SLEITI
Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative Sierra Leone
18 Soldier Street, 2nd Floor, Freetown, Sierra Leone
Website: www.sleiti.gov.sl

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

Minutes of SLEITI MSG Quarter Three Meeting held on 25th September 2025

Venue: Conference Room – Office of the Vice President, Tower Hill, Freetown

Attendance:

Government:	Civil Society:	Chamber:	Secretariat
Hon. Manty Tarawalli – OVP - Chair	Solomon M. Sogbandi – HRDN-SL		Mohamed B. Koroma – Secretary
Rhode Spencer-Cole – NIB	Esther Kandeh -WoME-		Annie Lansana
Ibrahim Jalloh – Parliament	Gertrude Karimu – WoNES		Joseph Moigua
Mabinty Sesay – MMMR	Cecilia C. Mattia – NACE		Nadine Manley
Christiana Moiwo – PD-SL;	Joseph R. Kailie - NACE		Marian Turay
Samuel Gandi – ONS	Samuel J. Turay- WoNES		Mahawa Bai Kamara
Aminata Bangura – NMA/PMT	Emmanuel Gbondo Esq. – NaRGEJ		Deborah Massaquoi
Mohamed Sallieu Bah - NMA/PMT			
Sheku B Samai - OVP;			
Peter Mangoh - ASSL;			
Jeneba P. Kaikai – NRA			
Arnold Nottidje – NRA			
Sarah Kosseh – MoLGCA			
Florence Sabo – NIB			

Apology: Tom Sandi – NACE; Ramatu Massaquoi – EPA; Joseph Rahall – Green Scenery; Kahdija Kamara – CTC Mining (Chamber of Mines)

Agenda

1. Prayer & Opening
2. Reading of minutes of 22/05/2025
3. Matters arising from minutes of 22/05/2025
4. Update on recruitment of SLEITI Programme Manager
5. Update on the development of BO Regulation
6. Update on the Draft SLEITI Policy
7. Other Business
8. Adjournment

1. Prayer & Opening

The meeting was official called to order and members were asked to observe moment of individual silent prayers. The National Coordinator of SLEITI Mr. Mohamed Baimba Koroma welcomed members, and expressed gratitude for their ongoing commitments to the EITI process. He emphasized that the MSG meeting is a requirement of the EITI to be held at least once every quarter to map out implementation strategies. The Honorable Minister of State, Office of the Vice President Manty Tarawalli, who doubles as Chair of the MSG, thanked members for attending the meeting, and assured them of a productive and interactive meeting.

2. Reading of Minutes of 22/05/2025 MSG Meeting

The minutes from the second quarter MSG meeting, held on May 22nd, 2025, was projected for members to review and provide necessary input. The draft minutes was shared with members ahead of the meeting for comments, and the updated version was emailed to members as part of the working documents for the third quarter meeting. The MSG Chair, Hon. Minister Manty Tarawalli, guided members through the document, allowing for comments and amendments. After reviewing the minutes, and with no corrections required, Madam Esther Kandeh from Women on Mining and Extractives (WoME) moved the motion to adopt the minutes, seconded by Madam Gertrude Karimu from Women's Network on Environmental Sustainability (WoNES), resulting in the approval and adoption of the minutes.

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes of 22/05/2025

Following the adoption of the minutes, Joseph Moigua, SLEITI Programme Officer, presented the matters arising in the form of action points noted during the previous MSG meeting. He provided updates on the status of each action point. The following points summarize the matters arising and their corresponding updates from the minutes of the second quarter MSG meeting, held on May 22nd, 2025:

1. **Action Point:**

   To form a committee and develop a ToR for the replacement of a SLEITI Programme Manager

Update:

The ToR was developed. A committee was also established with members including: Aminata Kamara, Ramatu Massaquoi, Esther Kandeh, Amadu Mansaray, and Sheku Samai.

2. Action Point:

To do skill mapping internally for a SLEITI Programme Manager

Update:

Awaiting formal submission by SLEITI staff.

3. Action Point:

A three-week ultimatum for SLEITI to draft a MoU for institutional coordination between SLEITI and the Open Government Partnership (OGP) - 12th June 2025

Update:

SLEITI developed a draft and shared it with OGP for their input. SLEITI awaits OGP's input and comments.

4. Action Point:

A three-week deadline for the consultant to submit the final draft of the SLEITI Policy – 12th June 2025.

Update:

Awaits the final draft from the consultant. SLEITI has made several follow-ups.

After reading the action points, the Chair opened the floor for comments and recommendations on the matters arising. Since there were no comments from members, she proceeded to the next agenda item.

4. Update on Replacement of SLEITI Programme Manager

The SLEITI National Coordinator informed members that the secretariat was assigned the task of forming a committee to develop a Terms of Reference (ToR) for the replacement of a Programme Manager at SLEITI. The committee has been established, and provided inputs on the ToR which has been developed.

The next step was to receive an internal expression of interest from SLEITI staff, with a deadline set for Friday, September 26, 2025. If there are no internal applicants, the next stage will be triggered which is to consider external candidates from the civil service, public service, and if necessary, external candidates.

Esther Kandeh inquired about the timeline for the recruitment process. In response, the MSG Chair indicated that the recruitment should be completed by the end of 2025.

Before moving on to the next agenda item, the Chair requested individual introductions, as there were many new faces present. Accordingly, an individual introduction session was conducted.

The SLEITI National Coordinator formally welcomed the National Investment Board (NIB) to the MSG. The Chair echoed the National Coordinator's sentiments by welcoming both new and returning members and expressing gratitude for their commitments. She also reiterated that the MSG meeting was opened to views and comments.

5. Update on the Development of Beneficial Ownership (BO) Regulation

In the latest update on the Beneficial Ownership Regulation, the National Coordinator informed members that the Beneficial Ownership Technical Working Group (BOTWG) has been revised to include representatives from additional Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs). The Financial Intelligence Authority (FIA) leads the BOTWG, with the National Investment Board (NIB) serving as the deputy.

A subcommittee has been established to draft the Beneficial Ownership Regulation. Members of this subcommittee include representatives from the FIA, the law officer's department, and more. The Regulation incorporates aspects of Anti-Money Laundering compliance. The first draft of the Regulation is currently under review, and once finalized, it will be shared with the BOTWG for further action.

The Chair expressed satisfaction with the progress of the committee, and plans to meet with the Ministry of Finance to discuss their objectives. She remains optimistic that everything will proceed smoothly.

6. Update on the Draft SLEITI Policy

The draft policy was reviewed by the MSG technical committee along with the SLEITI secretariat. Feedback was collected and sent to the consultant for finalization. The MSG Chair informed members that she had just spoken to the consultant before the meeting who has promised to share the clean version of the policy with the SLEITI Secretariat by Monday, September 29, 2025. Upon receipt by the Secretariat, they will share with members.

7. Other Business

During the Any Other Business (AOB) session, the National Coordinator of SLEITI proposed to members that considering Anti-Corruption issues are now part of the Requirements in the 2023 EITI Standard, the Secretariat wants to have a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) to establish a formal and clear means of information sharing and flagging corruption issues. Members overwhelmingly welcomed and endorsed the idea. The Secretariat will develop the MoU, and take the necessary steps in getting it signed by both the ACC and SLEITI.

Madam Mabinty Sesay suggested that once the SLEITI Policy is finalized, it should be sent to the technical committee for a thorough review. In response, the Chair confirmed that the policy would be distributed to all members for their input, and would be discussed before reaching a consensus.

Mr. M. S. Bah of NMA inquired about the necessity of including the Bank of Sierra Leone on the MSG as was previously discussed. The National Coordinator explained that the bank's involvement is still essential, as it collaborates with the Beneficial Ownership (BO) process, and is already represented in the Beneficial Ownership Technical Working Group (BOTWG). He said institutions not listed in the SLEITI MSG MoU will be co-opted in the MSG as, and when necessary.

Madam Cecilia Mattia of NACE pointed out that she is still awaiting confirmation of the MSG's previous request of a meeting with the Honourable Vice President. The MSG Chair assured that the meeting will be arranged before the end of the year.

The National Coordinator reminded members that SLEITI's key monthly activities are shared with them and encouraged them to take the time to review these updates to stay informed about developments in the secretariat. He encouraged members to also make time to visit the new SLEITI secretariat situated at 18 Soldier Street.

8. Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, Cecilia Mattia from NACE moved the motion to adjourn the meeting, and it was seconded by Ibrahim Jalloh from Parliament. The meeting was officially adjourned, with plans to reconvene in the next quarter to continue discussions, and monitor the progress of SLEITI's implementation.

..... Chairperson

..... Secretary