeholder engagement to assess Liberia's progress in implementing transparency and accountability measures within the extractive sector.

During the visit, the validation team will hold in-person meetings with selected stakeholders, including representatives from companies, civil society organizations, and government institutions. These engagements are intended to provide the team with firsthand insights into Liberia's governance systems, stakeholder participation, and the overall effectiveness of LEITI's implementation of the EITI Standard. The mission represents a critical step in demonstrating Liberia's commitment to inclusive dialogue, compliance, and continuous improvement in natural resource governance.

Capacity Building:

The HOS informed the MSG that from February 1–5, 2026**,** the Deputy Head of Secretariat traveled to Nairobi, Kenya**,** to participate in a Natural Resource Management (NRM) capacity-building training program organized by Enriches Consult Limited. The training was designed to strengthen his knowledge, skills, and competencies in resource governance, thereby enhancing his ability to perform his duties within the Secretariat effectively.

After the presentation of LEITI draft workplan 2026, Cllr Suah recommended that spending and budgeting be looked into before each New Year and before the final approval of the workplan.

A motion was passed for the adoption for a provisional approval of LEITI draft workplan.

6. Key Discussions

Validation Process: MSG deliberated on Liberia's upcoming EITI validation and readiness.

Stakeholder Engagement: Strategies to enhance participation of civil society and private sector were discussed.

Internal Communication: Members emphasized the need for improved coordination within the MSG and Secretariat.

Selection of MSG Members to attend EITI Global Conference: The MSG entrusted the HOS with suggesting some members to participate in the upcoming EITI Global Conference in the

Philippines. Mr. Jeffrey Yates then suggested two members from the Civil Society, namely: Madam Cecelia Danuweli and Amb. George Kingsley. Two from the Private sector which are Madam Eliza D.J Kronyaneh and Mr. James M. Strother. Others from the Government of Liberia were: Chairperson Minister R. Matenokay Tingban, Ministry of Finance and Development Planning, NOCAL and LPRA.

7. Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting was formally adjourned. The proxy Chair thanked members of the MSG and the Validation Team for their participation and constructive engagement.