

Philippine Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative
90th MULTI-STAKEHOLDER GROUP (MSG) MEETING
23 May 2024, Thursday | 4:00 - 6:00 PM | Hybrid Meeting
The Maximilian Hotel, Cauayan, Isabela and Google Meet

Attendees:

GOVERNMENT	
1. USec. Bayani H. Agabin	Department of Finance (DOF)
2. Engr. Romualdo Aguilos	Mines and Geoscience Bureau (MGB)
3. Mr. Augustus Cesar A. Navarro	Department of Energy (DOE)
4. Mr. Nenito Jariel, Jr.	DOE
5. Mr. Julius Cesar Tabucao	DOE
6. Ms. Maricor Anne Cauton	Union of Local Authorities of the Philippines (ULAP)

INDUSTRY	
1. Atty. Ronald Rex S. Recidoro	Chamber of Mines of the Philippines
2. Atty. Odette A. Javier	Lepanto Consolidated Mining Co.
3. Atty. Jose Ma. Emmanuel “Kiril” Caral	Petroleum Association of the Philippines, Shell Philippines Exploration
4. Atty. Joan Adaci-Cattiling	OceanaGold Philippines, Inc.
5. Atty. Francis Joseph G. Ballesteros, Jr.	Philex Mining Corporation

CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS	
1. Mr. Chito Trillanes	Social Action Center—Ecology Desk, Diocese of Tandag, Surigao del Sur
2. Prof. Ladylyn L. Mangada	UP Tacloban
3. Ms. Aniceta Baltar	Concerned Citizens of Abra for Good Governance
4. Mr. Rodne R. Galicha	Living Laudato Si' Philippines
5. Mr. Ronald Allan Barnacha	Philippine Rural Reconstruction Movement (PRRM) Board Member, Bantay Kita

<i>PH- EITI Secretariat</i>
1. Mary Ann D. Rodolfo
2. Mary Nicole M. Hilario
3. Albert A. San Diego
4. Rhea B. Pamatmat
5. Rhoda H. Aranco
6. Amiel De Guzman
7. Job G. Besmonte
8. Andrea Denise B. Samson
9. Mark Ernest Famatigan
10. Aliyah Mae Gozon
11. Ricardo C. Evora

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Proceedings:

I. Call to order

DOF Undersecretary Bayani H. Agabin chaired the meeting. There being a quorum, the **meeting** was called to order at 4:25 p.m.

II. Approval of the agenda of the 90th MSG meeting

The Chair asked the members if there were any items they wished to include in the agenda.

An industry representative moved to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded, and the agenda was approved.

III. Approval of the minutes of the 89th MSG meeting

The Secretariat said that the minutes of the 89th MSG meeting were previously circulated to the MSG for their comments or corrections. The Chair asked whether the body wanted to approve the minutes. There being no comments, the MSG approved the minutes of the 89th MSG meeting.

IV. Matters arising from previous meetings

	AGREEMENTS	IN- CHARGE	STATUS
89.1	The GOC to discuss refinements to the feedback mechanism, particularly on the lowering of the number of days for addressing reports.	MSG	Ongoing
89.2	The MSG agreed to wait for final developments on investigations being done on the Maco landslide incident before releasing an MSG statement.	MSG	Ongoing/ On hold

89.3	The MSG agreed to include the proper implementation of EPEP in the discussions on subnationalization.	MSG	Ongoing
89.4	The MSG approved the refined work plan with the identified priorities. The Secretariat to circulate the polished work plan.	MSG, Secretariat	Completed
89.5	The Secretariat to circulate to the MSG the TORs of the consultants for the FY 2022 country report including the TOR on Preparing Extractive Industries Towards Just Transition.	Secretariat	Completed
89.6	The MSG agreed to re-engage with BARMM (send letter to MENRE).	MSG, Secretariat	Not yet started
89.7	The Secretariat is instructed to communicate with IA on the deadline for resolving issues in the FY 2021 reconciliation (End of March 2024).	Secretariat	Completed
89.8	The Secretariat to keep the MSG updated on the status of the reconciliation chapter of the FY 2021 report.	Secretariat	Ongoing
89.9	The MSG agreed to work on logistical arrangements in securing funding from the World Bank for future programs/activities/projects.	Secretariat	Ongoing
89.10	Concerning the report received from Datu Buntas of Diwalwal, Monkayo, the MSG agreed to coordinate with other agencies including the DENR, PMRB, PMDC, and the LGU and write	Secretariat	Completed

	back to Datu Buntas to explain that it is beyond PH-EITI’s jurisdiction. The concern on IP royalty can also be included in the discussions on subnationalization.		
89.11	Concerning the report on Buyaan watershed, the MSG recommends referring the letter to DENR’s Action Center.	Secretariat	Completed

The Secretariat discussed the matters arising from the 89th MSG Meeting held last 19 March 2024.

89.1 The Secretariat mentioned that the refinements on the feedback mechanism are ongoing with the Governance and Oversight Committee (GOC) due to the cancellation of its 6th meeting, scheduled for 11 April 2024.

89.2 The Secretariat recalled that the MSG agreed to wait for further developments in the investigation into the Maco landslide. As of this MSG meeting, there has yet to be an update on the matter.

A civil society representative asked a government representative about the investigation conducted by Congress. The government representative confirmed that there is an investigation by Congress, but there has yet to be an update as well.

89.3 The Secretariat said that the proper implementation of EPEP is being considered to be a part of the discussions during the upcoming 2024 PH-EITI roadshow.

89.4 The Secretariat said that the 2024 work plan was finalized and uploaded on the PH-EITI webpage with a corresponding progress tracker.

89.5 The Secretariat said that while the Terms of References (TORs) for the consultants for the country report and energy transition have already been approved, it is still undergoing procurement.

89.6 The Secretariat said that BARMM is yet to be re-engaged at a later time since the Secretariat is prioritizing the conduct of the upcoming regional roadshow.

89.7 The Secretariat mentioned that this will further be discussed in the Other Matters agenda.

89.8 The Secretariat read through the item, and the MSG had no further comments.

89.9 The Secretariat said that they have communicated the PH-EITI's planned activities with the World Bank. While they weren't willing to fund the regional roadshows, they are willing to fund the 2024 Extractives Transparency Week (ETW).

A civil society representative provided constructive feedback on the conduct of the ETW, saying that some of the discussions were too compressed, resulting in information overload. Another civil society representative agreed.

The Chair suggested that the ETW have fewer topics and last up to four days. For context, the 2023 ETW lasted for three days. He said that the ETW will be a culmination of several activities over the course of three to four months, during which time the PH-EITI can gather inputs that can contribute to the conceptualization of the ETW.

89.10 and **89.11** were read through without comment. Before the agenda item concluded, a civil society representative asked about the context of item 89.10. The Chair reminded her that it was about a report received from Datu Buntas, wherein the MSG determined that it was not under PH-EITI jurisdiction, leading to its referral to the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP). The Chair also said that NCIP wrote back to PH-EITI, saying that they would address the matter.

The Secretariat informed the body that this matter was included on the meeting's agenda, but the MSG opted to discuss the case updates as it had already been brought up.

The Secretariat read through the developments of the 6th and 7th Case Briefs.

Case Brief No. 6 (Request for assistance in collecting royalties from mining activities and other businesses in Diwalwal, Monkayo, Davao de Oro)

In the 89th MSG Meeting, the MSG agreed to coordinate with other agencies including the DENR, PMRB, PMDC, and the LGU and write back to Datu Buntas to explain that it is beyond PH-EITI's jurisdiction. The concern on IP royalty can also be included in the discussions on subnationalization.

The Secretariat received correspondence from NCIP regarding the matter. NCIP's Ancestral Domains Office referred the matter to Regional Director Atty. Geroncio Aguio of NCIP Region XI. Atty. Aguio reported that their regional office has sent communication letters to the DENR-LMS of Region XI and the LRA-ROD Region XI. Additionally, a letter was dispatched to the NCIP Davao de Oro Provincial Office for verification of the facts concerning Lot 3809. Atty. Aguio assured that their office will continuously cooperate and assist in resolving the issue and will keep us updated on any correspondence received from the contacted agencies.

Case Brief No. 7 (Illegal exploration activities in the headwaters and portion of the Buyaan Watershed)

In the 89th MSG meeting, the MSG recommends referring the letter to DENR's Action Center.

The Secretariat forwarded the letter to the DENR's Action Center email. MGB CARAGA acknowledged receipt of the email on April 4 and stated that they will duly act on the matter accordingly.

In a letter dated April 8, 2024, MGB Caraga has reached out to the Mayor of Carmen, coordinating for an investigation on the matter.

A civil society representative asked about the MSG's past agreement that the NCIP would be part of the MSG with respect to Executive Order No. 147 s. 2013 – PH-EITI's charter document. The Chair responded that reforms have yet to be implemented.

When asked when the reforms can be implemented, the Chair replied that PH-EITI has engaged, although NCIP was not so receptive of the matter. He did note however that there was a time when the NCIP took the initiative of approaching PH-EITI after a Mining Industry Coordinating Council (MICC) meeting. The Chair said that it is a matter of showing how beneficial PH-EITI can be for NCIP, so there may be a shift in attitude.

The complete record of MSG decisions and matters arising from meetings can be accessed at <https://pheiti.dof.gov.ph/msg-decisions-and-matters-arising/>.

V. Main Business

1. Updates on the FY 2022 Report

The Secretariat said that they have proceeded with processing the contracts of the consultants, namely Mr. Eastword D. Manlises and Ms. Linnet Madelane C. Chan, who will be writing the contextual information and reconciliation chapters, respectively.

Furthermore, the Secretariat outlined the schedule of the reporting cycle for the FY 2022 Report.

14 & 16 May 2024	PH-EITI Reporting Orientation
20 May 2024	Start of the reporting cycle and data submission through ORE
17 June 2024	Deadline of documentary requirements
21 July 2024	End of reporting cycle

The Secretariat said that the reporting cycle began last Monday (May 20) and that 94 participants attended the discussion. The participants represented at least 62 extractive companies.

A breakdown of identified companies for the FY 2022 Reporting was also presented:

Total companies initially identified for FY 2022 Reporting	114
Less suspended mining companies & non-operating oil & gas companies	2
Identified companies for FY 2022 Reporting	112
Metallic Mining	72
Non-metallic Mining	36*
Oil & Gas	4

**Note: Semirara Mining and Power Corporation, the only coal company identified for FY 2022 reporting, is also included in the non-metallic mining count for their limestone operations*

Identified companies for FY 2022 Reporting	112	100%
<i>Invitations sent by PH-EITI</i>	92	82%
<i>Invitations sent by MGB</i>	6	5%
<i>Problematic contact details*</i>	14	13%

**Note: Requested assistance from DENR-MGB*

A representative of the government clarified that there are currently 59 operating mines. The Secretariat identified that this discrepancy may be due to a difference in the definition of terms. A civil society representative recommended that the Secretariat and government representative should define the terms to avoid confusion. The Secretariat said that they would consult to agree upon the parameters.

2. 2024 PH-EITI Roadshow

The Secretariat said that they've reached out to the DOE, who committed a maximum amount of PHP 3 million for two legs of the roadshow. The Secretariat also has a scheduled meeting with USAID-RESPOND (Regulatory Reform Support Program

for National Development) on Wednesday (May 29). Updates on other potential funders such as USAID Urban Connect and the DOF Gender and Development (GAD) are pending while the World Bank did not approve.

The old and proposed new schedules for the roadshow were presented:

Old Schedule

Cluster	Regions Covered	Venue	No. pax	Proposed Dates
Northern Mindanao	X, XIII	Butuan City	100	July 8 - 10
		Surigao City	100	July 11 - 13
Central and Eastern Visayas	VII and VIII	Tacloban City	150	August 7 - 9
Southern Mindanao	IX, XI, XII, BARMM	Davao City	100	August 21 - 23
Northern Luzon	I, II, and CAR	Baguio City	150	September 11 - 13
NCR and Central Luzon	NCR and Region III	Pampanga	100	September 25 - 27
Western Philippines	IV-B, VI	Puerto Princesa, Palawan	100	October 11 - 16

Proposed New Schedule

Cluster	Regions Covered	Venue	No. pax	Proposed Dates
Northern	X, XIII	Butuan City /	300	July 11 - 13

Mindanao		Surigao City		
Central and Eastern Visayas	VII and VIII	Eastern Visayas/Samar	200	August 7 - 9
Northern Luzon NCR and Central Luzon	I, II, and CAR NCR and Region III	Baguio City / Clark	300	September 25 - 27
Western Philippines	IV-B, VI	Puerto Princesa, Palawan	200	October 14 - 16

The Secretariat added that DOE is willing to raise its committed amount to PHP 4 million should the funding for the regional roadshow be insufficient. DOE also pointed out that it may be difficult to attain 300 participants in the Northern Mindanao leg of the new proposed schedule.

According to an estimate by the Secretariat, there is a PHP 4.98 million difference in budget between the two schedules.

Particular	Amount
Estimated budget for 7 legs of roadshow	17,552,200.00
New estimated budget for 4 legs of roadshow	12,573,700.00
Difference	4,978,500.00

The Chair said that the idea is that the PH-EITI will go to places with significant mining activities and that the MSG would have to decide which topics to prioritize for discussion. However, if PH-EITI manages to acquire funding from the DOF-GAD, it is imperative that there will be a discussion on gender.

He added that with the current budget that PH-EITI has for the year, the MSG and Secretariat can conduct at least two legs in the regional roadshow, with a pending

number of additional legs to be approved in the upcoming 91st MSG meeting expected to occur in June.

The Chair also mentioned that the PH-EITI will welcome support from mining companies.

An industry representative asked whether there has already been a discussion on supporting PH-EITI in the mining companies' Information, Education, and Campaign (IEC) activities allocated under their Social Development and Management Program (SDMP).

A government representative responded that such can be consulted with the Mine Rehabilitation Fund Committee (MRFC). However the industry representative replied that the companies might object if EITI activities are programmed in the SDMP since it can be used to assess performance. The Chair said that this can be further explored in the future.

3. Logical Framework for the Subnational Implementation of EITI in the Philippines

The Secretariat discussed the development of the framework. It was mentioned that the crafting of the framework started with the Stakeholder Engagement Committee's (SEC) instruction to the Secretariat to engage with Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and consult them about PH-EITI subnationalization before SEC's approval. The Secretariat incorporated the CSOs' comments, and the draft framework was eventually approved by the SEC.

Respectfully informing the Chair, two industry representatives excused themselves from the meeting.

Discussing the framework further, the Secretariat said that there are five phases in the implementation of subnationalization and that as discussed at the SEC level, it is better to implement it depending on the needs of an area.

PROPOSED ACTIVITIES	MILESTONES	TARGET COMPLETION DATE
<p>Phase 1: Preparatory Phase Objective: Lay the groundwork for successful pilot implementation. Timeline: June to October 2024</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Selection of Pilot Area: Identify and select a suitable pilot area based on mining activity, local government interest, and community engagement potential 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pilot area identified and approved 	<p>June 2024</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Stakeholder Mapping: Identify all relevant stakeholders, including local government units, mining companies, civil society organizations, and local communities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Stakeholder list finalized 	<p>June to July 2024</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Needs Assessment: Conduct a comprehensive needs assessment to understand the local context, challenges, and expectations regarding EITI implementation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Needs assessment conducted ● Report submitted and reviewed 	<p>July to Oct 2024</p>
<p>Phase 2: Framework Development Objective: Develop a localized EITI framework adaptable to the selected pilot area. Timeline: November 2024 - February 2025</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Drafting the Local EITI Framework: Based on the needs assessment, draft a localized EITI framework that aligns with national standards and local realities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Draft framework created ● Stakeholder feedback integrated 	<p>Nov to Dec 2024</p>

PROPOSED ACTIVITIES	MILESTONES	TARGET COMPLETION DATE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Stakeholder Consultation: Engage with identified stakeholders through consultations to refine and validate the draft framework. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Consultation sessions conducted ● Amendments made based on feedback 	Jan to Feb 2025
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Framework Approval: Secure formal approval of the local EITI framework from relevant authorities and stakeholders. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Final framework approved by local authorities 	Feb 2025
<p>Phase 3: Capacity Building Objective: Enhance the capacity of local stakeholders to implement and sustain EITI standards. Timeline: March - June 2025</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Training Programs: Develop and conduct training programs for local government officials, mining companies, and civil society on EITI principles, reporting standards, and monitoring. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Training curriculum developed ● Training sessions conducted 	March to June 2025
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Public Awareness Campaigns: Launch campaigns to raise public awareness and understanding of EITI goals and processes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Campaign materials developed ● Public engagements executed 	March to June 2025
<p>Phase 4: Implementation and Monitoring Objective: Implement the EITI framework in the pilot area and monitor progress and challenges. Timeline: July 2025 onwards</p>		

PROPOSED ACTIVITIES	MILESTONES	TARGET COMPLETION DATE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● EITI Implementation: Begin the implementation of EITI reporting and disclosure processes as per the approved framework. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● EITI reporting and disclosure processes initiated 	July 2025 onwards
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Development of Project Results Framework: Establish a Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting, and Learning (MERL) framework to set clear targets, outcomes, impacts, and indicators for tracking progress from the outset. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● MERL framework established ● Key results, outcomes/impacts, and indicators defined 	Aug 2025 onwards
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Continuous Monitoring: Implement the monitoring mechanism to track progress, document challenges, and capture lessons learned. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Initial monitoring report completed 	Aug 2025 onwards
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Stakeholder Engagement: Maintain continuous engagement with stakeholders to ensure transparency and address any issues promptly. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Regular stakeholder meetings established ● Feedback mechanism operational 	July 2025 onwards
<p>Phase 5: Evaluation and Scaling Up Objective: Evaluate the pilot implementation and prepare for scaling up to other areas. Timeline: October to November 2025</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Evaluation of Pilot Implementation: Conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the pilot implementation to assess its effectiveness, identify best practices, and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Comprehensive evaluation conducted ● Evaluation report 	Nov 2025

PROPOSED ACTIVITIES	MILESTONES	TARGET COMPLETION DATE
note areas for improvement.	drafted	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reporting and Feedback: Compile a detailed report on the pilot implementation, including recommendations for scaling up. Share the findings with all stakeholders and solicit feedback. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Evaluation report finalized and disseminated ● Feedback collected and analyzed 	Nov 2025
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Development of Sustainability and Scale-Up Strategy: Establish mechanisms to ensure the sustainability of the EITI implementation in the pilot area and develop a strategy for expanding the initiative to additional regions, focusing on replicability and adaptation to new contexts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sustainability mechanisms established for the pilot area ● Scale-up strategy developed and approved Implementation roadmap for scaling and replication completed 	Nov 2025

The Secretariat said that a stakeholder mapping was previously conducted for Provincial/City Mining Regulatory Boards (P/CMRBs). A civil society representative pointed out that stakeholder mapping is an ongoing process (i.e., it is not static). The Chair mentioned that there is an issue with how the MSG defines who is considered a stakeholder, for example, farmer groups whose activities are affected by mining companies.

Another civil society representative said that they can invite accredited international Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs). He said that there are CSOs who are able to become part of P/CMRBs, despite not being accredited by the provincial government – indicating politicking in CSO selection in P/CMRBs.

Another civil society representative said that this has happened before in Caraga. He stressed that CSOs must undergo the right processes and recognition because representation must have legitimacy.

The Chair asked the body if anyone is willing to move for the framework's approval. A civil society representative moves to approve the framework. Being seconded and having no objections, the draft framework has been approved at the MSG level.

4. Highlights of the 2024 MSG Retreat

The Secretariat read through the highlights of the 2024 MSG Retreat. Such highlights include:

- MSG members convened in Lyf Hotel Malate Manila on March 19-20 for the PH-EITI MSG Retreat and Capacity Enhancement Summit.
- The Summit tackled different topics that aimed to enhance the implementation of EITI in the Philippines – from trust building to systematic disclosures.
- **PTA Chancellor Ma. Teresa Habitan** discussed two topics: one about trust-building and the other about governance.
- In the governance training module, MSG members said that they must communicate in a manner that is “open, respectful, and critical” for conducive dialogue.
- **Sociologist and ADB consultant Ms. Czarina Medina-Guce** talked about the Participatory Governance Metrics (PGM) – a way to measure the effectivity of stakeholder engagement. Ms. Medina-Guce mentioned that the PGM metrics can be tailor-fitted to the MSG's needs.
- **PH-EITI Deputy Coordinator for Communications and Knowledge Management Mr. Albert San Diego** discussed strategies that the MSG can use in communicating EITI to the public. He stressed the importance of having a proper communication plan so technical ideas can be transferred.
- **EITI Asia Director Atty. Gay Ordenes** discussed a variety of topics including just

energy transition and anti-corruption. She was joined by Open Ownership Regional Manager Emily Manuel to discuss beneficial ownership transparency.

- Lastly, **EITI International Secretariat members Alex Gordy and Gilbert Makore** extensively discussed systematic disclosures. One key takeaway is that the PH-EITI MSG will continue to be relevant despite EITI being mainstreamed because it is up to them to decide on the integrity of the data.

The Chair asked fellow MSG members whether they found the retreat useful. A civil society representative said that she very much enjoyed the first day since it was about strengthening ties within the MSG while learning EITI more deeply. However, she found the second day repetitive, having encountered some of the topics before. She added that she felt sorry that only a few MSG members were able to participate.

The Chair asked the body for insight on how participation can increase. A civil society representative suggested that the Secretariat clarify who is staying on schedule and who is leaving earlier than expected.

The Secretariat shared a video presentation of the MSG retreat.

VI. Other matters

1. Feedback Mechanism

Moving forward, the MSG revisited Case Briefs Nos. 6 and 7, which were already discussed in advance during the “Matters Arising from Previous Meetings” agenda item.

Adding on to the previous discussion, the Secretariat said that the feedback mechanism was improved on the PH-EITI website. He showed features of the mechanism, such as the feedback report summary. However, it is still for improvement, depending on the comments of the MSG and stakeholders.

A civil society representative added that the association mentioned in Case Brief No. 7 reached out to him, saying that the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) is already acting on the referral. He said that the report is due within the week, and encouraged PH-EITI to join the multisectoral meeting wherein

the report will be presented in Carmen.

The Chair commended the continuous improvement of the website. An industry did the same, but asked whether the mechanism would “open up a floodgate of unrelated EITI matters.” The Secretariat said that this issue is addressed by the GOC, since they are responsible for filtering whether a feedback is covered by EITI or not.

Noticing that there were multiple pending cases, a civil society representative asked how PH-EITI would close the cases. The Chair said that the GOC should discuss these matters and review the closure of pending cases.

A government representative said that the DENR Action Center is designed in a way wherein unresolved cases return to its responsible office with a tracking number, and it is visible if a case is not yet closed.

2. Updates on the FY 2021 Report

Moving forward to updates on the 2021 report, the Secretariat reads through the following updates:

- The Independent Administrator (IA) was initially given until 31 Mar 2024 to address all gaps and submit the revised reconciliation datasheet and write-ups
- On 28 Mar 2024, the IA submitted the revised reconciliation datasheet (version 1) with no write-ups included.
- Upon review, out of the 34 gaps initially noted by the Secretariat, 26 (76%) were resolved by the IA, 5 (15%) were resolved by the Secretariat, 3 (9%) needed further clarification/to be resolved by the IA.
- Feedback was provided to the IA on 16 Apr 2024. The IA was allowed one last extension until 30 Apr 2024 to address all remaining issues AND provide write-ups.
- On 16 Apr 2024, the IA submitted the revised reconciliation datasheet (version 2) without write-ups. Upon review, all issues noted appeared to have been resolved or were resolved by the Secretariat.
- The IA submitted write-ups per table (version 1) on 25 Apr 2024, and feedback was provided on 26 Apr 2024.
- On 29 Apr 2024, the IA submitted write-ups per table (version 2).

- The Secretariat initiated an assessment but could not finish it as priorities shifted to the opening of the FY 2022 Reporting Cycle.
 - Overall initial assessment: The IA write-up would need a comprehensive review and editing as it was (1) based on missing/erroneous data. (2) worded poorly, (3) too shallow

Additionally, the Secretariat said that they have checked 29 out of 54 tables. She noted that the Secretariat does not have the resources nor the competency to verify if the process was done correctly.

The Chair asked if it would be ideal to engage a consultant who can work with the IA to help verify their work. A civil society representative suggested that perhaps the Secretariat would do the job instead.

The Secretariat said that they are helping rewrite the report.

An industry representative seconded what the Chair suggested. The Secretariat said that the reconciliation process was about computing and comparing the variances before and after reconciliation, but the IA was writing on matters that are unrelated. Several members of the MSG agreed that the IA probably did not understand the task at hand.

The Chair said that the Secretariat would have to have the resources to address the matter by themselves. A government representative suggested that the IA should only be paid partially.

The MSG agreed to have 30 June 2024 as the internal deadline for the final version of the reconciliation report.

3. Targeted Assessment on Requirement 1.3 Updates

The Secretariat said that the EITI International Secretariat has submitted its assessment to the EITI Validation Committee and that the Board decision will be released at the 60th Board Meeting in Geneva, Switzerland on 19-20 June 2024.

The Chair mentioned that an EITI-implementing country was not suspended because

CSOs were not able to see eye-to-eye, but on the bright side, the difference in views reveals the robustness of the discussion.

4. Draft Resolution on SEC Chairmanship

The Secretariat discussed that the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) expressed their rejection of the committee chairmanship due to a conflict in schedule. Only technical staff were able to sit on behalf of the DILG during previous MSG meetings, signifying their inability to commit as chair of the SEC. The SEC instructed the Secretariat to draft a committee recommendation to the MSG to have the Union of Local Authorities of the Philippines (ULAP) chair the committee.

ULAP requested that while they are willing to take up the position, it is best to wait until ULAP reconvenes to get their Executive Director’s permission.

The Chair said that he would talk with the representative from the DILG regarding this matter, but he pointed out that it would be better to have someone willing to take up the SEC chairmanship, rather than someone who is forced to.

VII. Summary of Agreements

Agreements	In charge	Timeline
The MSG agreed to approve the minutes of the 89th MSG meeting.	MSG	
The MSG recommended considering a more effective format for the Extractives Transparency Week (ETW), such as allocating more time for resource speakers and covering fewer topics, with a focus on discussing local concerns	Secretariat	
The MSG agreed to reconcile statistics and definitions of terms with MGB on the count for companies identified for FY 2022 Reporting.	Secretariat	
The Secretariat to update the MSG on the number of legs for the regional roadshow once the funding source is finalized.	Secretariat	

The MSG agreed to explore the possibility of integrating PH-EITI-related activities to the IEC budget of companies under the SDMP. The Secretariat to conduct discussions with DENR-MGB and COMP.	MSG, Secretariat	
The MSG approved the logical framework for subnational implementation of EITI in the Philippines. The Secretariat to implement using the framework as basis.	Secretariat	
The MSG agreed to hold onboarding activities for future MSG members.	MSG, Secretariat	
The MSG agreed to gather feedback from CSOs to increase participation in future MSG conferences and PH-EITI activities.	MSG	
The GOC to convene, discuss and refine the Feedback Mechanism guidelines, including the initiation and closure of cases.	GOC	
The Secretariat to discuss with the IA the possibility of engaging with another accountant to work on the FY2021 report.	Secretariat	
The MSG to wait for the ULAP Board decision on SEC chairmanship.	MSG, Secretariat	

VIII. Adjournment

With no other matters to be discussed, the meeting was adjourned at 6:46 p.m.