

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50

57th Multi-stakeholder Group (MSG) Meeting

8 February 2019 | 9:00 AM – 12:00 NN

Conference Room B, Podium, Department of Finance, Manila

ATTENDEES

Government

Asst. Secretary Ma. Teresa Habitan	Department Finance (DOF)
Ms. Febe Lim	DOF
Engr. Romualdo Aguilos	Department of Environment and Natural Resources Mines and Geosciences Bureau (DENR-MGB)
Dir. Araceli Soluta	Department of Energy (DOE)
OIC-Asst. Dir. Alfonso A. Mallari, Jr.	Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG)
Ms. Maricor Cauton	Union of Local Authorities of the Philippines (ULAP)
Engr. Earl Nera	DOE
Engr. Shan Barros	DOE
Ms. Rhizzalyn Bautista	DILG

Industry

Mr. Gerry Brimo	Nickel Asia Corporation
Atty. Ronald Rex Recidoro	Chamber of Mines of the Philippines
Mr. Bradley Dean Norman	OceanaGold Philippines, Inc.

Civil Society Organization

Ms. Ma. Leonora Garcia	Bantay Kita-Publish What You Pay Philippines (BK-PYWP)
Mr. Augusto Blanco, Jr.	Mandaya Tribe, Compostela Valley
Mr. Buenaventura Maata, Jr.	Philippine Grassroots Engagement in Rural Development Foundation, Inc. (PhilGrassroots-ERDF)
Mr. Chito Trillanes	Social Action Center – Ecology Desk, Diocese of Tandag, Surigao del Sur
Ms. Aniceta Baltar	Concerned Citizens of Abra for Good Governance
Ms. Ladylyn Mangada	University of the Philippines Visayas Tacloban
Dr. Nelson Conigundo Cuaresma	Concerned Advocates Saving Terrestrial and Marine Ecosystems (COASTLINE), Inc.
Dr. Glenn Pajares	Sectoral Transparency Alliance on Natural Resource Governance in Cebu, Inc.
Ms. Angelica Dacanay	BK-PWYP Secretariat

Guest

Mr. John Eustaquio	UP Statistical Center Research Foundation, Inc.
--------------------	---

1 **PH-EITI Secretariat**
2 Atty. Maria Karla Espinosa
3 Mr. Marco Zaplan
4 Ms. Mary Ann Rodolfo
5 Ms. Joylin Saquing
6 Mr. Eastword Manlises
7 Mr. Ryan Justin Dael
8 Ms. Roselyn Salagan
9 Ms. Maria Lezith Soriano
10 Mr. Jaime Miguel
11 Mr. Ricardo Evora
12 Ms. Rhea Bagacay
13 Ms. Rhoda Aranco
14 Ms. Angelina Alba
15
16

17 **AGENDA**

- 18
- 19 ■ Approval of the Agenda
- 20 ■ Approval of the Minutes of the 56th MSG meeting
- 21 ■ Matters arising from previous MSG meetings
- 22 ■ Main Business
 - 23 ● Updates on 5th Report Addendum
 - 24 ● Report on Mainstreaming Workshop
 - 25 SEED/PH-EITI Mainstreaming Roadmap
 - 26 ● Report on results of mainstreaming feasibility and perception surveys
 - 27 ● Work Plan 2019
 - 28 ● Presentation of results of Impact Survey
 - 29 ● Scope of 6th Report (TORs, templates, targeted companies)
 - 30 ● Revamped PH-EITI Website
- 31 ■ Other Matters
 - 32 ● Updates on other pending/ongoing activities/matters
 - 33 ● MSG Administrative Briefing for 2019
 - 34 ● Setting of next MSG meeting (April)
- 35
- 36

37 **1. Call to Order**

38
39 DOF Assistant Secretary Ma. Teresa Habitan chaired the 57th meeting. There being a quorum, the
40 meeting began at 9:05 AM.
41

42 **2. Approval of the Agenda**

43
44 The Chair asked the members if any of them wanted any item included in the agenda.
45

46 An industry representative asked that a discussion on the sustainability of EITI implementation in
47 the Philippines be added to the agenda, considering the end of World Bank funding and recent
48 developments in mainstreaming. A CSO representative seconded the suggestion.
49

50 The Chair acknowledged the significance of the matter and suggested that it be discussed in
51 conjunction with the report on results of the mainstreaming feasibility and perception surveys.

1
2 Without any further addition, the agenda was approved.

3
4 **3. Approval of the minutes of the 56th meeting**

5
6 The Chair gave the members five days to send comments, if any, on the minutes of the 56th
7 meeting. If no comment is received by the secretariat within this period, the minutes will be
8 deemed approved.

9
10 **4. Matters arising from previous meetings**

11
12 Matters arising from previous meetings remain to be the pending meetings with the
13 Secretaries/heads of DOE, DILG, and SEC. The secretariat recalled that proposed agenda for each
14 of the meetings had been presented to and approved by the MSG. However, sending of letter
15 requests for the meetings had been deferred in view of the then ongoing work on the 5th Report.
16 The secretariat proposed to defer the meetings further until after the mainstreaming roadmap
17 has been approved, so that it can be included in the agenda for each agency. The secretariat also
18 noted that, at the moment, there is no urgency to meet with the agency heads.

19
20 **5. Main Business**

21
22 *a. Updates on 5th Report Addendum*

23
24 The secretariat reminded the MSG members of the email it sent to them in December, apprising
25 them of the issues as regards the Independent Administrator (IA) and the 5th Report. The
26 secretariat explained how the 5th Report that was published and submitted on 31 December
27 2018 lacked an official IA's opinion due to the pending approval of the IA's contracts for both the
28 5th Report (2018) and the 4th Report (2017), with the 2017 Report remaining unpaid to date. In
29 addition, the secretariat noted that the 5th Report numbers (high variances) associated with
30 Bureau of Customs (BOC) streams need to be reviewed. Thus, there is still pending work to be
31 done by the IA, necessitating an addendum to the 5th Report. However, without a contract, the
32 IA has taken precaution and refrained from completing the work.

33
34 The Chair asked for an update on the IA's contract for the 5th Report.

35
36 The secretariat reported that the 2018 contract and other related documents are still under
37 review with the Legal Affairs Office.

38
39 As for the high BOC variances, it appears that possible errors may have led to an initial
40 reconciliation result of zero variance. It would later appear that there was variance after all, but
41 issues with the IA's contracts as well as time constraints precluded the IA from performing the
42 usual final reconciliation, i.e., going to the concerned reporting entities for supporting
43 documents and validation.

44
45 There is no feedback from the International Secretariat regarding the published 5th Report yet.

46
47 *b. Report on Mainstreaming Workshop*

48 *SEED / PH-EITI Mainstreaming Roadmap*

49 *Report on results of mainstreaming feasibility and perception surveys*

50

1 The secretariat gave a brief recap of the January 14 mainstreaming workshop co-facilitated by
2 the International Secretariat (Atty. Gay Ordenes, Regional Director for Southeast Asia and the
3 Pacific). The main objective of the activity was to come up with a PH-EITI mainstreaming
4 roadmap and integrate it in PH-EITI's work plan. It was participated in by TWG members and
5 representatives of reporting agencies.

6
7 The secretariat shared the materials presented during the workshop. Copy of the handout is
8 attached hereto as an **annex**.

9
10 Results of the mainstreaming diagnostic; the concept, principles, and objectives of SEED
11 (Systemic Electronic Extractives Disclosure); the phases (based on the EITI mainstreaming toolkit)
12 and components (policy, systems and tools) of the mainstreaming roadmap; and integration of
13 mainstreaming in the work plan for 2019 until 2022 were presented.

14
15 To ground PH-EITI mainstreaming, the secretariat proposed the following set of principles,
16 summarized in the acronym PITS, to be consistent with SEED as PH-EITI's brand of
17 mainstreaming:

18
19 *People-centricity*, or being relevant to stakeholders and communities, and responsive to the
20 needs of the public;

21
22 *Integration*, or seeking to interconnect, synergize, systematize;

23
24 *Timeliness* of data, or generating data that are up-to-date (if not real-time) and in open
25 format; and

26
27 *Sustainability*, or being efficient and maintainable to meet objectives in the long term.

28
29 The principles had corresponding objectives.

30
31 The mainstreaming actions highlighted included conduct of feasibility survey and study,
32 amendment of EO 147 to reflect a statement of commitment to mainstream EITI
33 implementation, a Memorandum of Agreement between and among agencies to pursue
34 systematic disclosure, enactment of an EITI law, identification of a government champion,
35 among others.

36
37 The secretariat reported that it had already circulated a feasibility and perception survey among
38 MSG members and implementing agencies. An on-the-spot survey was done with BIR and BLGF
39 during the workshop. The secretariat has also gone to DOE and MGB offices to conduct the same
40 survey.

41
42 After the secretariat's report, the MSG was requested to comment on and approve the
43 roadmap. If the MSG approves the schema presented, the secretariat would proceed with
44 implementation of the component activities.

45
46 An industry representative requested for mainstreaming to be explained in practical terms.

47
48 The secretariat described mainstreaming as a shift to a different kind of reporting or disclosure
49 that would accordingly change the outputs of PH-EITI as well as the role of the MSG. In the
50 mainstreamed scenario, agencies and companies will be routinely doing their own disclosures

1 while still meeting the EITI Standard. However, there is no single model for mainstreaming. EITI
2 International is, in fact, looking for possible models among implementing country initiatives.

3
4 An industry representative asked if mainstreaming is an EITI requirement and if there are any
5 guidelines from the international secretariat.

6
7 The secretariat said that there is a prescribed TOR and set of guidelines, but, considering
8 differences in country contexts, countries are given prerogative to develop their models of
9 implementation. The central idea is to make EITI reporting systematic and cost-efficient. Issues
10 with procuring the services of an IA and financial challenges faced by implementing countries
11 partly brought about mainstreaming.

12
13 The Chair concurred, saying that procurement of an IA is a substantial component of the budget
14 for EITI implementation. She added that the role of the IA is presently being evaluated, as
15 reconciliation variances are usually very small.

16
17 A CSO representative recalled that mainstreaming was already being discussed as early as when
18 the Philippines hosted an EITI Board meeting in 2017, and that some countries were not keen on
19 mainstreaming. He asked whether a study has been done about in the Philippines and if there is
20 available funding for meetings for stakeholders to appreciate its rationale.

21
22 Another CSO representative said that the anticipated paradigm shift should factor in the
23 environmental impacts of extractives and that plans for the environment must be integrated in
24 PH-EITI's mainstreaming roadmap.

25
26 Another CSO representative brought up the matter of the relevance of mainstreaming to the
27 objectives of PH-EITI. She said that PH-EITI's model of mainstreaming should address or align
28 with all of PH-EITI's (five) main objectives. She also expressed concern over the role the MSG will
29 play in addressing issues like non-compliant reporting entities.

30
31 An industry representative asked how data quality, accuracy, and consistency can be ensured if
32 the IA is going to be removed from the process. He asked how reconciliation will be done in an
33 IA-less EITI implementation.

34
35 The Chair said that the IA will not entirely disappear; rather, its functions will evolve.

36
37 The secretariat said that mainstreaming is, in effect, already a requirement, but the direction of
38 its implementation in the Philippines still depends on the MSG. There is sufficient leeway for PH-
39 EITI to craft its own model of mainstreaming, the features of which will depend on what the
40 MSG wants to do.

41
42 A CSO representative asked if the roadmap must really be approved in this meeting already, as
43 she would like to thresh out more details.

44
45 The Chair clarified that it has already been agreed in previous meetings that PH-EITI will do
46 mainstreaming. In this meeting, the secretariat is just asking for guidance on how to proceed.

47
48 Another CSO representative moved to defer approval of the mainstreaming roadmap and for the
49 matter to be discussed in a TWG. Another CSO representative proposed that unpacking the
50 principles may be done by the TWG.

1 The secretariat explained that the proposed feasibility survey would help the MSG set the
2 direction of implementation based on facts, the answers of the respondents.

3
4 An industry representative urged the body to give the secretariat a go-ahead to do big-ticket
5 activities such as the survey and the feasibility study.

6
7 A CSO representative conceded to give the secretariat authority to proceed with mainstreaming,
8 the details of which are subject to a TWG discussion. Members seconded, and the motion was
9 approved.

10
11 A government representative asked for the schedule of the TWG to be set already. The
12 secretariat proposed that it be convened in March, after the feasibility survey is done.

13
14 The Chair then reminded the members to complete the survey sent to them. The secretariat
15 reported that as of the night before this meeting, only six members have responded to the
16 survey.

17
18 *c. Work Plan 2019*

19
20 It was recalled that the work plan proposed for 2019 was presented and approved during the
21 previous meeting held in December 2018. That work plan was premised on a PHP43-million
22 budget; it did not consider a re-enacted budget scenario. In the event of a re-enacted budget,
23 the work plan will have to be revised.

24
25 The secretariat highlighted the following key priorities for each of PH-EITI's core programs:

26
27 Research and Policy Reforms (RPR)

- 28 ■ SEED Initiative
- 29 ■ Mainstreaming EITI in small-scale mining (SSM)
- 30 ■ Beneficial ownership (BO)
- 31 ■ JMC on LGU shares in national wealth
- 32 ■ SOEs/GOCCs (which was mentioned during the validation in 2017)

33
34 Country Report Publication (CRP)

- 35 ■ Finish report by September 30, 2019
- 36 ■ Reduce initial reconciliation variances
- 37 ■ Increase relevance of the report by generating more applications and uses
- 38 ■ MariCOR, a web tool that answers FAQs pertaining to the country report

39
40 Communications (Comms)

- 41 ■ Website
- 42 ■ Annual Progress Report
- 43 ■ Executive Summary
- 44 ■ EITI Impact Stories (Frontier5: Coffee Table Book)
- 45 ■ Social media and traditional media

46
47 Outreach and Capacity Building (OCB)

- 48 ■ National Conference (NatCon) and Launch of 5th Report on March 21, 2019 at PICC
- 49 ■ Nationwide Roadshow

50
51

1 The secretariat presented the provisional program of the NatCon. A copy of the draft program is
2 attached hereto as an **annex**.

3
4 The Transparency Awards process is pending, subject to finalization of the 5th Report.

5
6 As for the EITI Global Conference in June 2019, no specific guidelines on exhibitions or awards
7 have been circulated yet.

8
9 The Chair recalled PH-EITI's participation in previous global conferences, relating that the
10 Philippines had a booth in the Sydney (2013) and Lima (2016) conferences and they were well
11 received and quite popular.

12
13 As regards the NatCon program, a CSO representative requested the secretariat to coordinate
14 very closely with the host/master of ceremonies, recalling some errors the host of the 2018
15 NatCon made in acknowledging the participants of the event.

16
17 Another CSO representative noted that the provisional program gives so much exposure to the
18 government sector. He said that attention could also be given to stakeholders from the SSM and
19 non-metallic mining sectors. He also said that BO could be one of the topics to be presented and
20 suggested that OceanaGold be asked to present to set a good example for players.

21
22 Another CSO representative suggested the inclusion of issues such as climate change or extreme
23 weather events that can affect stakeholders.

24
25 An industry representative suggested that deliberations for the Transparency Awards commence
26 as soon as possible. The Chair then identified members of the Awards Committee: Asec. Habitan,
27 Atty. Recidoro, Ms. Lim, and Ms. Cauton. She said the Awards Committee could already start
28 meeting in the succeeding week.

29
30 A CSO representative expressed concern about the draft JMC on LGU shares in national wealth.
31 He asked which agency is currently shepherding and championing its issuance.

32
33 An industry representative asked if the industry could be given a segment in the NatCon
34 program to report on sustainability. He shared that two years ago, ASEAN ministers/secretaries
35 launched the ASEAN Mineral Awards, and the mines awarded for sustainable mineral practices
36 are in the Philippines.

37
38 The Chair acknowledged the industry's initiative to present on sustainability during the NatCon.

39
40 As for the nationwide roadshow, the secretariat shared that, due to budget limitations, the
41 provisional plan is to have only three legs, one per major island group: Luzon, Visayas, and
42 Mindanao.

43
44 *d. Presentation of results of Impact Survey*

45
46 Mr. John Eustaquio of the UP Statistical Center Research Foundation, Inc. (UP SCRFI) presented a
47 draft report on the EITI Impact Survey. The objective of the survey is to evaluate the
48 effectiveness and impact of EITI implementation in the Philippines. Impact was measured based
49 on the five objectives of PH-EITI.

1 Mr. Eustaquio presented the survey framework that UP SCRFI used – a modified American
2 Customer Satisfaction Index (ACSI) model to measure the impact of EITI implementation. The
3 study used self-administered survey forms given to PH-EITI stakeholders during the 2018
4 Roadshow (July-August 2018). There were 630 respondents in total. Mr. Eustaquio discussed the
5 design of the survey, the perceived impact scale and various indicators, and how the data was
6 analyzed.

7
8 Final PH-EITI score indicates overall satisfaction ratings with 7.8 from a scale of 1-10 as the
9 average rating. Majority or 77.9% of responses gave ratings at the 7 to 9 range, while 8.9% gave
10 perfect scores. Only one respondent gave a rating of 1.0. Except for (a) Public debate in relation
11 to extractive industries and (b) Public understanding on extractive industries, which had ratings
12 of 6.6 and 6.8 respectively, all other dimensions/indicators had final ratings of above 7.0.

13
14 EITI received higher ratings, at least 8.0, on: (a) Publication of Annual Country Report, (b) Local
15 Outreach Activities, (c) National Outreach Activities, and (d) PH-EITI Official Website.

16
17 A copy of UP SCRFI's presentation is attached hereto as an **annex**.

18
19 After the presentation, MSG members gave comments:

20
21 A CSO representative noted the low rating for public understanding on extractive industries, and
22 encouraged PH-EITI Communications to consider the recommendations of the survey.

23
24 Another CSO representative wants to see the analysis and conclusion responsive to the overall
25 objectives of PH-EITI. He wants to see proof and discussion of relevance, impact, efficiency, and
26 sustainability. He noticed the framework used and asked if the consultant considered other
27 frameworks such as the DAC European Model.

28
29 Another CSO representative asked about the definition of terms — what the consultant meant
30 by relevance, impact, efficiency, and sustainability. Mr. Eustaquio said they will clarify the terms
31 in the final report.

32
33 Another CSO representative shared that Bantay Kita also did an EITI impact survey, using the GIZ
34 tool on EITI assessment. She said it would be good to share an assessment from the civil society
35 perspective.

36
37 A government representative asked about the limitations of the study and what the consultant
38 recommends to eliminate these limitations for future opportunities to move the study forward.

39
40 Mr. Eustaquio responded that they would have done verification. He said that if they were to do
41 the study again, they would want to verify the responses with the respondents.

42
43 A CSO representative reiterated an earlier inquiry about the tool used to measure impact. He
44 asked if it is possible for the DAC model to also be used so that comparative analysis can be
45 done.

46
47 The Chair agreed that the presentation of the survey results must be directly linked to the
48 overall objectives of PH-EITI. She clarified, however, that using another methodology or
49 framework might not be necessary for the time being, unless the survey will be implemented a
50 second time.

51

1 Another CSO representative asked why the conclusion was not responsive to the overall
2 objectives of PH-EITI and suggested that the MSG look into the questionnaire.

3
4 The secretariat recalled that the draft questionnaire was presented to and approved by the MSG
5 before the 2018 Roadshow. The secretariat also said that the GIZ tool was actually considered in
6 the development of the survey design.

7
8 The secretariat and the consultant took note of the comments. The final report is expected to be
9 submitted in February.

10
11 *e. Scope of 6th Report (TORs, templates, targeted companies)*

12
13 At the outset, the secretariat informed the MSG that the 6th Report will be subjected to PH-
14 EITI's re-Validation in 2020. It then proposed the scope for the 6th Report, noting that the
15 proposal considers the anticipated implementation of mainstreaming, particularly in the initial
16 phases of the reporting process (scoping, inception, data collection). The secretariat said that
17 the independent administrator would, nonetheless, still provide inputs on materiality threshold.

18
19 To start determining the scope of the report, the secretariat asked the MSG if they would agree
20 to the proposed definition of operating companies, that is, those with production and/or sales.

21
22 A CSO representative asked if it is possible to engage those that are non-operating to at least get
23 them to formally report that they have no operation and the reason for their being so.

24
25 An industry representative commented that it is important to account for companies that are
26 not operating.

27
28 A government representative recalled that last year, MGB provided PH-EITI with a directory of
29 operating mines. Some companies were not operating and had no production due to their
30 suspension. He said that MGB can determine which companies are not operating after the first
31 quarter.

32
33 An industry representative said that the basis for applying DAO 2017-07 is the existence of
34 MPSA, not whether or not the company is actually operating. Besides, the reason for a
35 company's non-operation may be temporary or may cease after the fulfillment of certain
36 conditions. In any case, he said that it would be best for the definition to be consistent with how
37 MGB defines operating companies.

38
39 The secretariat said that it will request a list from MGB and amend the letters to request non-
40 operating companies to declare if they have no production or sales and the reason for the same.

41
42 For non-metallic mining companies, the secretariat proposed to again target the top 20
43 companies, which would already account for 91% of the sector. The remaining 9% does not
44 appear to be significant.

45
46 A CSO representative said that in their consultations with communities, non-metallic mining is
47 increasingly becoming an issue. She suggested that the landscape be looked into, especially in
48 the context of the government's Build Build Build Program which is encouraging many
49 communities to do non-metallic mining. The secretariat responded that there would be no
50 problem including this in the contextual information. It also said that a scoping study on the
51 sector was done in 2015 and that this study could perhaps be reviewed and updated.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51

Another CSO representative asked for a list of operational PMRBs. A government representative said that their office can provide a list of existing PMRBs. He also shared that reconstitution of PMRBs is still ongoing.

For oil and gas, there are four companies.

For coal, there is only one, Semirara, which has never participated in the EITI process.

A government representative said that they write to Semirara every year to ask them to participate.

The Chair said that it may be high time to go beyond writing Semirara a letter to finally including them in the report.

A CSO representative suggested that Semirara be invited to talk about their operations.

The secretariat noted that it has observed that Semirara discloses a lot of information on its website and that PH-EITI may, perhaps, be able to make a case for mainstreaming for Semirara/coal.

The Chair remarked that the only stumbling block is Semirara's refusal to sign a waiver for purposes of reconciling their numbers with the government's.

A government representative shared that his agency wrote Semirara a show-cause letter as part of DAO 2017-07 enforcement. The company replied, asserting that it is not covered by the DAO. Unfortunately, the concerned bureau (EMB) agreed with or accepted Semirara's position, thereby excusing, in effect, the company from participating in EITI.

The Chair suggested inviting Semirara to the NatCon.

A government representative expressed hope that Semirara might change its position, as the company is under new management. He said their office has not yet gotten back to Semirara to discuss EITI reporting.

A CSO representative asked if it is possible to include at least one downstream industry (metallic mining), like THPAL (Taganito HPAL Nickel Corporation), in the contextual information, so that it can be established how downstream figures in the overall extractives value chain.

The Chair asked what the substance of the discussion on the downstream industry would be.

The CSO representative conceded that downstream industries are technically not mining companies and they cannot be compelled to participate in EITI, but their operations may have impact on the environment.

The Chair acknowledged that the environmental impacts of extractives is important, but clarified that, at the moment, the matter is not yet within the ambit of the EITI framework. She remarked that EITI is not a silver bullet that can cure all illnesses and kill all villains.

The CSO representative clarified that she was not looking at EITI as a panacea. She shared that in the recent global meeting of Publish What You Pay, there had been discussions on climate

1 change and the environment. Civil society is not asking for solutions; rather, they are asking for
2 information so that they will have a better handle of the issues in the sector. She related that
3 they have started research on the matter, but there is not much information available.
4

5 The Chair shared that the EITI Standard is currently under review. One of the possible changes
6 being discussed is the inclusion of environment in the EITI framework. So far, no decision has
7 been made about it. The Chair clarified that she is not closing the door for the information being
8 sought; she is simply asking for some discretion in eliciting additional information.
9

10 A CSO representative asked if environment valuation could be done in relation to extractive
11 operations. He asked if players could provide data on the number of trees cut, number of water
12 testing done, etc.
13

14 An industry representative said that one area in the industry that could be looked into is local
15 content. He would want to surface how much of the inputs are being sourced locally by the
16 companies, which of the services/goods being procured abroad are available locally. He would
17 like to see figures and identify gaps and opportunities. He said that this could be part of the
18 contextual information.
19

20 On the matter of environmental data, the secretariat said that the downstream industries may
21 not be aligned with the report at this time, but it could be the subject of a future scoping study.
22 The study could include an audit or survey of environmental data pertaining to this sector.
23

24 A CSO representative suggested doing stocktaking of environment data. She asked for
25 understanding if the other members find it uncomfortable when civil society pushes for more
26 information. She said that it is, perhaps, in the DNA of civil society members to report what
27 happens on the ground.
28

29 The Chair agreed to consider doing a scoping study first, to mine available databases, which may
30 already include environmental statistics.
31

32 In the interest of time, the secretariat suggested moving the discussion of the TORs online.
33

34 A CSO representative recommended having a TWG on the matter.
35

36 The Chair reminded the body, however, that time is of the essence and that they are following a
37 stringent timeline in procuring the IA.
38

39 A CSO representative recalled that it had been requested that more time be given to discuss the
40 contextual information.
41

42 The Chair said that discussion of the contextual information and reconciliation reports can
43 proceed separately, as a different consultant will be procured for each of the two.
44

45 The secretariat said that it will defer to the MSG's decision, but noted that the budget may be
46 enough for only one firm to do both the contextual information and the reconciliation. The
47 allotted budget for production of the 6th Report is PHP3.5 million. In any case, the secretariat
48 hoped that the TOR for the IA will be approved early.
49

50 The Chair instructed the secretariat to send a copy of the TOR to the MSG and asked the
51 members for a quick turnaround of comments.

1
2 *f. Revamped PH-EITI Website*
3

4 In the interest of time, the secretariat suggested skipping the discussion on the revamped
5 website. Instead, the MSG was asked to just visit the site.
6

7
8 **6. Other Matters**
9

10 The secretariat shared that the Gender Scoping Study is already underway. The project involves
11 studying the impact of extractives on women and locating the role of women in extractives
12 governance. It will include both national data and two case studies, Mankayan in Benguet and
13 Maco in Compostela Valley. Methodology includes key information interviews and focus group
14 discussions. The study is expected to be completed in March, in time for the National
15 Conference and within the women’s month celebration.
16

17 In relation to the subject, the Chair sought the members’ opinions on gender representation in
18 the MSG. She shared that one of the changes to the EITI Standard being considered is gender
19 inclusivity, particularly requiring the participation of more women in the MSG. She mentioned
20 the case of Indonesia where representation in the MSG is based solely on merit.
21

22 A CSO representative related that in other organizations, representation is also based on merit
23 but there is a ceiling for the number of representatives per sector and gender.
24

25 An industry representative shared that he works in a company with a management team
26 composed of a lot of women. He said that they value gender balance, but they also do not wish
27 to undermine merit.
28

29 A CSO representative said that the principle, really, is giving positive bias to women. She
30 suggested that the MSG consider both merit and positive bias towards women.
31

32 A government representative appreciated the call for positive bias to women but cautioned that
33 gender empowerment can at times discriminate against men.
34

35 A CSO representative asked whether gender balance is really about the numbers, or is it a
36 matter of influence. For instance, he asked whether a woman representative who is equivalent
37 to five in terms of power or influence could be counted as gender balance.
38

39 In relation to the matter of representation, the secretariat informed the body that Asec.
40 Habitan’s term as a member of the EITI International Board is ending in June at the EITI Global
41 Conference in Paris. The secretariat said that the Philippines, as an implementing country, can
42 nominate a candidate for election into the new Board. An unequivocal statement of government
43 support for the nominee is required. The deadline for nomination is February 14.
44

45 A CSO representative asked if the Chair is eligible for re-election. The secretariat responded that
46 there is no impediment to another term. It will depend on the government, the DOF in
47 particular, if it will issue support for the nomination. The secretariat said it will send the office of
48 the Secretary of Finance a request for a letter of support.
49

50 On another matter, a CSO representative asked for updates on the JMC on LGU Shares in
51 National Wealth.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22

A government representative said that the JMC is still being finalized by the DBM. She also mentioned the Mandanas case which is currently on appeal.

A CSO representative said he would like to know ULAP’s strategy to help fast-track the issuance of the JMC.

Another CSO representative inquired about PH-EITI’s other outreach activities.

The secretariat said that aside from the NatCon, Roadshow, and the capacity-building activities mentioned earlier in the meeting, there are no plans for other activities yet. The secretariat is open to explore possible collaborations with the agencies and organizations in the MSG.

A CSO representative wanted to make sure that the MSG members are getting all the information about the plans and activities of PH-EITI. He said that time in between MSG meetings could be used to work on urgent matters.

Setting of the next MSG Meeting

The next MSG meeting was set for 5 April 2019 (Friday).

Without any other matter to be discussed, the 57th meeting was adjourned at 1:10 PM.