UK Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative Multi-Stakeholder Group (MSG)
Minutes of the 55th Meeting – 2nd February 2023 – Via Microsoft Teams (2.00 – 3.30pm)

Attendance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chair</th>
<th>Civil Society</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Matt Ray - Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS)</td>
<td>Professor Hafez Abdo – University of Nottingham Energy Institute</td>
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<td><strong>Secretariat</strong></td>
<td>Chara de Lacey – Transparency International</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mike Nash - Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS)</td>
<td><strong>Guests/observers</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Industry</strong></td>
<td>Kirsty Benham – Critical Minerals Association (CMA)</td>
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<td>Jacqui Akinlosotu – ENI</td>
<td>Helmi Ben Rhouma – BDO</td>
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<td>Aurelie Delannoy – Mineral Products Association</td>
<td>Mark Burnett – EITI International</td>
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<td>Dan Espie – TotalEnergies</td>
<td>Helen Day – Coal Authority</td>
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<td>Dr Patrick Foster – University of Exeter</td>
<td>Mark Henderson – BDO</td>
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<td><strong>Government</strong></td>
<td>Tim Stern – International Energy Unit, BEIS/FCDO</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jeff Asser - Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS)</td>
<td>Joel Watson – International Energy Unit, BEIS/FCDO</td>
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<td>Mike Earp – North Sea Transition Authority</td>
<td>Hedi Zaghouani - BDO</td>
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<td>Nick Everington – The Crown Estate (TCE)</td>
<td>Apologies</td>
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<td>Nicola Garrod - HMRC</td>
<td>John Bowater – Aggregate Industries</td>
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<td>Johann MacDougall – Scottish Government</td>
<td>David Evans - OEUK</td>
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<td>Mark Wilson – Department for the Economy Northern Ireland</td>
<td>Tim Vickery – Independent Advisor</td>
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1 – Welcome and Introductions:

1. All were welcomed to the 55th meeting of the UK EITI MSG.

2. The following new civil society member was welcomed:
   - **Tilly Prior**, Transparency International UK.

   The following guests and observers were welcomed:
2 – Agreement of minutes and action points of 6th December 2022 meeting:

3. The minutes of the MSG meeting on 6th December were agreed.

4. The MSG were updated on the main action points from the meeting on 6th December.
   - Upload final approved version of the Annual Review onto UK EITI website for stakeholder consultation period of a month. **The UK EITI Annual Review was uploaded onto the UK EITI website on 20th December 2022. The consultation period lasted until 27th January 2023. No comments were received from stakeholders.**
   - Ministerial Foreword to be sent to Lord Callanan for approval and then added to final published report. **Lord Callanan approved the Ministerial Foreword on 30th January 2023 and the Annual Review was published on the 1st February 2023.**

3 - Move of the UK EITI Secretariat function to the joint BEIS/FCDO International Energy Unit

5. The move the UK Secretariat function to the joint BEIS/FCDO International Energy Unit (IEU) took place on 30th January. Responsibility for the UK Secretariat had been the responsibility of the BEIS Business Frameworks Directorate since the UK EITI MSG was established in 2013.

6. It has increasingly become obvious that this was no longer the best home to build on the platform to take UK EITI to the next level, particularly in relation to issues around the energy transition and the refresh of the EITI Standard.

7. Matt Ray will be stepping down as Chair, his replacement will be confirmed shortly. Monica Draycott will step down as the UK National Coordinator to be replaced by Joel Watson. Mike Nash will continue his role in the UK Secretariat. The MSG thanked both Matt and Monica for their hard work in ensuring that UK EITI and the MSG were in a strong position.

8. The IEU affirmed their commitment to maintain support for UK EITI. They have been doing a lot of work on critical minerals, including work around ensuring the UK has a robust, transparent and reliable energy supply chain. The EITI Secretariat work will fit in well with the current work of the IEU.

4 – EITI International Secretariat update

9. Plans for the EITI Global Conference in Dakar (13-14 June) were at an advanced stage. There will also be a Peer Learning Day on 15th June. The event will include a “speaker’s corner” and country pledges. Nominations for the UK delegation were required by 15th February.

10. An EITI Data Strategy has started to look at improving the quality and public availability of open data and support the transition to timely systematic disclosure. The strategy will help inform the energy transition, support open data, inform investment decisions, strengthen revenue mobilisation, address corruption risks and help measure impact.

11. Examples of use of data include the use of production and export data to identify illicit trade and tax evasion.

12. It was agreed that there is a rich source of data available from EITI, which can be used to analyse progress on net zero and the pace of the energy transition. The EITI International
website has a [UK page](#), which includes a summary data file provided by the Independent Administrator each year.

### 5 – UK EITI Reconciliation Process 2022 - update

13. The Reconciliation subgroup met on 1st February to agree plans for the 2022 process. The plan is to send the templates and guidance to all of the in-scope companies at the end of March, with an end of April deadline for completion.

14. BDO will reconcile the data during May and June, chasing any late companies. It is hoped that the final data will be published in early July. As in previous years these deadlines will be flexible to allow late returns to be included.

15. BDO are currently carrying out a review of the information required for the EITI International Secretariat summary data template. They will report back at the next subgroup meeting at the end of February where data relating to the mining and quarrying sector is still required.

16. Each year we request for S.106 payments data from mining and quarrying companies. It was agreed that for completeness purposes we should include this request in the summary template for oil and gas companies.

17. The subgroup agreed that the new Energy Profits Levy should come within scope. However we will not ask companies to report NSTA payments this year as these will be disclosed unilaterally and not reconciled.

18. The next subgroup meeting will take place on 22nd February where the final updated templates and guidance will be discussed and agreed.

19. The MSG approved the timetable and will be asked to approve the updated guidance and templates when they are available in late February.

### 6 – UK EITI Comms & Engagement Strategy- update

20. The Comms and Engagement subgroup have worked on an update to the original Comms Strategy as UK EITI continues to struggle to engage with the public and CSOs.

21. The Comms objectives have been refreshed to align priorities with those of the EITI International Secretariat, including raising awareness of a just energy transition and delivering greater outreach and engagement with the sectors.

22. The first workstream focuses on maintaining the current activities, including building on the website and participation at sector events. The second workstream focuses on preparing for the implementation of the 2023 Standard, including building an understanding of any new requirement and the possible formation of an energy transition subgroup.

23. The EITI International Secretariat was grateful for MSG input into the refresh of the EITI Standard so far and would continue to consult the MSG over the coming months.

24. It was agreed that the new EITI Standard should be discussed in more detail as a main item at a future MSG meeting.
7 – Draft UK EITI Workplan 2023

25. The draft of the 2023 workplan was circulated with the MSG papers. It will be a living document and will be updated on a regular basis.

26. Areas to highlight include contributing to the refinements of the EITI Standard and the MSG to consider implications of the new EITI Standard on future workstreams.

27. It was agreed that after a minor amendment to activity 2.03 the UK EITI Workplan should be re-circulated for final MSG approval.

8– UK EITI Annual Review 2022

28. The draft of UK EITI Annual Review 2022 was uploaded onto the UK EITI website on 20th December for a month-long stakeholder consultation period. No comments were received and the final version of the Annual Review was published on the website on 1st February.

9– AOB

29. The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 26th April 2023.

Action points:

- MSG members to send UK Secretariat expressions of interest in attending the Global Conference by 14th February 2023. UK Secretariat to send any names to EITI International Secretariat. (Action: MSG and UK Secretariat).
- UK Secretariat to circulate the final templates and guidance for the 2022 reconciliation process to the MSG for final approval. (Action: UK Secretariat and MSG).
- Workplan to be updated to remove some lines added in error under activity 2.03 and recirculated to the MSG for final comment and approval and then uploaded onto the website. (Action: UK EITI Secretariat).