

The Board agreed that the United Kingdom has made meaningful progress in implementing the 2016 Standard.

Decision reference: 2019-62

14 November 2019

Satisfactory progress. All aspects of the requirement have been implemented and the broader objective of the requirement has been fulfilled.

Beyond. The country has gone beyond the requirements. This requirement is only encouraged or recommended and should not be taken into account in assessing compliance.

The MSG has demonstrated that this requirement is not applicable in the country.

Corrective actions

The EITI Board agreed the following corrective actions to be undertaken by the UK. Progress in addressing these corrective actions will be assessed in a second Validation commencing on 13 November 2020.

1. In accordance with **Requirement 1.3.a**, the civil society constituency should demonstrate that they are fully, actively and effectively engaged in the EITI process. Specifically, civil society should ensure that they are able to fully contribute and provide input to the EITI process by ensuring that the constituency is adequately represented on the MSG, with agreed mechanisms for wider constituency engagement.
2. In accordance with **Requirement 1.4.a.ii**, the MSG should ensure that the civil society constituency is adequately represented, and that the civil society constituency appoints its own representatives, bearing in mind the desirability of pluralistic and diverse representation.
3. In accordance with **Requirement 2.2**, the UK should disclose information related to the award or transfer of licenses pertaining to the companies covered in EITI reporting. This information should include the number of mining, oil and gas licenses awarded and transferred in the year covered by the EITI reporting cycle, a description of the award procedures, including specific technical and financial criteria assessed, and highlight any non-trivial deviations in practice. The UK is encouraged to consider innovative solutions for embedding a public accountability mechanism to ensure transparency on any non-trivial deviations from statutory procedures in its systematic disclosures of information per Requirement 2.2.
4. In accordance with **Requirement 2.3**, the UK should maintain a publicly available register or cadastre system(s), including comprehensive information on all active licenses held by all mining and quarrying companies included in the scope of EITI reporting. In the interim the UK should ensure that future EITI reporting provides the

information set out under Requirement 2.3.b for all mining and quarrying companies. The UK is encouraged to consider the extent to which integration of EITI reporting with the work of organisations like the British Geological Survey could ensure systematic disclosure of information mandated under Requirement 2.3.b.

5. In accordance with **Requirement 2.4**, the UK should ensure that the government's policy on disclosure of contracts and licences that govern the exploration and exploitation of oil, gas and minerals is publicly codified.

6. In accordance with **Requirement 6.1**, the UK should assess the materiality of mandatory social expenditures ahead of future EITI reporting and ensure that reporting of mandatory social expenditures be disaggregated by type of payment, nature of in-kind contributions and beneficiary(ies), clarifying the name and function of any non-government (third-party) beneficiaries where applicable.

7. In accordance with **Requirement 7.1**, the UK should ensure that outreach events, whether organised by government, civil society or companies, are undertaken to spread awareness of and facilitate dialogue about the EITI Report across the country.

8. In accordance with **Requirement 7.4**, the MSG, with the full, active and effective engagement of civil society, should review the impact of the first five years of EITI implementation and explore the opportunities to further leverage the EITI platform to enrich public debate on the governance and stewardship of the UK's oil, gas and mineral resources.

The government and the MSG are encouraged to consider the other recommendations in the Validator's Report and the International Secretariat's initial assessment, and to document the MSG's responses to these recommendations in the next annual progress report.