

MWEITI/MIN/MSG/2017/01

## 1ST ORDINARY MEETING OF THE MWEITI MULTI-STAKEHOLDER GROUP (MSG)

18th March, 2015
Deputy Director's Office, Ministry of Finance,
Economic Planning and Development, Capital
Hill, Lilongwe

Malawi EITI National Secrétariat
Revenue Policy Division
Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development.
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## Participants

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ABSENT			
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IN ATTENDANCE			

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Item	Discussion	Action
1. Agenda	<ul> <li>The agenda included the following:</li> <li>1. Introductory remarks</li> <li>2. Brief on EITI activities</li> <li>3. Brief on the role of the MSG</li> <li>4. Next steps</li> <li>5. AOB</li> </ul>	
2. Introductory Remarks	The Alternate Mr. george Harawa chaired the meeting and made introductory and opening remark. He welcomed all members and requested them to introduce themselves before proceeding with the briefing.	
	<ol> <li>It was stated that it was a milestone in terms of EITI roadmap to have the first MSG meeting following the full composition of the committee with equal representation of 4 members from Government, private sector and CSOs considering that it was in June 2014 when the President announced in Parliament the country's intention to become EITI compliant during his State of the Nation address.</li> <li>It was noted that the EITI process is about transparency for the Government revenues from Extractive industries by disclosing what Government has received and what companies has paid the Government.</li> <li>It was reported that the meeting was called to brief MSG members on the status of EITI process and their</li> </ol>	

	expected role in submitting Malawi's candidature to the EITI international secretariat.  4. The meeting was also informed that the Minister of Finance was appointed by Government as the champion for EITI process in the country.	
2. Brief on EITI activities	<ol> <li>As a background the Chairperson reported that stakeholders met in 2009 to discuss whether Malawi should become EITI compliant or not. A Task Force was then set up and chaired by the Ministry of Finance (MoF) which commissioned an impact analysis with funding from GIZ. The study concluded that Malawi should join EITI.</li> <li>A study tour to Ghana was also done with funding from GIZ in 2012 and this pointed to a similar conclusion that Malawi should become EITI compliant.</li> <li>It was reported that now the Government has given a go ahead to submit an application and that has to be done by the MSG. The plan is to submit the application to the EITI international secretariat in June 2015.</li> </ol>	MSG members to take note of the June 2015 target for candidature submission
4. Role of MSG and Some Plans	<ol> <li>The meeting was informed that the MSG is the highest decision making instrument for the EITI process.</li> <li>There is need for the MSG to develop its ToRs and a work plan that would form part of the application process.</li> <li>It was reported that the EITI Board will review the application materials hence it was important for the MSG members to understand this and work together in developing materials for application to EITI.</li> <li>The meeting was also informed that GIZ is supporting the EITI application process. Also, the Ministry of Natural Resources has some resources for EITI activities under the World Bank financed project called Mining Governance Growth Support Project.</li> </ol>	3 member team (MoF, Paladin and CFJ) tasked to circulate draft ToRs to MSG members for their review by 24/03/15  GIZ to organise a workshop for MSG members in Salima from 30-31 March 2015 to develop ToRs and work plan.  Secretariat (MoF) to circulate draft work plan and models from other countries to MSG

(MGGSP).

- 5. There are other development partners (DPs) interested in supporting the EITI process. In order to ensure their targeted support, it is necessary to have the work plan in place from which DPs can choose areas to support (especially from June 2015).
- 6. The meeting was informed that the recommended number of MSG membership is 12. However, other members could be incorporated as observers (with no voting rights) as such the MSG will have to choose institutions that could become observers.
- 7. It was observed that it would be difficult for the MSG members to find time to sit down and prepare such voluminous working leading to work plans and candidature application materials hence need to bring in an expert to help with that process so MSG members could endorse. In this regard, one EITI expert will come from GIZ Germany and another from Zambia EITI secretariat (for regional experience).
- 8. It was agreed that MSG members would be meeting their own costs of participation in the EITI process. In this regard, meeting notices will have to be made 2 weeks prior to the date through e-mail to give members enough time to plan. It was also agreed that each group participants (CSO, government, private sector) would transportation issues within their group. In cases that cannot be resolved, DPs such as GIZ could be approached to provide support.
- MSG members were also advised to visit the EITI website to read guidance notes in order to familiarise themselves on their roles.

members by 27/03/15.

Cost sharing issue to be included in ToRs.

5. Next steps/ Resolutions	<ol> <li>The meeting agreed on plans to hold a series of trainings to orient MSG members on the EITI processes. In addition, a study tour to Zambia was also agreed depending on funding to offer members a regional experience in terms of expectations and challenges.</li> <li>The meeting discussed and agreed of the need to set up a national EITI secretariat to be housed in the Ministry of Finance to coordinate all EITI activities. In this regard, the Government would need to identify funding to recruit 2 to 3 people.</li> <li>it was agreed that initially (next 3-4 months) there should be monthly meetings and thereafter to be held on quarterly basis. An email list of participants was compiled to allow for quick communication and to reduce the need for physical meetings. However, members could also meet on ad hoc basis depending on need.</li> <li>MSG members advised and encouraged to discuss EITI issue at their respective constituencies.</li> </ol>
6. AOB	<ol> <li>It was noted that there is need to have the MSG existence known to the public for transparency requirements. A proposal was floated to establish a home page where the public could access information.</li> <li>Date of the next meeting to be communicated through e-mail.</li> </ol>
Closing Remarks	<ol> <li>The chairperson closed the meeting by thanking all participants, including representative of Development Partners GIZ who attended the meeting to support the initiative.</li> <li>The meeting was closed with a prayer.</li> </ol>

George C. Harawa Chairperson

Leonard A. Mushani

**MWEITI Secretariat**