

# UK Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative Multi-Stakeholder Group (MSG)

Minutes of the 55<sup>th</sup> Meeting – 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2023 – Via Microsoft Teams  
(2.00 – 3.30pm)

## Attendance

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

1. All were welcomed to the 55<sup>th</sup> 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:

- **Kirsty Benham**, Critical Minerals Association.

- **Tim Stern**, joint BEIS/FCDO International Energy Unit.
- **Joel Watson**, joint BEIS/FCDO International Energy Unit.

## **2 – Agreement of minutes and action points of 6<sup>th</sup> December 2022 meeting:**

3. The minutes of the MSG meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> December were agreed.
4. The MSG were updated on the main action points from the meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> 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 20<sup>th</sup> December 2022. The consultation period lasted until 27<sup>th</sup> 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 30<sup>th</sup> January 2023 and the Annual Review was published on the 1<sup>st</sup> 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 30<sup>th</sup> 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 15<sup>th</sup> June. The event will include a “speaker’s corner” and country pledges. Nominations for the UK delegation were required by 15<sup>th</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 22<sup>nd</sup> 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> February.

## **9– AOB**

29. The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2023.

### **Action points:**

- MSG members to send UK Secretariat expressions of interest in attending the Global Conference by 14<sup>th</sup> 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).**