

The minutes of Meeting of Mongolia EITI Multi-stakeholders Working Group /2020-12-15/

The 52nd meeting of MSG was organized online at 10.30 am, on December 15th, 2020.

Mr.E.Batbold, chief of research investment department of the Ministry of Mining and Heavy industry on behalf of Mr.G. Nandinjargal, state secretary of MMHI, Mr.G.Misheelt, officer of research investment department of the Ministry of Mining and Heavy, Ms.S.Dulamsuren, chief of prevention and enlightening department of Anticorruption authorities, Mr.D.Battulga, chief of control and monitoring service of Erdenes Mongol LLC, Mr.D.Enkhbold, executive director of Mongolian National Mining Association, Ms.B.Erdenetsetseg, secretary of Governing council of Coal Association, Ms.B.Renchinpagma, manager of OT LLC, Mr.T.Munkhbat, senior manager of OT LLC, Mr.Davaasuren, manager of Rio Tinto LLC, Mrs.Otgonbayar, chief accountant of Petromatad LLC, Ms.D.Erdenechimeg, manager of Open Society forum, Mr.D.Tserenjav, executive director of Transparency foundation, Ms.N.Bayarsaikhan, head of NGO Steps without border, Ms.D.Tserenpurev, head of NGO of New initiative of Administration, Mr. L.Tur-Od, president of Transparency international, Ms.L.Bor, head of NGO Ikh Bayansharga, MMr.B.Batbold, member of Mongolian Civil Council of Environment, Mr.N.Erdenesaikhan, member of Mongolian Civil Council of Environment and Mr. Sh.Tsolmon, coordinator of the Secretariat attended this meeting. 18 members out 33 attended and turnout was 54%.

Also, partners of Grant Thornton audit LLC Mr.N. Erdenetsog, B. Delgermaa, O. Idshinrinjin, Mr.Z. Bayarkhuu, coordinator of ADB IGEI TA, Mr.V. Narmandah, and Ms.A. Otgontungalag, financial specialist attended this meeting.

E. Batbold, chief of research investment department of the Ministry of Mining and Heavy industry on behalf of Mr.G. Nandinjargal, state secretary of MMHI had opened the meeting and said:

Good morning. Because of Covid-19 pandemic we are organizing this 52nd meeting online. The present time and circumstances require us to have online meeting and learn subsequently. Therefore, we have to strictly follow anti-infection regime, and will protect each other. The materials of today's topic have been delivered as usual, sometime ago, hope you were able to study them. I am sure the meeting will be constructive and professionally competent. One of the biggest events of 2020 was General elections of State Great Hural. As result of elections, the New Government was formed and in the Plan of Actions for 2020-2024, its 3.2 declared: "Develop transparent, responsible mining, value added industries, through accumulating mineral assets create stable, multi-layered economic structure, implement principle of fair distribution of wealth, will launch upbuilding of petroleum, coal-gas, copper concentrate, metal sector, implement infrastructure projects. Also, its 3.2.6 set forward objective "to develop responsible mining, make license grant publicly open, and cancel licenses granted in break of law." We call all EITYI Stakeholders to cooperate to implement these objectives. From the other side, one of our activities directions is implement new EITI standard. One priority of 2021 is to draft, discuss and get approved law of transparency in mineral resources sector, several amendments in compliance with the Amendment to the Constitution. Therefore, we will draft laws in good quality and organize discussions in timely manner. Also, we will work and focus on improving public understanding of extractive industries, production of report data into more conceivable and dissemination, increasing availability of information and building-up capacity of Subnational councils. I wish success to this meeting, ask Mr. Tsolmon to run it.

There was a technical failure, therefore, the second topic was presented and discussed before 1st topic.

Topic Two: Implementation of Mongolia EITI 2020 Work plan, draft 2021 Work plan

Sh. Tsolmon: Hello, everyone. Good afternoon. Let me present at first overview of implementation of EITI 2020 Work plan under ADB Technical assistance. Many 2020 Work plan

activities could not be implemented because of risks caused by global pandemic Covid-19, and to some extent General elections of State Great Hural and local elections. However, it could communicate with many companies and state organizations at distance, online and through phone, and achieved core activities. Namely, new EITI Reporting templates complying 2019 standard had been accepted, and became observed, reports had been produced electronically. It could organize drafting a law on transparency in mineral resources sector. It organized the work to produce Mongolia EITI 2019 report. Because of COVID-19 pandemic, other activities such as meeting and training were organized through online.

Because of global pandemic, activities, planned for 2020 were postponed, and are included into 2021 work plan, and let me present what planned. So, Mongolia EITI 2021 Work Plan has 18 objectives, 64 activities. Drafting this plan considered implementation of 2020 EITI Work plan, decisions and recommendations of EITI Board, proposals and recommendations of 51st meeting of EITI MSG, proposals and recommendations of Members of MSG during inception seminar for EITI 2019 Report, proposals and recommendations of EITI data user such as IFC and possible risks connected to Covid-19.

The Work plan is consisted of objectives such as 1/Draft a law on transparency mineral resources sector in compliance with global standard and finalize, 2/Ensure requirements of new EITI standard, update reporting system, state organizations and all companies implementing project in mineral resources sector 100% have reported,3/ Ensure Contract disclosure by the January 1st, 2020, 4/To produce EITI flexible Report, discuss and approve, 5/Develop EIT report and data into more understandable form for citizens and public, increase availability of information, 6/Activate Information and communication at national level, 7/Give information and understanding to citizens at local level, advocate activities and convince, promote participation, create partnership forms of cooperation 8/Develop EI communication and advocacy work and printed materials, print and disseminate, 9/ Produce base-line study of needs to build-up capacity of Subnational councils, and strategy,10/ Improve quality of training and seminar for build-up of capacity of subnational councils,11/ Organize regional conference and workshops, improve capacity of subnational councils,12/ Implement recommendations given by Mongolia EITI 2018 and 2019 Reports and other, in total 18 objectives and 64 activities.

We would like to ask all stake-holders to focus on a Mongolia EITI 2020 flexible report, ask actions to produce it in good quality and in timely manner.

As for the funding estimation, 110 mio MNT is expected from ADB, 162 mio MNT will be available from the State budget, and remaining 102 mio MNT can be from the other sources. Would like ask State-holders for comments, proposals and even for funding assistance if possible. And also, recommendations and suggestions for planned activities. Thank you for your attention. (Presentation is attached)

Z. Bayarkhuu: Before in 2020, we have drafted Work plan with motto to capacitate EITI Subnational Councils. But those activities had been hampered because of ongoing lockdowns caused by Covid-19 pandemic, organization of General Elections of Parliament and local elections. We have drafted 2021 Work plan with motto to improve legal framework of EITI and get law approved, and advance knowledge and understanding of public. We could not implement activities to capacitate Subnational councils in 2020, therefore, we included a whole paragraph. Work plan of previous years were focused on basic activities such how to receive reports, make to report and reconciling reports. In 2021 we will focus on how to convey all data to public. Certainly, we have to improve basic activities. Several activities had been planned to convey data to the public. We will study what format information should have to meet public needs, to whom it will be conveyed, which state organizations and how they use, and we will work on focusing on these issues. It covers not only 2021, this focus to convey disclosed data to public will continue further-on. EITI Board also has set objective to convey these data to public. Therefore, I think EITI implementing member countries should follow this requirement. The 2021 Work Plan is focused on this direction and activities to launch.

N. Dorjdari: Our organization has made an official proposal to EITI secretariat. Let me introduce this proposal, as it connected to the Work Plan. Our organization jointly with German International Cooperation is conducting a research amongst EITI implementing countries through coordination with EITI Reports corruption risks. This year we have produced study- work to determine corruption risks in mineral resources sector. EITI International Secretariat has suggestions to have this study-work in implementing countries this year through coordination with EITI Report. Before that, there is need to pilot this project in some countries including Mongolia, which is our proposal. Mongolia is one of the well implementing EITI countries and implementing in quite innovative approach. If EITI MSG allows, we propose to have cooperation in this research in 2021 drafted by our organization. Cost of researchers will be covered by our organization. Corruption diagnostics tools will cover all value chain of mineral resources sector. As for Mongolia has open option, either all tools can be used for the research, or some part of them can be used. We have delivered an official letter in this regard, and if it is okay, it can be included into 2021 Work plan. Any question, or clarification, welcome, thanks.

D.Erdenechimeg: Whether we will discuss the topic raised by Dorjdari now, or at the designated time? If now, to decide, then will get from Members of MSG their opinions. Report for 2020 is not only report of the Secretariat, it would be better to have included activities conducted members' organizations. With purpose to disseminate disclosed data to public our organization along with International Financial Corporation and with support of MMHI organized a Hackathon "Create mining with data". This is to increase use of database, upgrade database, and even more to ensure involvement of professional youth in bringing data to public. A final result is expected this week or on 18th of December, best 8 products will be broadcasted live. I invite all of you Members of MSG to watch this event. And the core of database of Hackathon is data of EITI Reports, and invitation and respective links will be delivered very soon. Another feature is Reports' data is placed in integrated database of Government. Further, those who will work with data will collect this source data met requirements of EITI Reports. Also, further, new data will placed in here, I think then it will useful and available source of data.

As for work plan, and international commitment on disclosing Beneficial owners expires in December 2020. So, we have to overview how this commitment is accomplished. Nowadays, information on beneficial owners is registered at state registration and tax authorities. Together with Anticorruption authorities have conducted research work and there was information only 30% of beneficial owners have been registered. So, we should check how much this figure of owners has been increased this year. Also, I would like to ask our MSG to have active work to make disclosed data collected at the state registration authorities. What we are disclosing through EITI Reports is not enough. Because, EITI requires a disclosure of beneficial owners. Drafting of law on transparency in mineral resources is ongoing, let's have discussions on this aspect before approval of this law, thank you.

N. Bayarsaikhan: Thanks for including suggestions in implementation of Work plan, draft of 2021 Work plan. Our NGO "Steps without border" had produced with the Secretariat a handbook "How to conclude a Contract" and printed. Also, with Open Society forum and Natural Resource Governance institute had produced electronic handbook, so I propose to include these works into this report. The Secretariat should think over to change methodology of working. It is often ended that all activities should be conducted by the Secretariat, as it lacks manpower, it should be more facilitator to increase involvement of stake-holders, mobilize them in implementation of the Work plan. To establish sub-working groups, stimulate those active members, I think to work on different methodology. I wish this remark to include into minutes of this meeting. Because, manpower lacks, all activities are over-concentrated at the Secretariat, quality of performance becomes very poor, so this should be more focused.

Sh. Tsolmon: Thank you all, suggested proposals will be included. Information technology consultant Munkhbat, officially quitted, and Narmandah is recruited, and he is hosting today's meeting.

B. Batbold: I understood 2021 Work Plan has objective to disclose information to the public. Question will be: where funding expenses are defined? In other words, what activities will be taken to convey information to ordinary people, and by what fund, please clarify.

Z. Bayarkhuu: Objective 8 of the Work plan has activities to reproduce EITI Report and information into understandable form for the public and increase availability of information. Namely, first of activity 8.1 will segmentize EITI data and report per users' needs including their requirements, and funding will be 25 mio MNT from other funding sources. Also, activity 8.2 will be done with cooperation with IFC. But activities 8.3 and 8.4 will be financed by funds from the State budget. As result of integration of EITI related site of reporting and data, and channels, it will be easier to collect data from single source. So, please your feedback for this objective. Also, within the objective to increase public information and understanding, activities to activate national level communications are in the 9.1-9.4. Namely, it was planned to enhance partnership with Professional Associations, to organize meetings with NGOs, Think Tanks and media organizations and exchange of views, to introduce EITI Implementations Impacts, results and further objectives to the Economic and Budget Standing Committee of the Parliament and Government Meeting and frequently supply information to local administrative bodies, their high ranked officials and respective specialists managers, exchange information, organize online training. On top, objective 10 will be to give information and understanding to citizens at local level, advocate activities and convince, promote participation, create partnership forms of cooperation, objective 11 will be within development of EI communication and advocacy work and printed materials, printing and dissemination, activity as develop Work plan in accordance with EI communication and promotion strategy, get approved and receive consultancy service for PR execution of Communication activities.

Sh. Tsolmon: Many thanks, very detailed information.

N. Bayarsaikhan: Activity proposed by NRCI is directly connected to objective 1 and 6 of the 2021 Work plan, so let's discuss and include into the Work plan.

Sh. Tsolmon: Thanks, draft decisions related to topic No.2 is disseminated. If no other proposals, let's include to the respective objective as Bayarsaikhan suggested and submit to the National Council for endorsement. Any other proposal?

D. Tserenjv: Due to present situation, I have nothing say on implementation of 2020 Work Plan. But seems, one focus is still missing in many activities planned for 2021. This is like a list of activities, which have not been implemented for many years of discussion. This means stakeholders should on one subject. We have said that challenge is to convey information to public. Information of bigger companies, which report frequently and reaches public, but there are small companies, which do not report, their information is missing, and therefore, public is much frustrated with them. The information of these companies tends to missing, their share is not much, so is excluded from reconciliation, but they have high on soum and local level. There are no information about these companies, that is why, there is such issues that public is not interested and do not used. I think if information of all companies holding license is disclosed data will be more, usage will be much high. If information is available, it is not needed to have such many activities to convey, for instance Erdenechimeg introduced Hackathon, which will process and convey to public by these NGOs and youngsters. It is difficult that all companies' information is disclosed, but if can, that will be fine. It can that small companies do have a few information the same as bigger companies. The fact that they do not give information, sale license and escape mean itself information. Therefore, I propose 2021 Work Plan to focus more on disclosure of information.

I prefer to discuss within present Work Plan, when we will discuss communication strategy maybe we will preserve a specific time to discuss why the strategy is not achieved, why information is stepping back from year to year. In general, Work Plan is okay, but needs to have some focus,

sequence can be adjusted, right things can be focused, I see then next topic can be resolved and good ordered. Therefore, I have to say once again, to separate discussion of reporting mechanism. Thanks.

Sh. Tsolmon: If no more suggestion, let's have draft decisions approved and move to the next topic. As Dorjdari's proposal is very significant therefore it would right that it will a separate objective No. 19.

Approved:

1. It is agreed to endorse Mongolia EITI 2020 Work Plan implementation report, draft EITI 2021 Work Plan including comments and suggestions of Members and submit to National Council.

Topic One: Draft of Mongolia EITI 2019 Report

N. Erdenetsog: Our company Grant Thornton audit concluded the Contract in October, launched the work on November 2, 2020. We have worked just 5 days and submitted findings of Inception report to MSG and get approved. The launch of work coincided with Covid-19 pandemic lockdown.

We will now present introduction, scope, results of reconciliation, contextual information and recommendations of the Report. Reconciliation of 2019 Report was conducted at the distance, in the short period of time, a team is consisted of 12 persons. We started the work disaggregation of discrepancies, wrote to state organizations and companies. The letters were delivered to 15 state organizations, only 6 of them have replied, 9 organizations like MRPAM, MET, MMHI have not delivered response by yesterday. Also 3 of them have replied but was not included into this Report. We wrote to 20 aimags and 8 districts, and received answer from 2 districts, and other is expected. Out of 171 companies in the reconciliation, 133 companies or 77.8% have delivered reply, 12 companies or 7% promised to deliver as soon as possible, 21 companies or 12.3% promised to answer when the lockdown is over by December 14. We could not establish contacts with Magicbridge LLC, Mongolchehmetal LLC and Eco Khelhee LLC. Also, we did not find information to these companies so far. The reporting period is from 1st January to 31st December 2019, as for the contextual information a reporting period is from 1st January to 30th June 2020. Reconciliation covers 171 companies engaged in extractive sector, 10 out of them are state owned, 6 are processing plant operating companies, 6 are Petroleum contractors, 2 of them license holders for radioactive minerals. There are 14 ministries and agencies, 1 NGO, 20 aimags and 8 districts. As for the scope of companies it is covering reconciliation of material payments from companies engaged in extractive industries to the Government, and many other issues related to mining, petroleum and natural gas.

Net discrepancies as result of the initial reconciliation was 122.5 billion MNT. If disaggregate this amount the total gross discrepancies are 667.4 billion MNT. We have adjusted 295.1 billion MNT to Government side, and 288.6 billion MNT to the Company side. During reconciliation 37 companies did not submit information, that is why we could not resolve discrepancies 42.3 billion MNT, also some Government organizations have not submitted information, therefore, discrepancies of 77,667 mio MNT remains unresolved. It means remaining discrepancies represent 2.17% of the total Government revenue. Therefore, unresolved discrepancies remain as 35.3 billion MNT.

By new reporting template, 2093 companies holding license expected to report but actually 633 did it. 2 Ministries, 4 agencies, 19 aimags and 8 districts have reported on received payments and revenue electronically. Reporting under new template was not satisfied, namely, such information about water use payment, waste and garbage, infrastructure investment and barter exchange have not been reported. As there is no time, to receive mentioned information, we as Independent Administrator have prepared the Report based on what we have received. We are presenting the following recommendations under 2019 Report, namely:

MSG is recommended to have study-work over bigger processing plants and subcontractors, preselect companies, which do contribute greater to the state budget, officially inform them and make them to report transparency report, involve them in EITI, to erase discrepancies in information between cadaster system of MRPAM and EITI E-reporting system and operate E-reporting on single source of information, to update as soon as possible data of licenses of minerals of common use granted in rural areas at Cadaster system and disclose, stake-holders are requested to validate information collected electronically, disclose completely, or Independent administrator may be requested to assess data of selected companies, improve quality, so all these matters must be discussed.

All SoEs engaged in extractive sector should publish their complete, audited financial statements, place at their own website, also at website of National Audit office, EITI and MRPAM, at website of Glass account, create framework of transparency about received dividend from SoEs at Agency of State property policy coordination. Therefore, MSG is requested to take actions when a role of Independent Administrator diminishes, to focus on quality of data and reliability, and that should be observed during all process, strictly observe law and legislation of announcement of tender and selection of executing entity, within legal timelines, to have control and comply with procedure. That would be our recommendations. Thank you. /presentation and draft report are attached/

Sh. Tsolmon: Thank you, is any question or suggestion.

D. Battulga: Is it possible to have presentation's file?

Sh. Tsolmon: Yes, it will be done. Also, appendixes of the Report have been just received, which will be too.

N. Bayarsaikhan: No question, but have suggestion. We see they work as they can despite this short period of time, tender confusion and Covid-19 pandemic. Not as can, but try to do best and have good work. Quality of this report will have impact on reports of coming years report and therefore, hope you will have responsible work. Now, time is too short, no opportunity to improve, therefore no suggestions, and me too. I support draft decisions.

Sh. Tsolmon: Thank you. Шийдвэрийн төслийг урьдчилан хүргүүлсэн байгаа, энэ талаар санал байвал хэлнэ үү.

B. Batbold: Some organizations' information arrived later; will you include these additionally?

N. Erdenetsog: We will include into report before submitting to the National Council, of course that would final version.

B. Batbold: It would be good to specify names of organizations, which have not reported include into recommendations, clearly specify what sanctions can be taken. Today also, there is just a few representatives. If not attends meeting, then no information reaches. National Audit office, Customs should take in this meeting. It would be better to mention in recommendations that there are missing organizations. EITI is now under MMHI, and recommendation becomes less effective, therefore, it is not guaranteed to have successful implementation, make recommendations for critique.

Sh. Tsolmon: It is impossible to organize meeting of National Council, that is way, today's draft decision has suggestion to organize correspondence meeting, ask members for feedback. So, please give your comments in this regard. Next week, by Monday afternoon, materials of National Council meeting will be delivered.

D. Tserenjav: Seems there are a few members from Company and Government, prefers not give any comments? So, count or just consolidate motions?

Sh. Tsolmon: There is nobody opposing, let's finalize the first topic. Thank you.

Approved:

1. It is agreed to support in principle Mongolia EITI Report including comments and suggestions of Members and submit to National Council.
2. To allow to transfer 50% or 59.977.500 MNT of payment under provision 6.4 of special condition of the Contract No.79 concluded on November 11th 2020 with Grant Thornton audit LLC.

Topic Three: Presentation on EITI Training module, Stakeholders mapping and strategy draft

L.Baigal: I have made EITI Stake-holders mapping. I have got study from all stake-holders, integrated interests in EITI and based on these findings I made several recommendations, namely: We have produced EITI Report every year, and number of participants is increasing, but work to disseminate to the public still is not well done, to become acquainted In rural area and local citizens, it needs to establish Subnational councils, have frequent meeting and consultation, even online, at least once a month, activate these actions. Of course, funding for Subnational councils should be guaranteed. In this regard there is a Government Resolution No. 263 of 2017, but it still not implemented. Therefore, to ensure implementation of this Resolution, there should be cooperation with local authorities. Also, it possible to conclude memorandum with companies operating at local level, resolve at least partly funding issues. Based on this I have drafted communication strategy, so I will introduce.

New channels to convey disclosed information to the public. Of course, we have organized training and meeting at local level, but availability of information is not improved, knowledge on EITI is weak. Therefore, it should be focused on the public. This strategy is made to improve previous strategy. This strategy is prepared to be integrated, have information investment, cooperate and create networking. In order to improve a profile of Mongolia EITI it is better to use various communication channels, increase public information and understanding on impact of extractive sector on Mongolia and contribution, use present data to disseminate information in efficient way, support polemics, and improve responsibility, organize and document working of each MSG members in their own constituency in order to advocate EITI, have MSG consultation on communication between MSG and public representatives, create communication plan, additionally drafted exchange of information between extractive company, Civil society and Government, other stake-holders, how to participate in that process.

Within strategy, 4 focus groups have been identified and on which activities should be focused, namely: members of State Great Hural, local citizens, journalists and scientists and researchers. Made study-work how to convey information. Also studied in what channel stake-holders and Government officials get information. Based on this, what channels could be used for conveying EITI information. After that, I am drafting what communication mechanism can be established, namely: how to work online, what platform can be used in websites, how make more stable. On top to this, how funding can be resolved, some examples are given here. For this frequent and stable conveying information there should be communication specialist should be recruited at the Secretariat. If it is considered not sufficient, there may be consultancy organization specialized in PR hired, then it may be more efficient. So, I briefed you, as I have already introduced to you, will answer if any question. (Materials are attached)

B. Batbold: From which stake-holder or Civil Society organization you have got answered questionnaire? Have you questioned Mongolian Civil Council of Environment?

L. Baigal: Introduction has mentioned from which organizations answered questionnaire have been collected. As for Mongolian Civil Council of Environment, it was done through a phone, therefore I can not say who actually answered questions. Questions were asked less from persons, whom we have cooperation, more from other organizations and individuals.

N. Bayarsaikhan: I understand that Baigal is rendering consultancy service to draft strategic documentations. That's why, we need good quality document. Have you made any conclusion over previous strategy and its documentations? We have to conclude previous one, then will be able to foresee. What was positive and weak part of the previous strategy? When this work has started? What lessons have been taken from communication strategy of other countries? Have you made judgement? Is there any team to support you? Documents are by content and text are very much not complete, looked as drafts, and the same is now. Therefore, today it is not possible to approve this document. This document should be well processed, then we will be able to use it for further activities. We have to receive a good quality document, if payment is done, contract is completed, we may stay with raw materials, beware. That is my suggestion.

L. Baigal: I have entered into this work in April. Since then, I have been working on drafting coordinated documents, like training module and strategy. Next work or document is communication platform or communication mechanism. In the past, in 2014, communication strategy was approved, and this is a continuation of this Strategy, or in other words made several updates. This is quite clearly explained in section on context summary. Here explained, what happened to this strategy, what was error. Based on this judgement, strategical objectives have been included and indicated by focus group. During processing I have studied document, research work made by EITI implementing countries. If necessary, let me deliver list of countries. Feedback from the Secretariat was included here. So far, have not received any feedback from members of MSG. Feedback of coordinator Bayarkhuu is included.

N. Bayarsaikhan: As for involvement, it means very insufficient. Received suggestions from 1-2 persons. Did you draft yourself?

L. Baigal: Yes, I work lonely as per contract, with the Secretariat.

Z. Bayarkhuu: She has to create a table very detailed including all proposals given by Members. It should indicate who what proposal has made and how it was treated, whether included, namely: for example, proposal to hire communication specialist how treated in other countries, what was funding, so this aspect should be given. In researching document, it is mentioned experience of other countries was studied. But researching documents should have indications that which country and what experience were taken and included. I have suggested this proposal 2-3 times, but it is still not included. If we take Norway, then what was experience, funding was in what form, so on there could be a table with each country with such information, what is reference source. She answered, studied in general, when look at document, there is no such clear indication. Also, it should be very clear and detailed list of non-government organization from which questionnaire was collected. How many persons answered to this questionnaire and what was percentage of those who answered no, these are very unclear. If only 20 persons have been asked, this study-work will be very much false. So, there should be indication that how many NGOs have been questioned. All these suggestions have been repeated several times, but it is not done yet. So, please explain for what we collect proposals, and if proposals are not treated properly, why do not accept them.

D. Tserenjav: I am okay with suggestions with Bayarsaikhan, Bayarkhuu. We have look at ToRs. There is quite strong critique. If the work is in consistent with ToRs, the work must be completed. The Contract expires this December. This document may have some details and modified, but quality will remain the same. Generally, strategy is module, and previous one did not assist, but also did not spoil. So, then communication officer Delgermaa was handling it and made it alive. So, the issue is not that our EITI has Communication strategy, but I think it was

better to give terms of references for drafting strategy for communicating the public. What solution can be is that to identify itself, define purpose and work focusing on this issue. Once it is of insignificant, and not speculate, instead to extend term by 1-2 months, ask to produce strategy to implement in 2021. I support proposals of other, but should not speculate this issue, as there will be no needed stuff for us.

Z. Bayarkhuu: I agree with Tserenjav, there is speculation, please understand correctly. Any study should have justification and calculation, the work is written general and explaining is also general. In other words, what written should be proved.

L.Baigal: My terms of references is to update Communication strategy. The previous document endorsed in 2014 was quite good one. I have made several improvements and additions. I will include list of used materials, as during process of drafting I examined materials from countries, sorted out that could be needed for us, some is methodology applied in recent time, and respectively have put on paper. Now I will answer to proposals in written form.

T.MMunkhbat: I agree with Tserenjav. Generally, it is better to accept major ideas and messages and include them into and finish the documents. Now trend is live streaming, so we should focus on such methodology, then we will outreach more people. EITI website should updated quite well, this document should be improved slightly.

N. Bayarsaikhan: I do not know that is the terms of references, but document should be improved, and meeting of three parties should be organized. As Consultant, works lonely, but include public into working approach. What was said today should be reflected into paper, re-present to the meeting. As Tur-Od informed there is ongoing Communication Strategy for region of Europe and Asia, so there are issues, to be coordinated with them. Let's leave this topic without approval, and if possible, let's have proposals of PWYP, MCCE and MNMA. The documents are very under developed.

L.Baigal: What is presented today is documents to update previous Strategy. What is ongoing now is drafting platforms, generally it can be regarded as complex, but it should be separate document. What was proposed by Bayarsaikhan is a message to be included into next document.

Sh. Tsolmon: I have proposal to ask to improve communication documentation and represent to MSG. But when are you able to re-present? Is it a week after?

L.Baigal: Yes, possible.

B. Batbold: There is another document under preparation, it would be good to present together and then will be good coordination. If not, then at next meeting during discussion, there will be more proposals, therefore, better altogether. As Tserenjav proposed to have discussion around.

Sh. Tsolmon: Generally, it is clear what proposal, how to improve, please improve and decided to discuss a week after. That would be put into a decision draft. Then that next document can be ready?

L.Baigal: I doubt, no.

N. Bayarsaikhan: The work commenced in April, ages ago, I do not understand how this work was ongoing, and now improve things within a 10 day, barely can it? Because of such short period of time, we should not accept under developed one, so not to pay and extend this deadline.

L. Baigal: It is okay with 28th.

D.Tserenjv: So, understood on 28th will discuss all package of Communication Strategy. What we have proposed to help you. Therefore, before that you can communicate with us as Bayarsaikhan and Batbold have said and take some interviews and proposals.

Sh. Tsolmon: Ok, the time will be additionally announced. The decision will be that there will another meeting to discuss this matter.

L.Tur-Od: Our PWYP coalition is drafting Communication Strategy for regions of Europe and Asia. Yesterday, late evening, we have received questionnaire in this regard. We will ask from members of PWYP. Why I said this that to check this when Communication Strategy is in drafting and look at content.

L. Baigal: If all you have any more proposals please deliver by E-mail, I will include them into and reply.

Sh. Tsolmon: The next meeting of National Council will not be organized and it will be a correspondence one, will ask comments by E-mail. So, are you okay with this decision? Please give your proposal. Pre-correspondence meeting, the materials will be delivered by E-mail. Materials of today's are already delivered. The minutes of today's meeting will be forwarded as usual and please give your feedback. Many thanks for your active participation.

Approved:

1. To redraft EITI training module, Stake-holders mapping and Communication strategy based on embedding proposals and recommendations of MSG, and re-present it back to meeting on December 28th.
2. As because of COVID-19 pandemic and circumstances around, it is assigned to EITI Secretariat (Sh. Tsolmon) to organize receiving proposals of Members of National Council by e-mails, and have decisions respectively.

The Meeting is ended at 13.40 PM.

The minutes are approved by:

State Secretary of Ministry of Mining and Heavy Industry,
Secretary of EITI National Council,
Head of MSG G. Nandinjargal

The meeting chaired and the minutes are reviewed by:

Chief of Research and Investment department of MMHI E. Batbold

Coordinator of EITI Secretariat Sh. Tsolmon

The minutes are taken by:

Finance officer of EITI Secretariat A.Orgontungalag