

**MINUTES OF THE 1ST MEETING OF THE SIXTH NATIONAL STAKEHOLDERS
WORKING GROUP (NSWG) HELD ON TUESDAY, 21ST MAY 2024.**

A meeting of the National Stakeholders Working Group (NSWG) was held on 21st May 2024 at the Office of the Secretary to Government of the Federation (OSGF), Three Arms Zone, Abuja.

Attendance

S/N	Name	
1.	Sen. George Akume	Chairman
2.	Mr Mele Kyari	Representative of NNPC
3.	Mr. Oghenegwueke Ajiafia	Representative of OPTS
4.	Mr. Dele Ayanleke	Representative of Miners Association of Nigeria
5.	Dr. Erisa Danladi Sarki	Representative of the Civil Society
6.	Engr. Nkechi Isigwe	Representative of Women/Geo-scientists
7.	Comrade Williams Apkoreha	Representative of NUPENG
8.	Barr. Musa Abdullahi Lawan	North-West Zone
9.	Prof. Abubakar Mu'azu	North-East Zone
10.	Amb. Matthew Sunday Adoli MFR	North-Central Zone
11.	Chief Israel Ikechukwu Ikwuegbu	South-East Zone
12.	Dr. Stephen Leo Akpan	South-South Zone
13.	Mr. Olasupo Abdel-Jeleel Taiwo	South-West Zone (joined Virtually)
14.	Dr. Orji Ogbonnaya Orji	Executive Secretary

Absent

1.	Dr. Zacch Adedeji	Representative FIRS
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NEITI Staff in Attendance

1.	Dr. Dieter Bassi <i>mni</i>	Director Policy Planning and Strategy
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| 2. | Mr. Usman Abdurrahim | Director Human Resources and Admin |
| 3. | Mr. Sa'ad Balarabe | Director Energy and Mining |
| 4. | Mrs. Obiageli Onuorah | Deputy Director, Comms and Stakeholder Engagement |
| 5. | Mrs. Sadiya Gashinbaki | Team Leader, Legal Unit |

1.	OPENING
2.	The opening ceremony commenced at 11:45 with the National anthem.
3.	INTRODUCTIONS
4.	The Secretary to the Government to the Federation welcomed all NSWG members
5.	and guests present to the inauguration and called upon all members to personally
6.	introduced themselves and their respective constituencies.
1	PRESENTATION OF INAUGURATION SPEECH BY HIS EXCELLENCY
2	PRESIDENT BOLA AHMED TINUBU GCFR
3	The Inauguration of the 6th National Stakeholders Working Group – NSWG (the
4	NEITI Board) took place on Tuesday, 21 May 2024 at the Conference Room of the
5	Secretary to the Government of the Federation (SGF) and 14 (Fourteen) of the 15
6	(Fifteen) Members were in attendance.
7	The Secretary to the Government of the Federation (SGF) presided over the meeting
8	and delivered Mr. President's Speech highlighting the following key points:
9	• President Tinubu congratulated the members on their appointment to the
10	NSWG, emphasizing that they were selected based on merit, competencies,
11	skills, integrity, and track records.
12	• The President reiterated his administration's commitment to transparency and
13	accountability in the extractive industries, aligning with NEITI's objectives.
14	• He underscored the strategic importance of the extractive industry to
15	Nigeria's economy and its role in the administration's economic agenda and
16	anti-corruption efforts.
17	• President Tinubu praised NEITI's competence, integrity, and contribution to
18	economic growth through reliable information and data. He emphasized
19	NEITI's crucial role amidst global energy security concerns and the energy
20	transition debate.

21	• He outlined the Board's responsibilities, including providing strategic policy
22	direction and oversight to support NEITI's operations and uphold its values
23	of transparency and accountability.
24	• He reminded members that their role on the Board is non-partisan and part-
25	time, stressing the importance of avoiding interference in day-to-day
26	management and focusing on policy and oversight.
27	• He reaffirmed Nigeria's commitment to international EITI principles and
28	standards, highlighting emerging issues such as Beneficial Ownership
29	Disclosure and Contract Transparency while urging Board members to view
30	their appointment as an opportunity to contribute to Nigeria's development,
31	build on NEITI's past achievements, and surpass them.
32	• He formally inaugurated the Board on behalf of President Bola Ahmed
33	Tinubu, GCFR, wishing them success in their tenure.
34	In conclusion, the speech emphasized the administration's dedication to
35	transparency. It highlighted NEITI's pivotal role in economic governance, and the
36	Board's mandate to ensure effective policy direction and oversight in advancing
37	EITI principles in Nigeria.
36	INAUGURAL ADDRESS BY THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF
37	THE FEDERATION AT A CLOSED-DOOR MEETING WITH BOARD
38	MEMBERS
39	Following the inauguration, the SGF addressed board members in a private session
40	to emphasize transparency, collaboration, and strategic oversight in fulfilling
41	NEITI's mandate. He proceeded by highlighting specific details for the attention of
42	the board as follows:
43	• The importance of NEITI's Mission, emphasizing NEITI's critical role, its
44	international affiliations, and the significance of the board's appointment.
45	• He shared insights from meetings with the EITI International Secretariat on
46	their visit to Nigeria to discuss the outcome of the EITI Validation stressing
47	the importance of NEITI to Nigeria's global standing and the need to prevent
48	possible sanctions for noncompliance.
49	• He also urged board members to heed President's directives and familiarize

50	themselves with his address clarifying that board appointments are part-time.
51	• He emphasized the importance of non-interference in the day-to-day
52	management of the NEITI Secretariat.
53	• He also expressed satisfaction with NEITI's progress under the oversight and
54	supervision of the Executive Secretary throughout the period of absence of
55	the Board and called for proactive policy direction to consolidate
56	achievements and support sector reforms.
57	• He reaffirmed his commitment to Chairing the board despite other
58	responsibilities as SGF and requested support and understanding from board
59	members.
60	He concluded by pledging to uphold NEITI's core values of legitimacy, integrity,
61	and transparency and promised to strengthen NEITI's independence and
62	accountability under his leadership.
63	VISIT TO THE NEITI SECRETARIAT AND EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S
64	PRESENTATION
65	The Executive Secretary/CEO welcomed the NSWG members to the NEITI House
66	after the briefing by the SGF. It was a meet-and-greet session and an opportunity to
67	meet with the Executive Secretary and NEITI Management.
68	A presentation titled "Who We Are" Highlighting the work of NEITI, the objectives,
69	impact, benefits, issues and challenges was presented to the new NSWG by the
70	Executive Secretary.
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72	COMMENTS TO THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S PRESENTATION
73	• The Board expressed appreciation for the warm reception and pledged to
74	work closely with the Secretariat to deepen EITT implementation in Nigeria.
75	• The Board also promised to support the Secretariat to fast-track the
76	implementation of the 2024 work plan already ongoing with policy support
77	and oversight.
78	• The Board commended the Executive Secretary and his team for the work
79	done during the absence of a Board and particularly congratulated the SGF
80	for the extraordinary support given to the Secretariat during the period, and

81	for leading in the constitution of this Board
82	NOTICES
83	The Executive Secretary informed the Board that a Retreat and Board Meeting are
84	planned for July 2024. He explained to them that the Retreat would expose
85	Members to EITI, the Extractive Industry, the NEITI mandate, and the Code of
86	Ethics.
87	The Executive Secretary also disclosed that a draft Board Manual prepared by the
88	former NSWG will be presented for consideration and approval.
89	RESOLUTIONS OF THE NSWG (BOARD)
90	The NSWG agreed on some key decisions taken during the inaugural meeting are as
91	follows:
92	• The Board resolved to support the SGF as the Chairman of the NSWG.
93	• To make the work of the SGF easier given his peculiar schedule, Ambassador
94	Matthew Adoli was nominated to serve as alternate Chairman anytime the
95	SGF is unavailable. The nomination of Ambassador Adoli was made by Dr
96	Erisa Danladi, Representative of the Civil Society, and was supported by Dr.
97	Stephen Leo Akpan, Representative of the South-south Zone. Other members
98	each gave their consent. From that moment, Ambassador Adoli presided over
99	the rest of the meeting.
100	• The Secretariat is to come up with a program of activities for the Board for
101	the rest of the year 2024.
102	• The Board approved that the Secretariat should continue with the
103	implementation of ongoing activities and present before it, Memos on any
104	issues that require the approval of the Board for NSWG ratification at its
105	next meeting.
106	• The Board agreed that the Retreat and next meeting be held in July 2024 as
107	proposed.
108	• The Board congratulated the Civil Society for the robust election held to
109	elect their representative and urged the Civil Society constituency to
110	consider sustaining the process going forward. The Board requested a
111	detailed report on the election process for NSWG documentation.
	• The Board requested the Secretariat to help organize Training to build the

112	capacity of the Board to face the challenges ahead due to the technical nature
113	of the Extractive Industry.
114	• Members were requested to share their profiles with the NSWG Secretariat.
115	• The Secretariat was called upon to work with the Chairman to deploy
116	Members to the various Committees and share the same on the NSWG
117	WhatsApp Platform for comments before the next meeting.
118	• The Board advised the Secretariat to create a WhatsApp platform and group
119	Email for communication and sharing of relevant documents before
120	meetings.
121	• The Board also resolved that its substantive meetings will be flexible (In-
122	person or Virtual) depending on the circumstances.
124	AOB
125	The Executive Secretary and Secretary to the Board urged Members to monitor
126	strictly, developments through information that would be shared on the NSWG
127	platforms.
128	He however appealed to Members of the Board to communicate with him directly or
129	through the Board Secretariat for protocol purposes and information coordination.
130	He also presented to the NSWG statutory allowances they are entitled to including
131	rates for attendance of Statutory Board meetings and NEITI events where NEITI is
132	covering the costs.
133	Closing
134	The meeting ended at 6:47 pm

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES	
1.	NSWG 2024 Activities The Secretariat is to come up with a program of activities for the Board for the rest of the year 2024.
2.	NSWG Board Retreat Meeting ❖ The Executive Secretary to discuss with the with the OSGF and confirm

	suitable dates for the NSWG Board Retreat in July 2024. ❖ Memos that require approval of the Board for NSWG ratification to be presented at the next NSWG substantive meeting. ❖ The Board agreed that the Retreat and next meeting be held in July 2024 as proposed.
3.	NSWG Capacity Building Sessions The Secretariat to organize training for NSWG to build the capacity of the Board to handle their roles and responsibilities due to the technical nature of the Extractive Industry.
4.	NSWG Members Profiles NSWG Members are expected to forward individual profiles to the NSWG Secretariat.
5.	Reconstitution of NSWG Committees: Secretariat to work with the Chairman to deploy Members to the various Committees and share the same on the NSWG WhatsApp Platform for comments before the next meeting.
6.	Creation NSWG WhatsApp Group and Email The Secretariat to create a WhatsApp platform and group Email for communication and sharing of relevant documents with NSWG Members before meetings.

SIGNED:


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Orji Ogbonnaya Orji
Executive Secretary


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Jane O. Onwumere
Director Legal Services