

MINUTES

REGULAR LEITI MULTI-STAKEHOLDERS STEERING GROUP MEETING

**HELD IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE LEITI, OLD BUDGET BUREAU BUILDING
REDEMPTION**

ROAD, MONROVIA, LIBERIA Tuesday, JANUARY 16, 2024

In Attendance were:

GOL

1. Victor W. Kpaiseh	FDA
3. Athelia Korvah	LRA
4. Edward Smith	MFDP
5. Boakai Jaleiba	NOCAL

CSO

1. Fallah B. Kamara	MCSCCL
2. Sayor Wahtoson	PWYP
3. Winston Wreh	LLC
4. Amb George Kingsley	NCSCCL

Private Sector

1. George Kpai	GVL
3. Madia Magbollah	Arcelor Mittal

LEITI

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

Preliminaries: The LEITI Multi-stakeholders Steering Group (MSG) call meeting was held on Thursday, May 16, 2024, in the LEITI Conference Room. Commencing at 12:48 GMT, the meeting was called to order by a proxy of the Chairman of the MSG, Mr. Victor W. Kpaiseh of the Forestry Development Authority, who, immediately after notification of a quorum, requested a motion for the adoption of the agenda presented by the Secretariat. Mr. Edward Smith of the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning (MFDP) motioned, and Mr. Winston Wreh of the Liberia Labor Congress (LLC) second for the agenda to be accepted. Thus, a nine-item agenda was adopted and opened for discussion. The Presiding reminded colleagues that the meeting was mainly to review and approve the 2024/2025 work and the Term of Reference of the Country's 16th EITI Report.

1. **Opening Prayer:** Silent prayer observed for religious tolerance
2. **Reading and Adoption of the Agenda:** - The agenda of ten items was approved as presented through a motion as carried in the preliminaries above
3. **Self-Introduction:** Everyone
4. **Welcome Remarks:** After adopting the agenda, the presiding party requested Mr. Edward Smith of the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning (MFDP) to make the welcome remark. To this, Mr. Smith called on his colleagues to fully and freely participate in all deliberations in the interest of the Country.
5. **Review and approval of last meeting minutes:** Here, the presiding allotted ten minutes for the Body to review the last meeting minutes, to which the following suggestion was made:
 - Mr. Boakai Jaleiba of NOCAL suggested that the minutes be summarized to highlight key decision points as bullet points; other minor grammatical changes were made and corrected.

After these comments and suggestions, the Presiding requested a motion to adopt the minutes. A motion was made by Mrs. Madia Magbollah of Arcelor Mittal and seconded by Mr. Edward Smith of the MFDP.
6. **Secretariat Update:** The HOS presented an update covering January to April 2024.
7. **Discussion of Secretariat Update-** Funding to the Secretariat was the key contentious issue highlighted in the update. After several cutting-edge suggestions across the floor, the MSG instructed the HOS to wait and see what the approved national budget would capture for the institution since the budget was not yet approved. The MSG furthered that if there was no substantial allotment to cover the production of the 16th Report after

the approval of the national budget, the Secretariat should inform the MSG to make a case with the MFDP to fill the gap.

With that, a motion was entertained from Mr. Winston Wreh of LLC and seconded by Ambassador George Kingsly of the National Civil Society Council of Liberia (NCSCCL) to close discussion on the secretariat update.

8. **Review and approval of Workplan:** The HOS did a PowerPoint presentation of the work plan, and the Presiding opened it for discussion. The following were key suggestions made:
- The Secretariat aligns the work plan with the current Government's agenda
 - Dissemination includes 13th /14th /15th, and 16th Reports since it is a two-year living document
 - Create an additional column to capture commitments
 - Foreign Travels should be captured and costed

After these suggestions, the MSG approved the work plan through a motion from Mr. Sayor Wahtoson of PWYP that Madam Athelia Korvah of the LRA seconded.

9. **Approval of the 16th Report TOR:** Again, the HOS presented the Term of Reference for the 16th Report through a PowerPoint, after which the Body agreed to approve it as presented. Mr. Winston Wreh of LLC seconded a motion from Mr. Boakai Jaleiba of NOCAL for the document's approval.

10. AOB

Nothing substantive was discussed under AOB.

11. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned through a motion from Mrs. Madia Magbollah of Arcelor Mittal. Mr. Winston Wreh of the Liberia Labor Congress seconded her motion. The meeting was thus adjourned at 14:28 GMT.

Summary of key decisions

- The last Meeting Minutes were approved with a suggestion to include a summary of key decisions.
- MSG instructs the HoS to liaise with the MFDP if its allotment in the approved national budget is inadequate. Asked to wait for the final approved budget before triggering the recommendation.
- MSG approves the LEITI 2024/2025 Workplan with suggestions to enhance comprehensiveness
- 16TH Report Term of Reference approved as presented
- Eleven persons, nine males and two females, attended the meeting