

# EITI Candidature Application Form

Version 2 - 23 September 2013

# **Foreword**

The EITI welcomes applications from countries preparing to implement the EITI.

The EITI is a global standard that promotes transparency and accountability in the oil, gas and mining sectors. EITI Reports provide detailed information on company payments and government revenues, and key contextual information about the governance of these sectors. The process is overseen by a multi-stakeholder group composed of government, industry and civil society representatives.

Countries wishing to implement the EITI are invited to apply for EITI Candidature using the attached application form. The application addresses the four sign-up requirements, which are elaborated in more detail in the EITI Standard<sup>1</sup>. The MSG is encouraged to attach supporting documentation that provides a more detailed account of preparations to implement the EITI.

The completed form should be endorsed multi-stakeholder group and submitted to the EITI Board. Candidature applications are assessed via the EITI Board's Outreach and Candidature Committee, with support from the EITI International Secretariat.

The Secretariat provides advice and support to prospective Candidate counties. Stakeholders are invited to contact the Secretariat for advice and guidance on the EITI requirements, and for support in completing the application form.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> http://eiti.org/document/standard

# EITI CANDIDATURE APPLICATION FORM

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# Introduction

A government intending to implement the EITI is required to undertake a number of steps before applying to become an EITI Candidate country (See EITI Requirements 1.1 - 1.4)<sup>2</sup>):

When the country has completed the "sign-up" steps and wishes to be recognised as an EITI Candidate country, the government should submit an EITI Candidature Application, endorsed by the multi-stakeholder group, to the EITI Board. The application should describe the activities undertaken to date and provide evidence demonstrating that Requirements 1.1 – 1.4 have been met. The application should include contact details for government, civil society and private sector stakeholders involved in the preparations for implementing the EITI. Application materials will be published on the EITI website and be available for public comment.

The EITI Standard provides some scope for countries to deviate from the EITI Standard, as set out in requirement 1.5:

1.5 Adapted implementation

Should the multi-stakeholder group conclude that it faces exceptional circumstances that necessitate deviation from the implementation requirements, it must seek prior EITI Board approval for adapted implementation. The request must be endorsed by the multi-stakeholder group and reflected in the workplan. The request should explain the rationale for the adapted implementation.

The EITI Board will only consider allowing adaptations in exceptional circumstances. In considering such requests, the EITI Board will place a priority on the need for comparable treatment between countries and ensuring that the EITI Principles are upheld, including ensuring that the EITI process is sufficiently inclusive, and that the EITI Report is comprehensive, reliable and will contribute to public debate.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The requirements are provided in *The EITI Standard*: <a href="http://eiti.org/document/standard">http://eiti.org/document/standard</a>

Where MSGs wish to apply for "Adapted implementation", this should be clearly indicated in the application, with appropriate supporting documentation attached. Applicants are encouraged to liaise with the EITI International Secretariat in preparing this information.

The EITI Board, working through the Outreach and Candidature Committee, will review the application and assess whether the sign-up requirements have been met. The International Secretariat will contact stakeholders at the national level to ascertain their views on the sign-up process, and seek comments from supporting governments, international civil society groups, supporting companies and supporting organisations and investors. The International Secretariat will work closely with the senior individual appointed by the government to lead on EITI implementation in order to clarify any outstanding issues. Based on this and any other available information, the EITI Board's Outreach and Candidature Committee will make a recommendation to the EITI Board on whether a country's application should be accepted. The EITI Board takes the final decision.

The EITI Board aims to process applications within 8 weeks of receiving the application. The EITI Board prefers to make decisions on admitting an EITI Candidate country at EITI Board meetings, although may consider taking a decision via Board circular between meetings where appropriate.

When the EITI Board admits an EITI Candidate, it also establishes deadlines for publishing the first EITI Report and undertaking Validation. An implementing country's first EITI Report must be published within 18 months from the date that the country was admitted as an EITI Candidate. EITI Candidate countries will be required to commence Validation (http://eiti.org/validation) within two and a half years of becoming an EITI Candidate. Further information on deadline policies is available in Requirement 1.6 of the EITI Standard (http://eiti.org/document/standard).

## Box 1 – Main steps in the Candidature application process

- **1. Country submits application for EITI Candidature.** The government should submit a formal application, endorsed by the MSG, in writing to the EITI Chair via the International Secretariat.
- 2. The EITI Board, working through the Outreach and Candidature Committee, will review the application and assess whether the sign-up requirements have been met. The International Secretariat will ensure that the application is complete and will contact stakeholders at the national and international level to ascertain their views and seek comments. The International Secretariat will publish the application on the EITI international website.
- **3.** The Outreach and Candidature Committee will make a recommendation to the EITI Board. The recommendation will stipulate whether a country's application should be accepted or not.
- **4.** The EITI Board will take a decision on admitting the applicant as a Candidate country in accordance with the EITI Standard.

# **Country information**

### Please complete fields in blue

**Applicant** 

**Seychelles** 

Government Contact Point

Hon. Pierre Laporte

Minister of Finance, Trade and Investment

Ministry of Finance Trade and Investment

Liberty House, P.O. Box 313, Victoria, Republic of Seychelles

Telephone +248 4382 120, Fax +248 4325 161

**Date of Application** 

June 12, 2014

# **EITI Sign-up requirements**

## **EITI Requirement 1.1**

The government is required to issue an unequivocal public statement of its intention to implement the EITI.

The statement must be made by the head of state or government, or an appropriately delegated government representative.

Hon. Pierre Laporte, Minister of Finance, Trade & Investment, issued a Press Release (attached) announcing the Government of Seychelles' decision to adopt the EITI Principles, on June 19, 2013, after prior endorsement of EITI by President James Michel. This decision was confirmed later on his 2014 Budget Speech on December 10, 2013.

Prior to issuing the Press Release, in July 2013, the Ministry of Finance informed the EITI International Secretariat that Seychelles plans to join EITI (email attached).

#### PRESS RELEASE TEXT:

#### Seychelles to adopt Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) principles

"In its endeavour to strengthen transparency in financial reporting in the extractive sector the Republic of Seychelles will adopt the principles of the Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative (EITI). The country has made significant progress in public sector governance, evidenced by its high ranking in the Ibrahim Governance indicators of African countries and the Government remains fully committed to continue improving governance, accountability and transparency in management of public resources.

The Government of Seychelles recognizes that in the event of a discovery of natural resources, including oil, those resources would belong to the Seychellois people and the wealth derived from such resources should be prudently managed for the benefit of the people and make this sector an important engine for sustainable economic growth that would contribute to sustainable development.

To embark in the process of becoming EITI compliant, the Government will shortly establish a multi-stakeholder group to oversee the process of adherence to the EITI and implementation of its requirements. As a first task, the multi-stakeholder group will be called to work with relevant partners and publish a fully costed work plan, containing measurable targets and a timetable for implementation of EITI"

#### **2014 BUDGET SPEECH:**

- 11. Petroleum Exploration
- "...We have begun the process of adherence to the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI). Government recognizes that in the event of an oil discovery the wealth derived should be prudently managed, and the benefits evenly distributed to benefit all Seychellois. Seychelles will present its application for EITI adherence by April 2014."

#### Supporting documentation:

- 1. Press Release of June 19, 2013
- 2. Email to the EITI International Secretariat of 11th July 2013
- 3. 2014 Budget Speech: http://www.statehouse.gov.sc/uploads/downloads/filepath 29.pdf

## **EITI Requirement 1.2**

The government is required to appoint a senior individual to lead on the implementation of the EITI.

- a) The appointee should have the confidence of all stakeholders
- b) The appointee should have the authority and freedom to coordinate action on the EITI across relevant ministries and agencies
- c) The appointee should be able to mobilize resources for EITI implementation.

Hon. Pierre Laporte, Minister of Finance, Trade & Investment, heads the most important Ministry in Seychelles. As former IMF economist and former Central Bank Governor, he has ample experience in international finance. He led the economic transformation of Seychelles after the severe recession of the country in 2008-2009. The latter was mainly due to heavy indebtedness of public enterprises—mainly Air Seychelles and Seypec—which led to debt/GDP ratio of 124%. Air Seychelles suffered the effects of the European slowdown which resulted in a drop in tourism to Seychelles. Strong fiscal policies, coupled with debt restructuring, has brought about macroeconomic stability and sustained growth. Debt to GDP was 71% by end-2013, and Seychelles aims to reach 50% by end-2018. GDP growth in the past few years has been in the order of 3.5%. Because of this track record, Minister Laporte has earned the trust and confidence of the Seychellois population and the Petroleum MSG, the stakeholder group in charge of implementing EITI in Seychelles.

The Minister has the authority and freedom to coordinate action on the EITI across relevant ministries and agencies. Mobilizing of resources for EITI implementation is not expected to be problem. He is committed to introducing a budget line to finance the implementation of the EITI workplan. He will also present a request for complementary MDTF financing to the World Bank.

Minister Laporte has appointed Mr. Patrick Payet, Principal Secretary of Finance, as Chair of the Petroleum Multi-Stakeholder Group (MSG). Mr. Payet is a distinguished Accountant with a long track record at the Ministry, having held various positions.

Mr Payet has an Honours degree in Accounting and Finance from the University of Manchester, and a First Class Master's Degree in Leadership and Strategy from the Institute of Public Administration in Ireland, obtained through the Seychelles Young Leaders Programme in 2009.

Mr Payet has held the post of Chief Finance Officer and Director of Financial Planning in the Ministry of Finance before his promotion to the positions of Deputy Comptroller General in 2009, and Comptroller General in January 2013.

#### **Supporting documentation:**

- --IMF Country Report No. 14/24, January 2014: <a href="http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/cat/longres.aspx?sk=41295.0">http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/cat/longres.aspx?sk=41295.0</a>
- --Bloomberg News. "Seychelles names Pierre Laporte as New Minister of Finance": <a href="http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2012-03-07/seychelles-names-pierre-laporte-as-new-finance-minister-1-.html">http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2012-03-07/seychelles-names-pierre-laporte-as-new-finance-minister-1-.html</a>

## **EITI Requirement 1.3**

The government is required to commit to work with civil society and companies, and establish a multi-stakeholder group to oversee the implementation of the EITI.

- a) The government, companies and civil society must be fully, actively and effectively engaged in the EITI process.
- b) The government must ensure that there is an enabling environment for company and civil society participation with regard to relevant laws, regulations, and administrative rules as well as actual practice in implementation of the EITI. The fundamental rights of civil society and company representatives substantively engaged in the EITI, including but not restricted to members of the multi-stakeholder group, must be respected.
- c) The government must ensure that there are no obstacles to civil society or company participation in the EITI process.
- d) The government must refrain from actions which result in narrowing or restricting public debate in relation to implementation of the EITI.
- e) Stakeholders, including but not limited to members of the multi-stakeholder group:
  - i. must be able to speak freely on transparency and natural resource governance issues;
  - ii. must be substantially engaged in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the EITI process, and ensure that it contributes to public debate;
  - iii. must have the right to communicate and cooperate with each other; and
  - iv. must be able to operate freely and express opinions about the EITI without restraint, coercion or reprisal.
- f) In establishing the multi-stakeholder group, the government must:
  - i. ensure that the invitation to participate in the group is open and transparent;
  - ii. ensure that stakeholders are adequately represented. This does not mean that they need to be equally represented numerically. The multi-stakeholder group must comprise appropriate stakeholders, including but not necessarily limited to: the private sector; civil society, including independent civil society groups and other civil society such as the media and unions; and relevant government entities which can also include parliamentarians. Each stakeholder group must have the right to appoint its own representatives, bearing in mind the desirability of pluralistic and diverse representation. The nomination process must be independent and free from any suggestion of coercion. Civil society groups involved in the EITI as members of the multi-stakeholder group must be operationally, and in policy terms, independent of government and/or companies;
  - iii. ensure that senior government officials are represented on the multi-stakeholder group; and
  - iv. consider establishing the legal basis of the group.
- g) The multi-stakeholder group is required to agree clear public Terms of Reference (ToRs) for its work. The ToRs should at a minimum include provisions on:

#### The role, responsibilities and rights of the multi-stakeholder group:

- i. Members of the multi-stakeholder group should have the capacity to carry out their duties.
- ii. The multi-stakeholder group should undertake effective outreach activities with civil society groups and companies, including through communication such as media, website and letters, informing stakeholders of the government's commitment to implement the EITI, the central role of companies and civil society, as well as widely disseminating the public information that results from the EITI process such as the EITI Report.
- iii. Members of the multi-stakeholder group should liaise with their constituency groups.

#### Approval of work plans, EITI Reports and annual activity reports:

- iv. The multi-stakeholder group is required to approve annual work plans, the appointment of the Independent Administrator, the Terms of Reference for the Independent Administrator, EITI Reports and annual activity reports.
- v. The multi-stakeholder group should oversee the EITI reporting process and engage in Validation in accordance with chapter 3.

#### Internal governance rules and procedures:

vi. The EITI requires an inclusive decision-making process throughout implementation, with each constituency being treated as a partner. Any member of the multi-stakeholder group has the right to table an issue for discussion. The multi-stakeholder group should agree procedures for nominating and changing multi-stakeholder group representatives, decision-making, the duration of the mandate and the frequency of

- meetings. This should include ensuring that there is a process for changing group members that respects the principles set out in Requirement 1.3(f).
- vii. There should be sufficient advance notice of meetings and timely circulation of documents prior to their debate and proposed adoption.
- viii. The multi-stakeholder group must keep written records of its discussions and decisions.

Applicants should also take note of protocol note #4 regarding the participation of civil society<sup>3</sup>

The government, companies and civil society are actively engaged in the EITI process. There is an enabling environment for company and civil society participation. There are no obstacles to civil society or company participation in EITI

The Government is committed to work with civil society and companies in the implementation of EITI. The Government organized an initial meeting with relevant stakeholders, including the media and civil society in October 2013 to inform them about the intention for Seychelles to join EITI. This meeting was televised. Subsequent to this meeting, the Government extended invitations to join the MSG to the Liaison Unit of Non-Government Organizations Seychelles, LUNGOs —a coalition of over 80 NGOs, and to the two international oil companies —WHL Energy Ltd. and Afren Plc, operating in Seychelles. Both companies have endorsed the decision of the Seychelles government to join the EITI.

#### Seychelles is a business-friendly economy

Since it launched a comprehensive reform programme, the government is committed to building a business-friendly economy. In 2012, Seychelles climbed 29 spots in the World Bank Ease of Doing Business rankings, to 74<sup>th</sup> place. Ratings agency Fitch also upgraded the country to a 'B with positive outlook".<sup>4</sup>

Item 16 of the "2014 Budget Speech" indicates the intention of the Government to accelerate its efforts to facilitate investment and further improve the business climate. The MFTI is in the process of establishing a fully-staffed Division in the Ministry whose primary mandate will be to monitor and ensure the timely implementation of additional actions required to improve the business environment and raise Seychelles' ranking in the Ease of Doing Business.

Seychelles has a strong legal foundation based on a hybrid of common and civil law, which provides a stable, secure and welcoming environment to foreign investment. The Government is constantly exploring avenues to make the investment climate more conducive for private sector to thrive. On the 2014 Budget Speech, Minister Laporte, indicated that "we have invested significant time and resources to ensure that it is easier, less costly and less bureaucratic for anyone aspiring to do business in Seychelles."

The **Seychelles Investment Act, 2010**, aims to maintain and improve the standard of living of the Seychellois citizens by creating the economic conditions conducive to increased wealth generation by private businesses and individuals. It provides for legal environment that is conducive to a greater flow of investments into the Republic and the protection of the rights of investors, to establish a Seychelles Investment Board and to provide for connected matters.<sup>5</sup>

The petroleum sector offers an attractive framework for investors. The Seychelles government autonomous agency PetroSeychelles has revised its model petroleum agreement, including the fiscal regime, in preparation for the current Seychelles International Petroleum Licensing Initiative 2013, which began in June 2013. The Petroleum Agreement sets an attractive fiscal framework for investors, while allowing for a two tier petroleum additional profits tax, with the second tier negotiable.<sup>6</sup>

#### **Role of Civil Society**

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See *The EITI Standard*: http://eiti.org/document/standard,p. 41-42.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Jonathan Andrews, "Seychelles presents business-friendly opportunities" The Report Company, Global business features. http://www.the-report.net/seychelles/jun2013/544-investment-seychelles-presents-business-friendly-opportunities

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Seychelles Investment Act, 2010: <a href="http://www.wipo.int/wipolex/en/text.isp?file\_id=235492">http://www.wipo.int/wipolex/en/text.isp?file\_id=235492</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See <a href="http://www.petroseychelles.com/index.php/downloads">http://www.petroseychelles.com/index.php/downloads</a>

Civil Society, considered as the Third Sector is globally identified and accepted as a significant factor in development. In Seychelles, there are about a hundred organisations which can be classified as NGOs. These legally registered organisations are not-for-profit, voluntary-based operating independently from Government. Most of the active NGOs are accredited members of the Liaison Unit of Non-Governmental Organisations of Seychelles (LUNGOS), the umbrella organisation established in 1990.

There is freedom of speech in Seychelles; there are no restrictions to public debate in relation to implementation of EITI; citizens are able to speak freely; the Petroleum MSG members are engaged in the design, implementation & monitoring of EITI.

The aforementioned and the following legislation show that there are no restrictions to public debate and complete freedom of speech is assured in Seychelles:<sup>7</sup>

#### --Constitution of the Republic of Seychelles of 1993, as amended.8

Article 22.1: "Every person has a right to freedom of expression ... the freedom to hold opinions and to seek, receive and impart ideas and information without interference"

Article 23.1: "Every person has a right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association ... this right includes the right to assemble freely and associate with other persons and to form and belong to political parties, trade unions or other associations ..."

#### --Party to the International covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR):

- Article 18.1: Everyone shall have the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion
- Article 19.1: "Everyone shall have the right to hold opinions without interference"
- Article 19.2: Everyone shall have the right to freedom of expression; ..."

Article 22.1: "Everyone shall have the right to freedom of association with other, including the right to form and join trade unions for the protection of his interests."

#### Freedom of press

Seychelles Media Commission Press release: Extracts – "The media is allowed to carry on with their business without interference from government. For example, in 2013 no journalist was imprisoned, killed or beaten while doing their job. However, there is room for improvement in areas of transparency and legislative framework. Seychelles has made quite a few leaps in liberalising the media and promoting press freedom. There is even a degree of tolerance towards newspapers that are affiliated to political parties. Should public officials choose to take action against the press for defamation, there would be a suit brought against the press at least every week. However, there are deficiencies in certain areas that need to be addressed. In October last year, the commission held an Editors' Forum and one of the issues raised was the lack of cooperation on the part of some government ministries and organisations. The press needs to have access to information being held by public officials and this will be ensured by the promulgation of a Freedom of Information Act. The Seychelles Broadcasting Corporation should also abide to Article 168 of the Constitution and the SBC Act 2011 allowing for a wider scope for divergent views to be presented on the public radio and television."

#### Reports on the State of Media and Communication

<sup>7</sup> See: International Bar Association: Guarantees of Freedom of Expression for Seychelles, at: http://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&ved=0CCAQFjAA&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.mlfoe.org%2FDocument%2FDefault.aspx%3FDocumentUid%3D674364f1-870f-4e9a-9737-323cb931d605&ei=tyGXU6ClKY-HyATX6YHgDw&usg=AFQjCNFxXvlbJUA9LAfHhKU0VBAYqllh7g

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> See: Constitution of the Republic of Seychelles: <a href="http://www.wipo.int/wipolex/en/text.isp?file\_id=223803#LinkTarget\_4353">http://www.wipo.int/wipolex/en/text.isp?file\_id=223803#LinkTarget\_4353</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Seychelles Media Commission press release extracts: <a href="http://www.seymediacom.org">http://www.seymediacom.org</a>

On the Initiative of President James Michel, extensive research was conducted in September 2009 to review the media landscape and to assess its role in the rapidly evolving society. To improve the situation in accordance with international standards, critical recommendations were formulated in the report "Too many strings to the bow, Media Report, 2009" (Ferrari and Vincent), which was submitted to the government in September 2009.

On the request of Mr. Jean Paul Adam, Minister for Foreign Affairs, a second report aims to increase knowledge and capacity for improving freedom of the press in Seychelles<sup>10</sup> (attached). The identification of the important bottlenecks in the implementation of agreed recommendations will support governmental efforts toward the modernization of the media. The report concludes that there is a need for the media and civil society to be aware of their responsibilities and to work together with the government to push for reforms. The media is a powerful tool for democratic change but it must fulfil its role through citizen awareness and public debates. The political will is there and the efforts for improvement are appreciable.

The Invitation to participate in EITI was open and transparent with each group appointing their own representatives, and there is adequate representation of the stakeholder parties. The MSG TORs include the role, responsibilities and rights of the MSG and internal governance rules.

As mentioned above, the invitation to participate was transparent. The large majority of Seychelles civil society organizations belong to the LUNGOS coalition. Therefore the need for public invitation –via the media-- was not necessary. LUNGOS has designated its own representatives (4) to the Petroleum Multi-stakeholder Group. Additionally, the Minister of Finance has invited the Chamber of Commerce and a representative of the private sector; to join the MSG.

The EITI Chair prepared a first draft of the MSG TORs, according to the Model provided by the EITI International Secretariat. This version was circulated to the MSG and the representatives were asked to review and provide comments ahead of the meeting of May 22, 2014, when the document was discussed and a final version agreed upon. The TORs reflect the roles and responsibilities of the MSG members and governance rules, including ethics standards (Attached).

#### **Supporting Documentation**

- --Civil society legislation (to be obtained from LUNGOS)
- --Letter from LUNGOS indicating their nominees to the Petroleum MSG.
- --MSG TORs

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Report on the State of Media and Communication, Submitted by Pauline Ferrari, Media Consultant to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, February 2014. <a href="http://www.statehouse.gov.sc/uploads/downloads/filepath">http://www.statehouse.gov.sc/uploads/downloads/filepath</a> 70.pdf.

## **EITI Requirement 1.4**

The multi-stakeholder group is required to maintain a current workplan, fully costed and aligned with the reporting and Validation deadlines established by the EITI Board.

#### The workplan must:

- a) Set EITI implementation objectives that are linked to the EITI Principles and reflect national priorities for the extractive industries. Multi-stakeholder groups are encouraged to explore innovative approaches to extending EITI implementation to increase the comprehensiveness of EITI reporting and public understanding of revenues and encourage high standards of transparency and accountability in public life, government operations and in business;
- b) Reflect the results of consultations with key stakeholders, and be endorsed by the multi-stakeholder group;
- c) Include measurable and time bound activities to achieve the agreed objectives. The scope of EITI implementation should be tailored to contribute to the desired objectives that have been identified during the consultation process. The workplan must:
  - assess and outline plans to address any potential capacity constraints in government agencies, companies and civil society that may be an obstacle to effective EITI implementation;
  - ii. address the scope of EITI reporting, including plans for addressing technical aspects of reporting, such as comprehensiveness and data reliability (Requirements 4 and 5); and
  - iii. identify and outline plans to address any potential legal or regulatory obstacles to EITI implementation, including, if applicable, any plans to incorporate the EITI Requirements within national legislation or regulation.
- d) identify domestic and external sources of funding and technical assistance where appropriate in order to ensure timely implementation of the agreed workplan;
- e) be made widely available to the public, for example published on the national EITI website and/or other relevant ministry and agency websites, in print media or in places that are easily accessible to the public;
- f) be reviewed and updated annually. In reviewing the workplan, the multi-stakeholder group should consider extending the detail and scope of EITI reporting including addressing issues such as revenue management and expenditure (3.7-3.8), transportation payments (4.1.f), discretionary social expenditures (4.1.e), ad-hoc subnational transfers (4.2.e), beneficial ownership (3.11) and contracts (3.12)<sup>11</sup>. In accordance with requirement 1.3 (g)(viii), the multi-stakeholder group is required to document its discussion and decisions;
- g) include a timetable for implementation that is aligned with the EITI reporting and Validation deadlines established by the EITI Board<sup>12</sup> and that takes into account administrative requirements such as procurement processes and funding.

#### Process of developing the Seychelles EITI Workplan

1. The Petroleum Multi-stakeholder Group met on April 21, 2014 to initiate the process of developing the EITI Workplan. The initial discussions centered on defining implementation objectives that are linked the EITI Principles and reflect national priorities. The members reviewed the EITI Principles and were able to define objectives linked to the EITI Principles. The objectives identified were establishing a legal framework for the Seychelles IETI that would make EITI a mandatory initiative rather than a voluntary one. This objective is linked to EITI Principle 5. Secondly, the Group identified the prudent use of oil revenues for sustainable intergenerational development as a priority, which is linked to EITI Principles 1, 3, and 4. Finally, the third objective is to deepen the knowledge of the MSG and broader multi-stakeholder group about the oil sector. This would allow the MSG to be better prepared for the eventual hydrocarbon production, to set up adequate structures to avoid the potentially destabilizing effects of the inflow of large sums of revenues in Seychelles' small economy.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> See The EITI Standard for specifications of these issues: http://eiti.org/document/standard,p. 35-39.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> See The EITI Standard, paragraph 1.6 a) EITI reporting deadlines, p. 15.

- 2. The Government called a meeting with the LUNGOS Administration to review the EITI objectives, following the same methodology.
- 3. A second meeting with the MSG was called on April 23, 2014 to define the workplan template and the actions that would lead to the fulfilment of the objectives. The workplan includes time bound activities, measurable indicators and is fully costed. It identifies domestic and external sources of funding and technical assistance. The timetable for implementation is consistent with the reporting and Validation deadlines established by the EITI Board.
- 4. A second meeting with a broader stakeholder representation was held on April 28, at LUNGOS to present the workplan and discuss its content. The workplan was circulated, to allow the stakeholders to provide their comments. These were received by the MSG Chair through May 15.
- 5. A final meeting of the MSG, including oil company representatives was held on May 22, 2014 to finalize and endorse the workplan and the MSG TORs.

#### **Supporting documentation**

- --Seychelles-EITI Workplan endorsed by the MSG
- --Minutes of the meetings of:

October 10 2013

April 21, 2014

April 23, 2014

April 28, 2014

May 22, 2014

May 28, 2014

- --Emails from MSG members endorsing the Candidature Application
- --Seychelles Nation: "Civil Society learns how to manage natural resources' revenues" (attached)
- --Seychelles Nation: "Seychelles intensifies process to become EITI member": http://www.nation.sc/article.html?id=241560

# Information about the multi-stakeholder group

Provide a list of members from the national multi-stakeholder group, their organisational affiliation and contact details. If appropriate, attach information regarding additional government, civil society and private sector stakeholders involved in the sign-up process.

Name	Title	Organisation	Contact details
			(Phone & Email)
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# **ANNEXES**

- 1. Press Release of June 19, 2013
- 2. Letter to the EITI International Secretariat of July ... 2012
- 3. Letter from LUNGOS indicating their nominees to the Petroleum MSG
- 4. Seychelles Nation: "Civil Society learns how to manage natural resources' revenues"
- 5. MSG TORs
- 6. Seychelles EITI Workplan
- 7. Minutes of the meetings of:

October 10, 2013

April 21, 2014

April 23, 2014

April 28, 2013

May 22, 2014

May 28, 2014

8. Emails or evidence of endorsement of the Candidature application by the MSG