

EITI-Togo The rays of transparency!

Steering Committee

No. 004/ITIE/CP/2018

Lomé, 01 February 2018

The Chair

To

Mr Jonas Moberg

Head of the International Secretariat of EITI

Oslo, Norway

Re: Comments of the EITI-Togo Multi-Stakeholder Group on the draft Togo validation report and the draft report on initial data collection and stakeholder consultation

Dear Head of the International Secretariat

We, members of the EITI-Togo Steering Committee, on behalf of the actors and stakeholders in the implementation of EITI in Togo, have the honour of hereby submitting to the International Secretariat our comments on the initial evaluation made by the International Secretariat.

First and foremost, we would like to take this opportunity of sending to you personally, and to the entire EITI International team, our best wishes for health, peace and happiness for 2018. We would also like to use this opportunity to express our gratitude to the International Secretariat for all the efforts it has made to make EITI implementation in Togo more effective and more efficient.

We would also like to express our satisfaction with the International Secretariat's initial evaluation report and with that validation report of the Independent Validator.

During the 29th ordinary meeting of the Steering Committee, held on Monday 29 January 2018, the Steering Committee appreciated the quality and relevant explanations contained in both documents. At this meeting, it gave overall approval to the conclusions of the report on the initial data collection and the stakeholder consultation. It did, however, wish to offer some clarifications relating to the results in regard of requirements 2.3 (register of licenses) and 7.4 (outcomes and impact).

With regard to requirement 2.3, on register of licenses, it should be noted that practically all licenses in the mining domain had been published on the website of the General Directorate of Mines and Geology (DGMG) before the commencement of validation. Each of these licenses contains information on the date of application (see visas) and on the coordinates of the perimeter licensed (cf. article 1 of the Order on the grant of licenses). These principles or provisions were available before preparation of the 2014 EITI-Togo report and the reconciler is informed of the existence of all these licenses on the DGMG website. He would appear to have not reported these in the information on mining companies.

In addition, the national and regional cross-sections of the geological and mining map of Togo area available and for sale at DGMG.

In respect of requirement 7.4 on the outcomes and impacts of implementation, we would like to confirm that these outcomes exist and are measurable for the governance, not only of the mining and finance sectors, but also of other sectors and in general for the political, economic and social life of the country.

It is worthwhile highlighting that these evaluations are conducted systematically in that they are included in the triennial implementation action plan (annual progress reports and self-evaluation after each implementation period). Moreover, the highest authorities of such institutions as the Presidency of the Republic, the Prime Ministry, The General Secretariat of the Government, the National Assembly, the Court of Auditors and the Millennium Challenge Account Unit have systematically provided the outcomes within their systems of EITI implementation, at the request of

the National Coordinator. This information has, moreover, formed the essence of the documentation provided during data collection and validation.

In conclusion, we wish to reiterate our commitment to resolutely pursue reform in Togo. This being so, the recommendations of the Independent Validator give our country strategic guidelines for actions to be taken to achieve goals set by the Government, not only in the extractive sector, but also in every other sector.

Hoping that these clarifications will contribute to reorienting the evaluations of requirements 2.3 and 7.4 towards satisfactory progress, we ask you to accept, Mr Head of the International Secretariat, the expression of our distinguished consideration.

(EITI-Togo Stamp, signature)

Dèdèriwè Ably-Bidamon

Minister of Mining and Energy