

**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, MAY 25, 2023**

Present in Attendance were:

**GOL**

- |                     |       |
|---------------------|-------|
| 1. C. Mike Doryen   | FDA   |
| 2. Gesler E. Murray | MME   |
| 3. Thomas Doe-Nah   | LRA   |
| 4. Benedict Ocran   | MFDP  |
| 5. Eric Daniels     | NOCAL |
| 6. Ansu Konneh      | MOA   |

**CSO**

- |                     |        |
|---------------------|--------|
| 1. Fallah B. Kamara | MCSCCL |
| 2. Saylor Wahtoson  | PWYP   |
| 3. Winston Wreh     | LLC    |

**Private Sector**

- |                      |       |
|----------------------|-------|
| 1. George Pah        | GVL   |
| 2. 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. B. Al- Dennis      | LRA |
| 2. Franseth B. Mulbah | MME |

**Preliminaries:** The LEITI Multi-stakeholders Steering Group (MSG) call meeting was held on Thursday, May 25, 2023, in the LEITI Conference Room. Commencing at 2:03 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:** Silent prayer observed for religious tolerance

**Reading and Adoption of the Agenda:** - The HoS read out a 12-item agenda that was approved as presented.

2. .

3. **Welcome Remarks:** The Presiding extended, on behalf of the MSG, sympathy to Benedict Ocran of MFDP for losing his wife and, after that, mandated Mr. Franseth Mulbah of the MME to officially welcome the rest of the members. As always, Mr. Mulbah expressed excitement for the gathering, urging all to contribute meaningfully to the agenda items.

4. **Review of past meeting minutes:** The March 9, 2023, minutes were presented for review and correction. The only correction came from George Ph of GVL, who observed that the name of ELVIS MORRIS was wrongly spelled. With that correction, the minutes were approved through a motion from B. Al-Dennis of LRA.

5. **Secretariat Update:** The HoS presented the Secretariat update covering March to May 2023. See Annex 2 for details.

6. **Discussion of the update:** Two issues to center stage during the discussion of the update:

- I. Sponsorship for Liberia's participation at the pending Global conference: The HoS informed the Body through the update that all efforts to get sponsorship for the Secretariat delegation, including himself, have proven fruitless and that even though the international Secretariat has bought the tickets for three of the CSO membership and will provide accommodations, there was no per diem associated. Eric Daniels of NOCAL inquired how much it would cost to underwrite the per diems for the three CSO representatives. The total amount after research came to 1584 USD. Eric promised to consult his boss to see if NOCAL could provide that amount. The Presiding then appealed for NOCAL to consider the total coverage for the Head of the Secretariat.
- II. Funding at the Secretariat: In the update, the HoS also lamented the lack of support for the Secretariat, especially from the Government. He stated that since January 2023, the Secretariat has received just 6000 USD as allotment for March 2023. He said the situation was constraining him and the deputy as they most times have to bankroll operation activities at the Secretariat. After cross-examining suggestions across the floor, the Body reached a consensus to mandate the Secretariat write to the Minister of Finance and Development Planning outlining these situations. The CSO bloc also writes the MFDP regarding the financial situation at the Secretariat.

7. Presentation and approval of workplan for FY 2023 activities and 2021 APR: After the HoS presented the workplan activities for FY 2023, the Presiding placed it on the floor for discussion. The MSG had given provisional approval to this document in November 2022. The Body endorsed the document and encouraged the SECRETARIAT to seek outside funding for activities captured in the Workplan. The Body also approved, after review, the 2021 Annual Progress Report.
8. **IA Presentation of the Scoping, Discussions, and Decisions:** At this point, the IA, through their local partner and Associates, presented the scoping for the development of Liberia's 15<sup>th</sup> EITI Report. The presentation was done in PowerPoint point, after which the following decisions were made: **Please annex 1 for decisions made.**
9. **AOB:** Nothing was discussed under AOB, so the Presiding called for a motion for adjournment, which was made by Ekema Witherspoon and seconded by Ansu Konneh. The meeting was then adjourned at 4:03 PM.

**Summary of critical decisions:**

- MSG approved the fy2023 workplan activities along with the 2021 APR
- Mandated Secretariat to compile the Body's decisions on the scoping to deliver to the IA.
- The Secretariat writes the Minister of Finance and Development Planning, outlining financial constraints and the potential consequences on the Country's validation
- The Civil Society bloc wrote a separate letter to the MFDP requesting immediate intervention to strengthen the Secretariat financially
- 13 persons participated in the meeting
- That NOCAL considers the per diems for the three CSO members and the full sponsorship of the Head of Secretariat for the pending global conference slated for Senegal.
- The LEITI Secretariat writes the LRA to sponsor two persons for the pending conference.