

ARMENIA EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES TRANSPARENCY INITIATIVE MULTI-STAKEHOLDER GROUP'S MEETING MINUTES No. 3

Date: 26 December 2016 | Time: 18:00-18:40 | RA Government

Attendees: Members of the Multi-Stakeholder Group

Chairman:	Davit Harutyunyan	Minister-Chief of RA Government Staff
	Karen Isakhanyan	Deputy Minister of Territorial Administration and Development of RA
	Tigran Khachatryan	Deputy Minister of Economic Development and Investments of RA
	Davit Ananyan	Deputy Minister of Finance of RA
	Khachik Hakobyan	Deputy Minister of Nature Protection of RA
	Vardan Gevorgyan	Deputy Minister of Energy Infrastructure and Natural Resources of RA
	Perch Khachatryan	Head, Legal Assistance Service, “Zangezur Copper and Molybdenum Combine” Closed Joint Stock Company (CJSC)
	Vahe Vardanyan	Deputy General Manager, “Geomining” Limited Liability Company (LLC)
	Armen Stepanyan	Senior Manager for Sustainable Development, “Lydian Armenia” Closed Joint Stock Company
	Artur Nikoghosyan	Advisor to General Manager, “Agarak Copper and Molybdenum Combine” Closed Joint Stock Company
	Sona Ayvazyan	Executive Director, “Transparency International Anti-corruption Center” NGO
	Artur Grigoryan	Chairperson, “EcoRight” non-governmental organization
	Erik Grigoryan	Co-president, “Association of Young Environmental Lawyers and Economists” NGO
	Inga Zarafyan	Chairperson, “Ecolur” Informational NGO
	Harutyun Movsisyan	Associate Professor, Department of Search and Exploration of Mine Sites, Yerevan State University; expert of “Sustainable Development Centre”

RA Government Staff

Karapet Vardanyan	Assistant to RA Prime Minister
Aram Asatryan	Project Manager, “Enhanced Transparency in the Mining Sector” Project implemented by the Staff of the Government of the RA
Lusine Tovmasyan	Expert, “Enhanced Transparency in the Mining Sector” Project implemented by the Staff of the Government of the RA
Lilya Shushanyan	Advisor to the Minister-Chief of RA Government Staff

Minutes taker: Lusine Tovmasyan

AGENDA

1. Opening of the RA EITI MSG Meeting

D. Harutyunyan welcomed the members of Group and the presented the agenda of the meeting. It was noted that during the meeting the MSG was to make a decision on three important documents, specifically, the ToR for RA EITI MSG, the Work Plan of RA’s EITI and the Republic of Armenia’s EITI Candidature Application. D. Harutyunyan informed that a rather large amount of work had been performed by the MSG members on the development of the above-mentioned documents. It was said that the opinion of the regional responsible official of EITI International Secretariat on the Work Plan of RA’s EITI had been received, based on which certain changes had been made to the document. It was proposed to present the changes made on the basis of the recommendations by the EITI International Secretariat.

2. Approval of ToR for RA EITI MSG

It was presented that, in accordance with the procedure approved during the previous meeting of the RA EITI MSG, during the meeting of the MSG members respective changes were made to the ToR for RA EITI MSG, and the Draft ToR for RA EITI MSG was published on the EITI page of the website of the RA Government. The Draft ToR for RA EITI MSG was submitted to the MSG for approval and **was approved** by the general agreement of MSG.

3. Presentation and Discussion of the Decision of the EITI Board on Payment by the Countries of Membership Fees for Joining EITI

It was presented that during the 35th EITI Board meeting held in Astana in October 2016 a decision was passed pursuant to which the EITI implementing countries should pay an annual membership fee in the amount of USD 10,000, which would be directed toward the financing of the activities of ratifying the country's membership.

4. Approval of the Work Plan 2017-2018 of the RA EITI

It was presented that according to the schedule approved during the previous meeting of RA EITI MSG, the activities of development of the Work Plan 2017-2018 of the RA EITI had been organized and implemented, and a number of working meetings and discussions had been held with the MSG members. The developed Draft Work Plan 2017-2018 of the RA EITI was submitted to the EITI International Secretariat, and recommendations were received from the regional responsible official of the Secretariat on the Draft. Taking into account the recommendations, certain changes were made to the Draft, namely, the Activity “Scoping Study of EITI report” was incorporated. The activities in the Work Plan to be implemented by the national budget were presented. It was emphasized that continuous work should be carried out within the framework of cooperation with the World Bank and the other international donors, in order to ensure the effectively implementation of the activities included in the RA EITI Work Plan.

The Draft Work Plan 2017-2018 of the RA EITI was submitted to the MSG for approval and **was approved** by the general agreement of MSG.

5. Approval of the Republic of Armenia’s EITI Candidature Application

The RA MSG members **discussed** the Draft EITI Candidature Application of the Republic of Armenia. Specifically, the discussion was on determining the fiscal year(s) for the development of the First EITI Report of the Republic of Armenia. As a result of the discussion and by the general agreement of the MSG it **was decided** that the First EITI Report of the Republic of Armenia would be submitted for the fiscal years 2015-2016, which would enable to obtain more comparable and comprehensive information on the RA’s metal mining sector. The MSG members **decided** also that reports should be submitted by all the metal mining companies in the Republic of Armenia, for the First EITI Report purposes.

The EITI Candidature Application of the Republic of Armenia **was approved** by the general agreement of the MSG. It was decided to submit the EITI Candidature Application of the Republic of Armenia to the EITI International Secretariat by the end of the year.