



SOLOMON ISLANDS GOVERNMENT
Ministry of Finance and Treasury
PO Box 26
Honiara, Solomon Islands

Date: 02nd March 2017

Dear Board Member, Dr. Monty Girianna,

Subject: Solomon Islands Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (SI-EITI).

I am delighted to update you of the Solomon Islands Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (SIEITI) implementation experiences to date.

It is our hope that you note and inform the EITI Board accordingly for consideration as the Board will ponder on our Validation Report, 2016 in coming month.

The Solomon Islands Government through cabinet agreed to implement EITI in 2011. The then Minister for Finance and Treasury at that time was appointed as SI EITI Champion in July 2011. In January 2012, the Government publicly announced the formation of National- Stakeholder Group (NSG) (Government, Companies & Civil Societies) to oversee the implementation of EITI

The first NSG meeting was conducted in February 2012 and resolved that the NSG formulate the 2012-2015 work plan and budget, establish an MOU to govern the operation of the NSG.

The NSG finalized the work plan, budget & MOU in May 2012. On 28 June 2012, Solomon Islands was admitted as EITI candidacy country.

The Solomon Islands Government and SI EITI are making the following commitments:

- The current Prime Minister, Hon. Manasseh Damukana Sogavare in a speech to celebrate our country national independence day in 2015 has announced the Government commitment to working on the Solomon Islands EITI chapter.
- Since the World Bank Grant supports ends in 2015, the Government appropriate budget for operation of SI EITI and is actively engaging on the Initiative.
- The Government has included most of the EITI reporting requirement in the draft National Mineral Policy which currently before our Cabinet for endorsement.
- Our National Stakeholders Group is actively functioning and received support from the Government.
- Companies are actively engaging in EITI process. They attend SI EITI meetings, workshops and other activities, however the common reasons cited by companies for not giving data for SI EITI reporting is a challenge with companies' decision makers who base at their Headquarters simply because these companies are at the prospecting stage.
- The National Secretariat is continues to producing EITI Reports including 2015 SI EITI Report published in 2016.

- NSG members and the National Secretariat capacity challenges on EITI reporting requirement as we have very young NSG members and National Secretariat.

Going forward, we have contributed to the consultation and made inputs to the new Solomon Islands National Mineral policy which result to most EITI reporting requirements is covered in the policy. This will resolved many challenges we faced. This year (2017) we aimed to support reform on the current Mining Laws here in Solomon Islands.

The NSG has been holding continues consultation with various Government agencies to gain government support and aligned EITI to national priorities.

We have published our Beneficiary Ownership Road Map, this will be followed by an Open Data Policy will followed later. We are conducting stakeholder consultations on that document.

We thank you very much for your understanding and consideration. We are looking forward to hearing from the outcome of the Board discussion

Should you may have other enquiries, I can be contacted at mdenatana@mof.gov.sb or Mr. Vincent Salafa Obimae, Head of the SI EITI National Secretariat at VObimae@mof.gov.sb

Yours Faithfully,



McKinnie P Dentana
Under Secretary-Economics
And SIEITI National Coordinator-SI EITI
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Cc: Hon. Ma Teresa Habitan, Assistant Secretary, Department of Finance, Philippines
Cc: Edi Effendi-IEITI Team Leader
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