

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE NSWG/ NEITI HELD IN
ABUJA ON THE 12TH OF JANUARY 2004**

A meeting of the NSWG/ EITI was held in Abuja on the 12th of
January 2005

In attendance were:

S/N	NAME	ORGANISATION.
1	OBYEZEKWE SILI	SSA-P COORDINATOR NEITI
2	UJITSUELI	DUBRI OIL
3	FUNSHO KUPOLOKUN	NNPC
4	BRIGHT OKOGU	OIL & GAS ACC. UNIT/ MOF
5	IFUEKO OMOIGUI	FIRS
6	GWEN NWACHUKWU	BUDGET OFFICE
7	CHRIS HAYNES	NLNG
8	J. MADUKA	LECCOM ASSOCIATES
9	J. RAY PRYOR	CHEVRON TEXACO
10	L. B. OGBEIFUN	PENGASSAN
11	H. ASSISI ASOBIE	TRANSPARENCY IN NIGERIA
12	B. O. N. OKAFOR	CENTRAL BANK OF NIGERIA
13	OLUSEGUN ADENIYI	THISDAY
14	APO OKIGBO	SECRETARY, NEITI
15	STAN RERRI	NEITI SECRETARIAT
16	E. E. AKHUEMONKHAN	NNPC
17	ORJI OGBONNAYA ORJI	NEITI SECRETARIAT

APOLOGIES

18	TREVOR AKINDELE	SAK RESOURCES
19	MOHAMMED H DEEN	NESG
20	ROTIMI AMAECHI	RIVERS ST. HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

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1. The meeting was chaired by Obiageli Ezekwesili, SSA-P BMPIU & Coordinator, NEITI. She expressed the appreciation of the Federal Government of Nigeria for the good work of the National Stakeholders Working Group and the consistent manner in which the Group has kept to the set Timetable.
2. The Group reviewed the minutes of the last meeting, which was proposed for adoption by Dr. Imo Itsueli, Chairman Dubri Oil and seconded by Dr. Asobie, Chairman Transparency in Nigeria.
3. The Group discussed the matters arising from the last meeting and agreed as follows:
 - (a) **NEITI Bill:** The Group acknowledged, and expressed satisfaction, that the NEITI bill had been submitted to the National Assembly and vowed to work closely with its National Assembly Members to ensure passage of the bill.
 - (b) **Civil Society (CS) 5-Man Action Team** The Group called on the CS Action Team Members to meet as soon as possible to finalize CS Action Plan. This is in the light of the fact that CS and the general public must be ready to understand and disseminate the figures that will emanate from the Audit of the Extractive Industry.
4. Dr. Bright Okogu, Member of the Finance and Administration Team gave an update of the work of his Team. He stated that he was awaiting the report of the Financial Management System being prepared for the secretariat. He promised to submit a comprehensive Finance and Admin proposal to the NSWG for ratification at the next meeting
5. Dr. H. Assisi Asobie, Chairman, Transparency In Nigeria (TIN) and Chairman of the Civil Society Team gave an update of the activities of his Team. He stated that the five-Man CS Action Committee would present a Civil Society Roadmap to the NSWG for approval. He also asked for a Civil Society session at the NEI TI Conference **Five-Man Team yet to meet**

6. Dr. Imo Itsueli gave an update of the work of the Focal Team. He thanked Members for their understanding with regard to the cancellation and rescheduling of the NEITI conference earlier planned for October 2004. He acknowledged the request for a Civil Society session and asked Dr. Asobie to provide a detailed proposal. The Group then fleshed out the conference program.

Obiageli Ezekwesili, Coordinator NEITI, gave an update on the selection of Auditor/s. She stated that over 100 Expressions of Interest were received and the NSWG Advisor was evaluating them. She stated that short-listed firms would be asked to provide detailed proposals.

8. The Group went on to discuss the role of the Oil & Gas Unit at the Ministry of Finance and the need to get Civil Society ready for the publication of the Audit reports.

(a) **Role of Oil & Gas Unit:** The Group agreed that the Oil & Gas Unit (MOF) would be the implementation organ for the NEITI. The Group mandated the Head of the Unit, Dr. Bright Okogu to bring out a roll out plan to ensure a quick set up after the bill is passed. The Group endorsed a merger arrangement between the NEITI secretariat and the Oil & Gas Unit.

**Oil & Gas Unit
(MOF) and
NEITI
Secretariat to
merge**

(b) **Capacity Building for Civil Society:** The Group agreed to double its effort to ensure that Civil Society and the general public are sufficiently trained to properly digest the figures from the planned Audits

9. The meeting closed with prayers from Dr. L. B. Ogbeifun, President, PENGASSON.