

## **Communiqué of the Stakeholder Roadshow/Townhall Meeting of the Nigeria Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative, Yenagoa, Bayelsa State, 05 - 06, 2009**

The Nigeria Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (NEITI) held a stakeholder Roadshow/Townhall meeting involving about three hundred participants drawn from Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) across the South-South Zone in Yenagoa from 05 - 06 October, 2009. Speakers, discussants and participants were drawn from the NEITI National Stakeholder Working Group (NSWG) and Secretariat, Women's Group, Non-Governmental Organizations, CSOs, Government Agencies including the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) Group, Department of Petroleum Resources (DPR), Development Partners, the media and the industry unions. After extensive discussions and deliberations, the session reached consensus on the following:

- The participants welcomed the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) to increase transparency in the Oil, Gas & Solid Minerals Sectors in Nigeria;
- In this light, participants commended the Roadshow/Townhall meeting as an important opportunity for Nigerians to understand and discuss the operations of these sectors and the work of the NEITI; Participants were of the view that the NEITI communications strategy needs to be implemented in a form that the message can be easily accessible to all Nigerians but expressed deep satisfaction with the drama sketch;
- Participants called on the NSWG to conduct and publish a lumped audit report of 2006 to 2008 in a form that will enhance understanding and institute measures to increase the capacity of citizens and civil society to contribute to the process of transparency and accountability in the extractive revenue streams and good governance.
- Participants called for full and continuous publication of information concerning extractive industries and the audit thereof; and that persons, companies and governments found engaging in corrupt practices be subjected to sanctions embodied in the NEITI Act.

- Participants called for disaggregated (Company by Company) disclosure of Oil Revenue paid to Government by the Extractive Industry
- Participants called for an immediate abrogation of all Confidentiality Clauses that restrict the Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS) and NNPC from publishing all revenue received from extractive companies
- Participants noted that to promote efficiency and transparency, professionals should be placed in their rightful positions in the Extractive Industry
- Participants suggested a review of the Land Use Act and the petroleum Industry Bill in a manner that enables payment of royalties to local communities.
- Concerning the Petroleum Industry Bill (PIB), participants recommended the structuring should be in line with global best practices.
- In appreciating the Roadshow/Town Hall meeting, participants also observed the need to take the Roadshow further down to the people by going to the local government communities especially in the oil-bearing Niger Delta States.
- Participants urged for a critical review of the Joint Operating Agreement (JOA) between NNPC and Multinational Oil Companies in Nigeria in the light of emerging global realities
- Participants recommended that in continuing its work, NEITI should ensure that audits and frameworks are rigorously produced to ensure that they stand the test of time
- In considering compensation issues in the host communities, it was suggested that there is the need to review upward to a realistic value, the payment for land crops and other assets to the advantage of host communities by Government and Companies

- Participants welcomed the initiative to develop a holistic national strategy to combat corruption and the role of NEITI and the Technical Unit on Governance and Anti-Corruption Reforms (TUGAR) in the process.
- Participants called for the enhancement of financial management systems as an avenue for increased transparency, accountability and revenue disclosure in all tiers of government.
- Participants also called for an enhanced role for the civil society in the monitoring the extractive industries' revenue at both the State and local government levels.
- Participants commended the Federal Government for the initiative, and appreciated the hospitality of the government and people of Bayelsa State.

**SIGNED**

**Prof. H. Assisi Asobie**  
Chairman NSWG/NEITI

**Malam Haruna Y. Sa'eed**  
Executive Secretary, NEITI

**Comrade T. K. Ogoriba**  
South-South Rep. NSWG/NEITI

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