

**MINUTES REGULAR LEITI MULTI-STAKEHOLDERS STEERING GROUP
MEETING HELD IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE LEITI, OLD BUDGET BUREAU
BUILDING REDEMPTION, ROAD, MONROVIA, LIBERIA
Thursday, MARCH 9, 2023**

Present in Attendance were:

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| 1. C. Mike Doryen | FDA |
| 2. Gesler Murray | MME |
| 3. B. Al-Dennis | LRA |
| 4. Benedict Ocran | MFDP |

CSO

- | | |
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| 1. Matthew Karley | NSCL |
| 2. Fallah B. Kamara | MCSC |
| 3. Cecelia Danuweli | PWYP |
| 4. Winston Wreh | LLC |

Private Sector

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| 1. Evis Morris | GVL |
| 2. Marcus S. Wleh | AML |
| 3. Ekema Witherspoon | LibTA |

Observer

LEITI

1. Jeffery N. Yates/HoS
2. Zaza Y. Quaqua/DHOS
3. McDonald S. Kerl Sr.-Technical Officer
4. Cedrick Kpadeh/Communications

Others

1. Gabriel Belepea

Preliminaries: The LEITI Multi-stakeholders Steering Group (MSG) call meeting was held on Thursday, March 9, 2023, in the LEITI Conference Room. Commencing at 13:32 GMT, the meeting was called to order by the Chairman of the MSG, C. Mike Doryen of the Forestry Development Authority, who notified the HOS immediately after notification of a quorum to read out the agenda for adoption.

1. **Opening Prayer:** The Presiding instructed Mr. Fallah B. Kamara to lead the opening prayer, which was done.
2. **Reading and Adoption of the Agenda:** - The HOS, Jeffrey Yates, read a 5-item agenda that mainly focused on the visit to Liberia of the EITI manager for Anglophone Africa, Dr. Michael Uzoigwe, and the review of the action points from the Country's last validation exercise. The Presiding then sought a motion to adopt the agenda from Mr. Dennis of the LRA, and Mr. Ekema Witherspoon of LibTA seconded his motion. Thus, the agenda was adopted without addition or subtraction.
3. **Welcome Remarks:** The Presiding, at this juncture, invited the Co-chair, Mr. Gelser Murray of MME, to make the welcome remarks. Mr. Murray, in his statement especially welcomed Dr. Uzoigwe of the EITI to Liberia, acknowledging his role in the EITI implementation in Liberia and admonishing him to continue to do good works for a global extractive industries sustenance of transparency. He then challenged his colleagues to have an open-minded discussion for the greater good of the Country, especially as Validation is less than a year away.
4. **Introduction of Dr. Uzoigwe:** At this juncture, the Presiding requested the HoS to formally introduce the visiting guest from the EITI and his mission to the Country. To that, Mr. Yates told the Body that Mr. Uzoigwe had earlier planned to visit the Country but had to cancel due to circumstances caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. He informed the MSG that Dr. Uzoigwe was in the Country to assess Liberia's progress in implementing the EITI as the Country goes to Validation in April 2024.
5. **Presentation on Action points-**Dr. Michael Uzoigwe, before opening his PowerPoint presentation, extolled the Liberian MSG for its efforts in driving the Country to a level of considerable greatness in the EITI implementation but was quick to remind the Body of a greater task of maintaining the records going to Validation. He disclosed that his visit was to assess the Country's progress going to Validation to advance recommendations where necessary.
He praised Liberia's progress in creating a beneficial ownership regime thus far. He admonished the MSG to continue the pace for the establishment of complete registration for the Country in the not-too-distant future. He noted that he had met top government officials since his arrival in the Country. The indications are that there is immense political will to foster EITI implementation in the Country.

Dr. Uzoigwe opening his PowerPoint presentation noted that Liberia's last Validation recommended 14 action points that the Country must address before the subsequent

Validation in 2024. He stated that the Secretariat was doing a tremendous job as it had already addressed most of the issues outlined in the action points.

One sticky point, however, was the issue with the sale of seismic data. The MSG needed to establish the financial relationship between NOCAL and TGS NOPEC to obtain data on these sales for reporting purposes. After some lengthy discussions across the floor, the MSG agreed to do an official communication to the Liberia Petroleum Regulatory Authority (LPRA) to supply these data.

6. **AOB:** Under AOB, the Hos officially presented to the Body the Deputy Head of Secretariat, Mr. Zaza Y. Quaqua, recruited through a rigorously competitive process. After his presentation, the Presiding thanked all who spearheaded the recruitment exercise and admonished Mr. Quaqua to use his qualification and expertise to impact the LEITI positively. With that, the meeting was adjourned at 14:53 GMT.