## Minutes of Mongolia Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative Multi-Stakeholder Working Group (29 April 2011)

MSWG meeting started at 2.30 pm at the Conference Hall of Open Society Forum on 29 April 2011.

Members attending: B. Dolgor (MSWG Chair and Senior Prime Ministerial Advisor); J. Iveelen (Ministry of Finance Accounting Policy Department Officer); B. Batbayar (Mineral Resources and Energy Ministry Mining and Heavy Industry Policy Department Officer); E. Oyun (Petroleum Authority Investment Division Chair); T. Tsetsegnyam (General Taxation Agency Minerals Resources Tax Division Revenue and Inspection Department Senior Inspector); Ch. Oyunchimeg (General Taxation Department Tax Inspector); B. Suhtulga (Mineral Resources Authority Mining Research Division Statistics and Research Officer); B. Tsegts (Mineral Resources Authority Officer); Doug Crane (Boroo Gold LLC CFO); G. Lhagva-Ochir (Boroo Gold LLC Tax Accountant); B. Erdenedorj (Petro China Daqing Tamsag LLC CEO Advisor); D. Nominzul (MongolRosTsvetMet LLC Accountant); A. Batpurev (Inforum Center Head); D. Tserenjav (Transparency Foundation Head); B. Boldbaatar (My Mongolia-Motherland Movement Head); B. Batbold (Mongolian Environmental NGOS Confederation President); E. Sarangerel (Coal Association Manager); B. Altanchimeg (Open Society Forum Officer); E. Sumiya (Cabinet Secretariat Senior Officer and MSWG Secretary). Present were 16 (64%) of the 25 EITI MSWG members.

Also present: B. Adiya (Capital City EITI Branch Council Secretary); B. Narantsatsral (Nuclear Energy Agency Officer); B. Osorgarav (Ulaanbaatar Audit Corporation LLC CEO); N. Erdenetsog and B. Mendbayar (Senior Auditors); Ch. Nominchuluun (Auditor), Sh. Tsolmon (EITI Secretariat Coordinator); B. Delgermaa (EITI Secretariat Finance Officer).

B. Dolgor, Senior Prime Ministerial Advisor and MSWG Chair opened the meeting:

B. Dolgor: The agenda presents 4 topics for discussion. First, the progress of the EITI Mongolia 2009 consolidated report and preliminary findings/conclusions; second, conclusions from the EITI Secretariat on the progress of EITI consolidated reporting; third, an introduction on our participation at the March 2010 International EITI Conference in Paris; and fourth, the start of production of the EITI Mongolian 2010 consolidated report establishing an evaluation committee to select auditors and approval of committee membership (she explained and obtained approval of meeting procedures and agenda).

## **TOPIC: Progress of EITI Mongolia 2009 consolidated reports and preliminary findings/conclusions**

B. Osorgarav (Ulaanbaatar Audit Corporation LLC CEO): Our company has carried out an audit reconciliation of the EITI Mongolia 2009 reports in partnership with Hart Noirs Ltd, UK, and is happy to report our findings today. We worked with over 290 entities and institutions (administrations of 10 aimags, 121 soums, 101 mining companies, 24 government agencies and 26 government-funded agencies). Over two months the audit team had 8 members and was co-chaired by Chris Tropper (Hart Noirs President) and Senior Auditor N. Erdenetsogt; the latter will detail the findings and conclusions.

N. Erdenetsogt (Ulaanbaatar Audit Corporation LLC Senior Auditor) made a presentation on the progress of the EITI Mongolia 2009 audit reconciliation (attached).

B. Dolgor: Thank you. Now let's hear the Secretariat conclusions, followed by questions and comments.

**TOPIC: EITI Secretariat conclusions on progress of the Mongolia EITI 2009 audit reconciliation:** EITI Secretariat Coordinator Sh. Tsolmon presented EITI Secretariat conclusions on progress of the Mongolia EITI 2009 audit reconciliation (presentation attached).

B. Dolgor: Any questions?

A. Batpurev: I have two. The first relates to bonds issued for OT. The report says that government bond revenue is subject to payback with interest, so should not be reported as revenue. OT LLC reported that the company is not getting a return of what it paid for government bonds. So, will the government repay this bond revenue? What is the explanation? I ask because you are professionals. This initiative is not meant to produce a report and investigate findings. However, many companies reported with evidence that they paid donations to both central and local government agencies, but recipient agencies did not report their receipt to the General Department for Taxation or the Ministry of Finance; the donations just disappeared, which is probably due to corruption. If this is so, what is the possibility of resolving these issues or imposing responsibility under Mongolian legislation such as the Accounting Law or Law on Management and Financing of Government Agencies, not as part of the initiative?

N. Erdenetsog: In answer to your first question, the presentation gave the positions of both OT and Ministry of Finance. We contacted OT LLC several times and asked for clarification; the response was that they will probably not get back money they paid for the bonds; it is more likely it will be retrieved by deduction from taxes and fees. In general, they commented that the company does not retrieve that money. If a company does not retrieve this money, it should be recorded as government revenue, we believe. So we must decide whether to include this money as donation or just remove it from reportage. As to donations, any agency, and particularly any government agency, must record receipt of donations in their report, under the Law on Management and Financing of Government Agencies. This recorded receipt must go through the Single Treasury Fund, then be included in the reconciled government report. As mentioned, the key reason for discrepancy is that many local government bodies receive donations and spend the funds on local events such as river or ovoo worship. That expenditure is not included in the government report, which is the main reason for discrepancies. That means lack of compliance with clauses in some legislation. I hope the Ministry of Finance can comment on this issue.

A. Batpurev: I asked not only about donations, but also other payments, for example, when a company claims to have made a payment which a local government agency denies it received, or it just disappears without record in reports to the General Administration of Taxation and Ministry of Finance. So I asked what the off-initiative possibilities are to impose responsibility, under finance-related legislation.

N. Erdenetsog: We find in a thoroughly study that recipients, or those imposing various taxes, are different officers; environmental officers or khoroo inspectors levy taxes, and the receipt is not reported to the Ministry of Finance because of weak linkage between functions and responsibilities. Oyunchimeg is probably aware of this, and we are talking about the issue. The way we resolve discrepancies currently is that we contact the aimag or soum administration for formal documents to sort out the discrepancy. There is a steady need to sort out such issues. If everyone complied with the regulation necessitating the recording of all donations, aids, payments and fees in the General Taxation Department database, there will be far fewer discrepancies, we believe.

E. Sumiya: Just a comment to Batpurev's first question; it was actually good that USD 100 million from OT was reported; we will get any further such payments reported and disclosed, no doubt. In the future, similar payments will be made under an agreement on the Tavan Tolgoi coal mine. Deputy Prime Minister N. Altanhuyag briefed the Cabinet meeting of 21 October, 2009; the minutes report him as saying that under the Government of Mongolia-Ivanhoe Mines Mongolia

Inc-Erdenes MGL Agreement on Purchase of Government of Mongolia bonds dated 6 October 2009, Ivanhoe Mines Mongolia Inc paid USD 100 million to the special bank account of Government of Mongolia on 19 October 2009. I table the formal document, which I brought up from the archive because the Ministry of Finance agreed to sell government bonds as a "bond." It is a different kind of security, and financial professionals should clarify. We need to understand this. We will continue to report this. Financial recording and accounting must comply with international standards. We are not removing this from reportage, it will continue to be reported.

As to the second question, regardless of authorization, we will carry out investigations and followup action if discrepancies are found, with a three-member team. We have no specific funding for such investigation, but have some government budget funding. If the discrepancy is on the government side, the Ministry of Finance has the right to investigate. However, it is difficult for government officers to investigate at company offices. With three stakeholders, we can investigate discrepancies relating to large donations to soums and local agencies. We may get a joint authorization from the Minister of Finance and General Taxation Department Chairman for inspection. If we need to inspect a company, we can get authorization from the Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy. It is legally possible. If the company is a member of the National Mining Association, we can get a resolution or guidelines in cooperation with the association. In other words, there are legal possibilities for inspections if we follow the right path. However, we have no right to impose a sanction. If we find no documentary evidence of discrepancy, we have the right to employ law enforcement agencies. Civil society also has the right to criticize.

A. Batpurev: I do not wish to suggest that we, the MSWG, are not going to investigate and impose sanctions as we have no legal right and don't even need to do it. Revenues that should be reported to the government are not reported, possibly due to weak responsibility and interaction. It may well be connected to corruption. The EITI outcome is that both parties should report what they paid and received; matching figures ensure transparency and eliminate suspicion and misunderstanding. The auditors say they have carried out reconciliation for several years, but see permanent discrepancies and make comment on reasons. Monies that should be reported are not, so I ask why the government takes no remedial measures and why the Ministry of Finance itself takes no action, not as part of the EITI.

B. Osorgarav: For both auditors and MSWG, there is no legal justification for investigation of discrepancy and subsequent action. The Government of Mongolia, the Ministry of Finance, the General Taxation Department and the State Specialized Inspection Agency could work together to check revealed discrepancy and take corrective action. We must pay attention to this in the future. We understand that audit reconciliation is improving every year; it was difficult last year, but more so in the previous year; this year we have a broader understanding and more experience. MSWG and National Council meetings should discuss how to resolve discrepancy issues in partnership with the law enforcement agencies, and take relevant action. We made huge efforts this year to carry out twice as much work as last year within the same period. We thank Sh. Tsolmon for his great understanding and appreciation of our efforts. For the Mongolia EITI 2009 audit reconciliation, we worked with over 260 agencies and institutions over a two-month period, clarified reasons for over MNT 265 billion of discrepancy, and are examining the remaining MNT 337 million of unresolved discrepancy. In the 2008 reconciliation, which covered payments from 46 mining companies, we found over MNT 400 million of unclarified discrepancy. Of unresolved discrepancies found in the 2009 reconciliation report, we checked MNT 2.1 billion in documents and evidences submitted by aimags and soums, not yet revised; we will carry out another reconciliation following MSWG recommendations and decisions and will resolve these discrepancies before we submit the final report to National Council.

B. Dolgor: Any further questions and requests for clarification?

D. Tserenjav: Annex B has a company participation list, an assessment on participation, so I'd like to ask Tsolmon if we have any idea on how to use these assessments as an advocacy tool for the initiative. Auditors told us of difficult issues relating to company involvement and participation in the initiative. We could reconsider this participation assessment to highlight which companies are actively involved and which not, and use the final version as an advocacy tool; that is an opportunity. The 2009 reconciliation report is our fourth report, but I don't recall that we did a similar assessment of company endeavors for the initiative. If we continue this and demonstrate how participation levels change from year to year, this could become an advocacy mechanism. Obviously, assessment results would depend on how much tax companies pay, so that must also be considered. Second, many local government administrations fail to report donation receipts. They could also be listed and such a list uses as an advocacy tool. Presently we cite interesting examples of donations every year, but no one gets blamed for reporting failure.

Sh. Tsolmon: That is a good idea. Auditors assess in compliance with terms of reference. Our Secretariat has also carried out quantitative studies. For instance, in 5 reconciliation exercises since 2006, 668 companies have been involved (overlapping numbers), and 23 companies reported to all five reconciliations. We have prepared documents on these numbers for submission to a National Council meeting with this reconciliation exercise. Such studies and assessments are very important. I fully support what Mr Tserenjav says, and am ready for cooperation.

B. Dolgor: Any more questions?

E. Sumiya: After reading the draft report, I prepared several questions relating to discrepancies. But the auditors have just said that discrepancies can be clarified, with only MNT 337 million still unresolved. This MNT 337 million discrepancy is on just a few types of payment: e.g. MNT 17 million real estate tax, MNT 40 million water use payment, MNT 40 million stamp fees and service charges paid to central and local government agencies, MNT 82 million as 50% deposit for environmental reclamation and MNT 97.8 million of environmental conservation expenditure. Will it be possible for auditors to clarify payments disaggregated by company? You also ranked the participation of government agencies in the initiative: will this be further changed? I have another question related to our future work. Only Mongolia hires a consortium of international and national reconciliation auditors; other countries only hire international companies. So, if we propose to the International Board and Validation Board that Mongolia should only use national reconciliation auditors, are our national companies able to carry out a reconciliation? Also, are there any companies among this 101 that have hired you as their own auditors?

B. Mendbayar: As to the first question: the unresolved MNT 337 million discrepancy was found in only a few types of payment/receipt. As to real estate taxes, we have found discrepancies at MongolRosTsvetMet, Mongolyn Alt, Olon Ovoot Gold and Polo Resources; we have found water use discrepancies at Urmun Uul and Polo Resources; land fee discrepancies at Hurai; and an environmental conservation cost discrepancy of MNT 18 million on Shivee Ovoo. As to the environmental conservation discrepancy, the company already verified its payment, but the Ministry of Environment and Tourism's Natural Resource Agency has not submitted its response, so we are unable to resolve the discrepancy with documentation from a single side. The discrepancies of MNT 40 million in stamp fees and service charges involve many small sums at many companies. Of these, MNT 438 million involved Oyu Tolgoi, Chinhua MAK Nariin Suhait and MAK; we believe we will receive clarification from the Mineral Resources Authority, the Labor and Employment Service Agency and the Auto-Transportation Agency.

B. Osorgarav: As to the question from Mr Sumiya about whether we can carry out audit reconciliations without foreign auditors, I would answer "We can." In our audit reconciliations over the last two years we have gained considerable experience. We believe we can carry out audit reconciliations alone. Of 101 companies, national auditors were used by Erdenet, Emeelt Mines,

Flink Mongolia and Western Prospector. In the reconciliation, we found no donation discrepancies at these companies.

B. Dolgor: Any more questions? I will ask a question. You assessed government agencies like the Ministry of Environment and Tourism as "Poor" in terms of initiative participation, and the Ministry of Finance, Mineral Resources Authority and State Property Committee as "Fair." Why did you do so? What should we do to increase EITI participation by these agencies?

B. Mendbayar: We assessed the Ministry of Environment and Tourism as poor for several reasons. We started audit reconciliation on 14 February, and sent formal letters to government agencies and 101 companies from 15 February. After numerous follow-ups, we formally demanded response from the Ministry of Environment and Tourism's Natural Resource Department on 8 April. We located many discrepancies in environmental conservation costs, and found annual Ministry of Environment and Tourism reports, but the Ministry does not submit proper financial reports and makes it difficult to identify accurate data; that is why we gave the Ministry a poor evaluation. Government of Mongolia Resolution 80 assigned functions to the State Property Committee for EITI reporting, but it has never produced an EITI reconciliation report. The Ministry of Finance takes a long time to reconcile the government report and provide clarification. The Mineral Resources Authority has problems: e.g. Mongolian law requires all payments in MNT, but the Authority receives license fees in USD, which is converted to MNT at the Central Bank rate. However, the Mineral Resources Authority uses USD in its reportage, resulting in discrepancies every year. In addition, large discrepancies are found for license transfers. When license sales or transfers are not registered, payments are demanded from the previous license owner. This leads to large discrepancies. That is why we gave a poor assessment to the Mineral Resources Authority.

B. Dolgor: More questions? If not, please give your comments?

T. Tsetsegnyam: Having read the draft report and listened to answers to members' questions, I have two comments. We must always use state registration numbers for any study or report. The reason is that some companies have 2-3 branches or daughter companies, and make some payments from their daughter companies. This creates apparent discrepancies. So we must use company registration numbers on the templates and reports so that there are no apparent discrepancies. Second, you said discrepancies were found in real estate taxes. There is no way that such discrepancies should occur. When you get a clarification, get a copy of the payment slip as well as the real estate tax report submitted to the local administration.

E. Sumiya: Today's MSWG meeting is being held at very special time. First, we attended in the Paris EITI international conference; now we must implement EITI's next stage policies, additional requirements and activities. Second, this EITI 2009 reconciliation report is the first report from Mongolia after formally validation. Third, present are representatives of several MSWG members; many of whom are at the parliamentary session to discuss the Tavan Tolgoi investment agreement, along with government agency officers. So I would ask you to pass on the materials and issues resented today to the MSWG members you represent.

Now, here's a couple of comments on the report. First, it contains some mistakes. For instance, page 14 refers to the Mineral Resources Authority, when it means the Petroleum Authority. The front page says "for working purposes of MSWG and NC members," which is redundant; we are now publishing this report for the public. Probably you put that when it was a draft report, but as a final report it should not include this statement. Second, I'd like to ask you to consider some time-related issues in the report. On page 16, it refers to "material payment" from a June decision made by the National Council. However, the report date is March, so please note this in the report: the material payment decision had not been made at the time the report date is dated. Also the Minister of Finance made a resolution on donation recording on 1 March, so please put that in the report too.

Another issue is that the Petroleum Authority submitted a full report on its receipts from oil companies. That was good work. We have only got mining company reports since 2010, when exploration companies started reporting with a standalone template. Please put that in your report. The oil company template includes an expenditure item headed "tuition fees" but that is a cost incurred for sending individuals. Aside from this, some companies had expenses for informing Petroleum Authority staff, so please mention this in the report. As to unresolved discrepancies, some companies are mentioned in both taxes and payments, please bear this in mind. Now, you intend further clarifications on discrepancies, so please include that in the meeting minutes.

When we discuss the second version of the report, we will draft a resolution of National Council. Generally, Either Prime Minister of Cabinet makes relevant decisions every year after the consolidated report is produced and submitted. That is why I request you to submit your recommendations as early as possible to me, likely before next MSWG meeting. If so, I will contact with National Council members representing government agencies and plan to draft a resolution of National Council. Furthermore, we need to issue one big resolution replacing former government resolution #80. So, MSWG members, please give your ideas if you have.

I also have a request to the Ulaanbaatar Audit Corporation. You need to carry out the audit reconciliation abroad in partnership with your allied company. I think that Mongolia should in the future use only our national auditors for any reconciliation. National auditors must be broadly accepted internationally. One important aspect of hiring only a national auditor is the lower cost. In addition, you should give us your proposals and recommendations on material payment, in formal documentation. Tsolmon, please tell the auditors of our decision on material payment to auditors. We checked the relevant legislation in defining material payments; but as we have never used that law before, so you as professionals could comment.

B. Dolgor: Thanks. For the overall situation, there are several things that need attention, especially that government agencies must ensure proper integration and harmony of their activities and clarify specific issues mentioned earlier, as well as improving work quality. For instance, the Mineral Resources Authority has asked about problems such as license transfer, registration and reporting payments in MNT, all related to legislative compliance, inter-agency cooperation, uniform reporting templates, environmental conservation costs and reporting. The Secretariat must influence government agencies on these issues. Mr Sumiya, please take responsibility for these matters, talk to the relevant officers and sort out all these problems.

Mr Tserenjav asked earlier why we produce these reports. The answer is clear: to enhance our activities in the matters. All three stakeholders must pay attention to the resolution of issues relating to reportage and we look forward to successful achievement. We must specifically publicize those who are reporting properly while carrying out influence/advocacy activities like publicizing and investigating those who ignore the report and/or violate reportage rules. So let's include such points in decisions in today's meeting minutes.

As to reportage, unresolved discrepancies must be disaggregated by all stakeholders, company and government agency alike. They must be checked for clarification and, regardless of success or failure, verified formally. If there are discrepancies that cannot be resolved, propose potential ways in recommendations that we can follow up. Let's discuss all unresolved discrepancies and reasons at the next MSWG meeting. Please also conclude reconciliation of government agency reports and include findings in the final report, which will help improve our work.

Representatives of government agencies in the MSWG must improve their attitude towards assigned work. I hope that members at this meeting are aware of the need, while representatives should pass it to those absent. For each issue and recommendation in this report, government agencies must develop some concrete proposals on they will individually work to improve the

situation; that is an assignment. We need to hear proposals from government representatives on what they have done on these issues and what they plan to do. I propose such briefings at each meeting. Civil society organizations and companies also need to have proposals for each meeting. We have the EITI Secretariat will make reporting work effective, so I call for activity and innovation, not just sitting in on meetings.

So let's include these issues in our decisions. Any more ideas?

B. Osorgarav: Mr Sumiya just spoke truly on replacing Government Resolution 80. Just one proposal relating to this: the name of the EITI Secretariat does not sound very powerful or influential; as a result, mining companies often ignore us when we contact them and identify ourselves as EITI Secretariat. Also the Secretariat has limited human resources; it may be that they do not have enough staff properly to implement initiatives in the future. Therefore a draft resolution replacing Resolution 80 should change the name of Secretariat and add more staff.

**RESOLVED TO:** 1. Support the EITI Mongolia 2009 reconciliation report submitted by the audit consortium and discuss the final revised report at the next MSWG meeting. Inclusion is recommended of the following issues in the final report:

- additional clarification on each unresolved discrepancy, and identification of reasons for each company and government agency, with formulate formal documentation/protocols with relevant parties;

- clear recommendations on how to resolve discrepancies;

- as in the agreement, complete the reconciliation of government agency reports and attach them to the final reconciliation report;

- prepare an English version of the reconciliation report;

- agree with EITI Secretariat whether required parts and chapters of the reports are properly completed before the MSWG meeting.

2. Assign MSWG Secretary E. Sumiya and EITI Secretariat Coordinator Sh. Tsolmon to consider possibilities for resolving pressing issues, develop a draft government resolution in cooperation with respective agencies, and submit the draft resolution to the MSWG meeting.

3. Assign EITI Secretariat Coordinator Sh. Tsolmon to carry out advocacy activity by promoting EITI-active government agencies and companies and publicizing companies and central and local government agencies with numerous discrepancies and which ignore the initiative.

4. Agree that all MSWG members, particularly those representing government agencies, discuss the discrepancies found in relation to their agencies with senior management and finance officers of their respective agencies, and report to the next MSWG meeting.

5. Recommend MSWG members representing companies and civil society develop proposals/recommendations on making EITI reports effective, and present suggestions at each MSWG meeting.

## **3. TOPIC: Presentation on attendance of a Mongolian delegation at the Paris International EITI Conference in March 2010**

B. Dolgor: Mr Tsolmon will make his presentation.

EITI Secretariat Coordinator Sh. Tsolmon made a presentation on Mongolian attendance at the 5<sup>th</sup> International EITI Conference (presentation attached).

B. Dolgor: Thank you. At this meeting, Mongolia was honored with an award from the International EITI Board Chair, closely related to the work of our National Council and MSWG

members. I offer my gratitude to all and best wishes for the future. Are there any comments and ideas in relation to the presentation? If not, let's move on to our next topic.

## 4. TOPIC: Beginning process of producing EITI Mongolian 2010 consolidated report, establishing an evaluation committee responsible for selecting auditors and approving the membership of the committee.

B. Dolgor: Sh. Tsolmon will make a presentation on this topic.

Sh. Tsolmon: We recently collected, from MSWG members, comments on the Terms of Reference for the EITI Mongolia 2010 audit reconciliation, and it was finally approved. We announced procurement on 20 August 2011 in the daily newspapers. Up to 20 May, the Secretariat will receive letters of interest. Preparations for the bid evaluation committee have been made, and we propose the following members: Committee Chair - Open Society Forum Manager N. Dorjdari; committee members: Ministry of Finance Accounting Policy Department officer J. Iveelen; Mongolian National Mining Association CEO N. Algaa; Mongolrostsvetmet LLC Accountant D. Nominzul; and EITI Secretariat Sh. Tsolmon. As the bid documents are all in English, we basically require that members have knowledge of English and finance. We are ready to hear your comments and ideas on the committee membership.

B. Dolgor: Any comments and offers regarding the committee membership?

A. Batpurev: Some people like Dorjdari and Algaa are always on an evaluation committee. Last year I was on the committee instead of Dorjdari. Audit companies used not to be aware of what to do, but they will probably be more competitive this time as they are more experienced. It seems likely that the companies will argue or appeal if members of the evaluation committee are the same as in the past. I would suggest that if these members must stay, we should add some other members or appoint other officers from agencies.

B. Dolgor: Actually, Iveelen and Nominzul are new members of the committee. I think Dorjdari should be chair as he is experienced. We could change Mr Algaa.

B. Batbold: If we think that these people should be on the committee, I propose increasing the committee to 7 members to improve transparency.

B. Dolgor: I think that sounds OK. Who should be the two additional members?

E. Sumiya: It is a requirement that most evaluation committee members be members with official certification for public procurement bids. Previously we have complied with World Bank selection procedures, and now must comply with Ministry of Finance procurement rules. Under Ministry of Finance regulations, 3 of the 5 members must have formal certificates for public procurement bid evaluation. So I propose the new members be certified people.

B. Batbold: If members must have a certificate, it restricts participation. Someone must explain how we get that certificate. If possible, we should ask the Ministry of Finance for the certificate.

B. Tsegts: MongolRosTsvetmet is a company in which the government has a stake, so I suggest we appoint a representative from a purely private company, with additional members from civil society.

A. Batpurev: What about we, the PWYP coalition, discuss internally and nominate our member?

B. Dolgor: We have no time to wait; we must select the committee from MSWG members today.

B. Batbold: The report found significant discrepancies relating to environmental costs. I have no objection to becoming a member of the bid evaluation committee representing the Coalition of Environmental NGOs.

G. Lhagva-Ochir: I propose Boroo Gold LLC Tax Manager B. Ganhuleg to represent private companies on the bid committee.

B. Dolgor: So let's add B. Batbold and B. Ganhuleg and endorse the bid evaluation committee. Being a member of the committee demands a high level of responsibility; members must fully recognize that fact.

**RESOLVED TO:** approve a 7-member bid evaluation committee and assign MSWG Chair and Senior Prime Ministerial Advisor B. Dolgor to oversee the entire process.

This concludes today's meeting; I thank you all.

MSWG meeting finished at 4.30 pm.

Meeting minutes reviewed by:

B. Dolgor Senior Prime Ministerial Advisor, MSWG Chair

Minutes taken by:

B. Delgermaa Finance Office, EITI Secretariat