

**MINUTES OF THE 3RD MEETING OF THE SIXTH NATIONAL STAKEHOLDERS
WORKING GROUP (NSWG) HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 25TH SEPTEMBER 2024.**

A meeting of the National Stakeholders Working Group (NSWG) was held on 25th September 2024 at the Conference Room, Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation.

Attendance

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

Apologies

14. Barr. Musa Abdullahi Lawan	Representative of North-West Zone
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Absent

1. Dr. Zacch Adedeji	Representative of FIRS
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Observer

1. His Excellency, Pieter Leenknecht	Ambassador of Belgium to Nigeria
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NEITI Staff in Attendance

1. Mrs. Sadiya Gashinbaki	Team Leader, Legal Unit
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| 2. | Mr. Kingsley Chimaobi Ochasi | Officer II, Legal Unit |
| 3. | Mr. Oche Yakubu Ogwuche | Officer II, Legal Unit |

REFERENCE: NSWG/03/2024	
1	1.0 OPENING: The Meeting commenced at 11:25 am with the rendition of the Second
2	Stanza of the National Anthem as the opening prayer.
3	2.0 CHAIRMAN’S OPENING REMARKS
4	The Chairman of the National Stakeholders Working Group and Secretary to the
5	Government of the Federation, Sen. George Akume, CON, welcomed NSWG members
6	and the Belgium Ambassador to Nigeria, His Excellency Mr. Pieter Leenknecht, who
7	was formally admitted as an observer in line with the EITI Openness Policy,
8	appreciating him for his sustained interest, commitment and support for EITI
9	implementation in Nigeria.
10	The Chairman reiterated the mandate given to Nigeria during the EITI mission visit in
11	January 2024 and the commitments made on behalf of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu
12	to ensure the reconstitution of the NSWG NEITI Board and the timely completion of
13	the NEITI industry reports.
14	He expressed with deep satisfaction how pleased he was that both commitments were
15	accomplished, highlighting the NEITI industry reports as a major milestone and a
16	demonstration of dedication to transparency and accountability in Nigeria's Extractive
17	Industry.
18	He acknowledged the Extractive Committee's extensive review of the draft report and
19	their valuable comments, thanking the committee for their extraordinary work, which
20	facilitated the Board's task of considering and approving the reports.
21	He also commended the teamwork between civil society, extractive companies,
22	government agencies, the NEITI Secretariat and the entire Board for their efforts in
23	reviewing and finalizing the report in preparation for necessary approvals and release
24	to the public. He concluded by thanking the NSWG once again and emphasizing
25	Nigeria’s commitment to transparency and accountability in the extractive industries
26	as important assets to the nation.
27	2.2 REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA
28	The Chairman introduced an eight-item agenda, including remarks, updates, committee
29	reports and board memos for approval. He invited the NSWG members to review the
30	agenda and provide necessary inputs before deliberations. Following a unanimous

31	agreement that the agenda was in order, the Chairman called for its adoption.
32	Mr. Olasupo Abdel-Jeleel Taiwo moved a motion for the adoption of the agenda and
33	Comrade Williams Akporeha, the NUPENG representative, seconded the motion.
34	3.0 Minutes of the Last Meeting
35	The minutes of the meeting held on 18 July 2024 were reviewed. Following comments,
36	observations, and corrections by members, Dr. Erisa Danladi Sarki (Civil Society
37	Representative) moved for their adoption, and Mr. Nasir Usman (NNPCL Representative)
38	seconded the motion, subject to the agreed amendments.
39	3.1 Matters Arising
40	3.1.1 Absence of the FIRS Representative
41	The Secretariat reported that a meeting had been held with Dr. Zacch Adedeji, Executive
42	Chairman of FIRS, to emphasise the importance of his participation in Board meetings or the
43	nomination of a proxy not below the rank of Director. However, no response had been
44	received.
45	The Board agreed that Dr. Adedeji should be contacted again and, if there is no positive
46	response, the matter should be escalated to the Secretary to the Government of the Federation
47	(SGF). <i>Action: The Executive Secretary to re-engage the FIRS Chairman on the need for</i>
48	<i>his attendance or nomination of an appropriate representative.</i>
49	3.1.2 Profiles of NSWG Members
50	The Secretariat reminded members who had not submitted their official profiles to do so for
51	documentation and website purposes.
52	<i>Action: Members yet to submit their profiles should forward them to the Board Secretariat.</i>
53	3.1.3 Creation of NSWG WhatsApp Group and Email
54	The NSWG WhatsApp group and group email have been established and are operational.
55	<i>Action: The Secretariat should ensure all members are added to the WhatsApp group, share</i>
56	<i>the group email details, and utilise both platforms for notices and document circulation.</i>
57	3.1.4 Framework for Constituency Reporting
58	The Executive Secretary presented the draft Constituency Reporting Framework and invited
59	comments from members.
60	<i>Action: Members should review the framework and provide comments for its approval at the</i>
61	<i>next meeting.</i>
62	3.1.6 NEITI Act Review
63	The Board reconstituted the NEITI Act Review Committee, appointing Barr. Lawan as Chair,

64	with Amb. Adoli and Dr. Erisa Danladi as members.
65	<i>Action: The Committee should work with Barr. Frank Tietie and the Secretariat to develop</i>
66	<i>modalities for the continued review of the NEITI Act 2007, including preparation of an</i>
67	<i>amendment Bill for stakeholder consultations and eventual presentation to the National</i>
68	<i>Assembly.</i>
69	3.1.7 NEITI Staff Promotions
70	The Secretariat sought approval for the commencement of staff promotions and proposed that
71	the Human Resources Committee work with the Secretariat to conduct the exercise.
72	<i>Action: The Human Resources Committee should collaborate with the Secretariat to</i>
73	<i>undertake the staff promotions and ensure review all required documentation before</i>
74	<i>commencement of the process</i>
75	4.0 EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S STATUS UPDATES
76	The Executive Secretary welcomed the NSWG members, highlighting NEITI's progress
77	since the last Board meeting in July as follows;
78	4.1 Secretariat Updates: He informed the Board that the HR Manual is being
79	reviewed and a request for salary review was made to the Salaries, Incomes
80	and Wages Commission after a 10-year period.
81	4.2 NSWG Activities: A weeklong induction/retreat for new Board members was held
82	in Lagos and the second NSWG meeting of 2024 was held on 18 th July 2024 on the
83	margins of the retreat was to expose the NSWG to their roles and responsibilities in
84	line with the EITI Standard.
85	4.3 Stakeholders Engagement
86	• 4.3.1 Government Engagement: NEITI's engagement with the government
87	remains strong. NEITI is part of FAAC and the Presidential Committee on Tax and
88	Fiscal Policy Reforms. NEITI is also awaiting inclusion in the National Council on
89	Climate Change.
90	• 4.3.2 Companies Engagement: The Secretariat has hosted multiple meetings with
91	companies and has commenced engaging with Dangote Refineries on the data
92	collection and compliance. The Company's Forum has been strengthened,
93	enhancing compliance.
94	• 4.3.3 Civil Society Engagement: The CSO Representative on the NSWG, has held
95	several meetings with CSOs to strengthen relationship with civil society and ensure
96	it remains strong.

97	• 4.3.4 Development Partners Engagement: NEITI's engagements with
98	development partners are robust, with ongoing support from the Ford Foundation
99	and the EU/IDEA RoLAC project.
100	• 4.3.5 National Assembly Engagement: NEITI's collaboration with the National
101	Assembly has yielded positive results, with increased attention paid to Nefertiti's
102	reports. Our relationship with the National Assembly remains cordial.
110	• 4.4.5 NEITI Industry Reports 2022 & 2023: The 2022/2023 Industry Reports for
111	oil, gas, and solid minerals are ready for consideration of the Board. The 2022 &
112	2023 FASD Report is being concluded and the Energy Transition Study will
113	commence shortly.
114	• 4.4.6 EITI Corrective Action Plan: The Secretariat has started implementing
115	corrective actions from the 2023 validation report, with the next validation
116	scheduled for January 2026.
117	• 4.4.7 NEITI House Dialogue: The next NEITI House Dialogue, a quarterly policy
118	engagement series, will be held in October 2004 in Abuja.
119	• 4.4.8 Inter-Ministerial Task Team (IMTT):
120	The NEITI IMTT was reconstituted on 13th May 2024. It includes key government
121	agencies to implement recommendations from NEITI's industry reports and
122	enhance government oversight. The next IMTT meeting is scheduled for the last
123	quarter in the year.
124	• 4.4.9 Remediation Plan: A draft remediation plan is being developed to align with
125	NEITI's mission of institutionalizing accountability in Nigeria's extractive sector.
126	The IMTT aims to increase integrity and transparency within regulatory agencies
127	and operators
128	• 4.4.10 Engagement in the Policy Space
129	NEITI published the FAAC Quarterly Review for January-June 2024, analyzing
130	allocations to the three tiers of government. Further studies on domestic resource
131	mobilization are planned.
132	• 4.4.11 EITI Engagements The International EITI Board met in Geneva,
133	Switzerland, from 14 th to 17 th June 2024. The Executive Secretary and CSO
134	representative attended the regional meeting of Anglophone and Lusophone EITI
135	implementing countries in Lusaka, Zambia, on 2 nd - 3 rd September 2024. The
136	

137	meeting focused on collaboration among EITI implementing countries in areas of
138	domestic resource mobilization, climate change, and energy transition.
139	• 4.4.12 Inter-Agency Collaboration
140	NEITI is strengthening engagement with other government agencies through
141	bilateral meetings on remediation. MoUs with the National Bureau of Statistics
142	(NBS) for data sharing and the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) for
143	protecting civic space for CSOs are being drafted.
144	• 4.4.13 NEITI Data Center Project
145	Conceived under the 2022 country work plan, the first phase of the NEITI Data
146	Center project is now complete. The Center is to serve as a one-stop shop for
147	information and data on Nigeria's extractive sector and offers training and analysis
148	in data science. NSWG members are invited to visit the Center, and further
149	information can be made available on the NSWG platform.
150	• 4.4.14 Strengthening Internal Operations
151	The HR manual is under review, a NEITI handbook and data center report have been
152	drafted, a knowledge center for the Secretariat is being established, and two FAAC
153	quarterly reviews (Q1 & Q2 2024) along with a policy advisory to the Government
154	have been published.
155	Conclusion: The Chairman Thanked the Executive Secretary for his report and invited
156	the NSWG to review the full updates available in their folders and their comments
157	were welcome on any of the matters presented before the meeting.
158	5.0 Report of the Extractive Committee of the NSWG
159	5.1 2022 & 2023 Oil and Gas Industry Audit Reports
160	The Chairman of the Extractive Committee and Representative of the OPTS, presented the
162	combined 2022 and 2023 Oil and Gas Industry Audit Reports. He informed the Board that the
163	Committee met with the Independent Administrators, the Secretariat, and the technical team to
164	review the reports' methodologies, data sources, and findings, ensuring compliance with EITI
165	Standards and transparency requirements.
166	The Committee noted that:
167	a. The methodology aligns with international standards and the data has been reconciled,
168	verified, and validated.
169	b. The reports provide credible insights into oil production, revenue flows, crude theft, and
170	importation data for 2022 and 2023.

171	c. Stakeholder consultations were effectively conducted with 65 companies and 12
172	government agencies.
173	d. The Committee reviewed and provided comments on the draft reports.
174	e. The recommendations support NEITI's objectives of enhancing transparency, curbing
175	leakages, and promoting domestic resource mobilisation.
176	5.1.1 Recommendations
177	The Committee recommended that the NSWG:
178	a. Approve the public release of the 2022 and 2023 Oil and Gas Industry Audit Reports,
179	subject to the incorporation of the Committee's comments and final editorial clean-up.
180	b. Direct the Secretariat to finalise, publish, and transmit the reports to the National Assembly
181	and the Auditor-General of the Federation in accordance with the NEITI Act.
182	c. Proceed with public dissemination and stakeholder engagement activities following
183	publication.
184	5.2 2022 & 2023 Solid Minerals Industry Audit Reports
185	The Committee also reviewed the draft 2022 and 2023 Solid Minerals Industry Audit Reports
186	with the Independent Auditor and the Secretariat. It noted that some of its observations and
187	comments had not been fully reflected in the draft reports and requested additional time for the
188	Independent Auditor to finalise the reports in consultation with the Secretariat.
189	5.2.1 Comments on the Extractive Committee Report
190	Following deliberations, members agreed that the Oil and Gas Industry Audit Reports were
191	ready for release, subject to final revisions, while the Solid Minerals Industry Audit Reports
192	required further work before publication.
193	Representative of the Miners Association of Nigeria observed that the scope of minerals
194	covered in the reports was limited and urged that all comments made by the Committee be
195	incorporated before release.
196	Amb. Pieter Leenknecht (Observer) noted that export destinations and figures for some
197	minerals were omitted and recommended that these details be comprehensively captured to
198	provide a clearer understanding of mineral flows and associated revenues.
199	The Representative of the South-south geopolitical zone commended the Committee for its
200	rigorous review process and supported the release of the Oil and Gas reports. He further
201	suggested anticipatory approval of the Solid Minerals reports, pending their finalisation by the
202	Committee and the Independent Auditor.
203	<i>Resolution - (2022 & 2023 Oil and Gas Industry Audit Reports):</i>

204	<i>The Board approved the release of the 2022 and 2023 Oil and Gas Industry Audit Reports,</i>
205	<i>subject to the incorporation of the Committee's comments and final editorial clean-up. The</i>
206	<i>Board further directed the Secretariat to publish and transmit the reports to the National</i>
207	<i>Assembly and the Auditor-General of the Federation in accordance with the NEITI Act and</i>
208	<i>to undertake public dissemination and stakeholder engagement activities.</i>
209	Resolution - (2022 & 2023 Solid Minerals Industry Audit Reports):
210	<i>The Board noted that the 2022 and 2023 Solid Minerals Industry Audit Reports were not</i>
211	<i>ready for public release and directed the Independent Auditor, under the supervision and</i>
212	<i>guidance of the Secretariat and in consultation with the Extractive Committee, to finalise</i>
213	<i>the reports within two weeks for dissemination to statutory recipients and the public.</i>
214	Having considered the presentation of the final reports by the Chairman of the Extractive
215	Committee and the comments of members, the Representative of the South-west geopolitical
216	zone moved the motion for the approval of the 2022 and 2023 Oil and Gas Industry Audit
217	Reports, which was seconded by the Representative of the South-south geopolitical zone.
218	BE IT RESOLVED THAT:
219	a. The NSWG approves the 2022 and 2023 Oil and Gas Industry Audit Reports for public
220	release in October 2024, subject to final editorial clean-up and incorporation of agreed
221	comments.
222	b. The Secretariat shall finalise, publish, and transmit the reports to the National Assembly and
223	the Auditor-General of the Federation and undertake public dissemination and stakeholder
224	engagement activities.
225	c. The NSWG grants anticipatory approval for the 2022 and 2023 Solid Minerals Industry
226	Audit Reports, pending the incorporation of comments and inputs from the NSWG and key
227	stakeholders, for release at a later date.
228	6.0 Consideration and Approval of Board Memos
239	6.1 Framework for Constituency Reporting
240	The Executive Secretary presented a memo seeking the NSWG's consideration and ratification
241	of the Framework for Constituency Reporting, developed pursuant to the Board's directive of
242	18 July 2024 and in alignment with the EITI Standard and the NEITI Act. The Framework
259	outlines stakeholder engagement mechanisms to ensure effective participation and meaningful
260	contributions by all constituencies represented on the NSWG.
261	6.1.2 Comments and Approval of the Framework for Constituency Reporting

262	The NSWG noted the draft Framework and agreed that members should undertake further
263	individual review and share comments on the platform for discussion and finalisation.
264	<i>Action: Members are to review the draft Framework and submit comments for its</i>
265	<i>finalisation and approval.</i>
267	6.2 2025 Draft NEITI Budget
268	The Executive Secretary presented the draft 2025 NEITI Budget, highlighting its focus on
269	domestic resource mobilisation, strengthening NEITI's operations in the solid minerals and gas
270	sectors, and supporting Nigeria's energy transition and inclusive economic growth agenda.
272	6.2.1 Comments and Approval of the 2025 NEITI Budget
273	Members sought clarification on provisions for project vehicles, monitoring activities, training
274	programmes, and the reduction in personnel costs. The Secretariat explained that the budget
275	remained subject to the Federal Government's appropriation, budget envelope, and existing
276	recruitment restrictions.
277	After extensive deliberation on items of the budget, the NSWG observed that more time was
278	needed to conclude on the budget however subject to the provisions for appropriation and
279	submission deadlines, the Board agreed to give its approvals subject an agreed meeting to
280	further deliberate on the activities of the budget and not the budget envelope.
281	<i>Resolution - The NSWG agreed that additional time was required to review and align the</i>
282	<i>budget projections and proposed a dedicated virtual meeting for further deliberations.</i>
283	<i>The Secretariat was requested to convene a virtual meeting to finalise the budget and</i>
284	<i>incorporate agreed observations and amendments.</i>
285	Mr. Dele Ayanleke moved the motion for the approval of the 2025 NEITI Budget, subject to
286	comments, corrections and amendments, and Comrade Williams Akporeha seconded the
287	motion.
288	BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The 2025 NEITI Budget is hereby approved, subject to the
289	incorporation of agreed comments and amendments.
290	6.4 Approval for Engagement of Consultants for FASD 2022-2023
291	The Secretariat presented a memo seeking approval for the engagement of Messrs Segun
292	Awosanya & Co., which emerged as the successful bidder through a Quality and Cost-Based
293	Selection (QCBS) process, to undertake the 2022/2023 Fiscal Allocation and Statutory
294	Disbursement (FASD) Audit. The contract value is ₦49,173,212.50 with a completion period
295	of five months.
296	6.4.1 Comments and Approval for Engagement of Consultants for FASD 2022-2023

297	Members implored the secretariat to ensure procurement appendices and supporting
298	documentation are always attached to facilitate a full appreciation of the procurement process
299	even where the NSWG does not play a direct role it has oversight.
300	Engr. Nkechi Isigwe moved the motion for approval of the engagement of Messrs Segun
301	Awosanya & Co., and Comrade Williams Akporeha seconded the motion.
302	BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The engagement of Messrs Segun Awosanya & Co. to conduct
302	the 2022/2023 FASD Audit, at a contract sum of ₦49,173,212.50 and a completion period of
303	five months, is hereby approved.
304	6.5 Ford Foundation Study on Energy Transition
305	The Secretariat presented a memo seeking approval for the engagement of Dr. Friday Ohuche,
306	Ph.D., who emerged through a competitive procurement process to undertake the Ford
307	Foundation-funded Energy Transition Study.
308	Members sought clarification on supporting documentation on the procurement process after
309	which the NSWG unanimously agreed to approve the procurement of the Consult to carry out
310	the Energy Transition Study.
311	Prof. Abubakar Muazu moved the motion for the approval of Dr. Friday Ohuche, Ph.D., as
312	consultant for the study, and Engr. Nkechi Isigwe seconded the motion.
314	BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The engagement of Dr. Friday Ohuche, Ph.D., to undertake the
315	Ford Foundation Study on Energy Transition with a completion period of five months, is
316	hereby approved.
317	7.0 Any Other Business (AOB)
318	7.1 NSWG Allowances and Logistics Arrangements
319	Members held further discussions on logistics arrangements and received clarification on
320	NSWG entitlements and allowances.
321	7.2 Provision of Working Tools
322	Engr. Nkechi Isigwe proposed the provision of iPads or laptops to NSWG members to
323	enhance the discharge of their responsibilities and support continuous capacity building on
324	emerging and technical issues.
325	7.3 Dinner at the Residence of the Belgian Ambassador
326	The Secretariat informed members of the invitation by His Excellency, Mr. Pieter Leenknecht,
327	Ambassador of Belgium to Nigeria, to a dinner at his residence in Maitama on the evening of
328	25 September 2024. Members were informed that transportation would be arranged from the
329	hotel to the Ambassador's residence.

330	7.4 NEITI Handbook
331	The NSWG welcomed the development of the NEITI Handbook as a tool for public education
332	and stakeholder engagement. Members were encouraged to provide inputs to facilitate its
333	finalisation and publication.
334	7.5 Funding
335	Dr. Erisa Danladi suggested exploring support from international partner organisations to
336	address funding gaps. Engr. Nkechi Isigwe proposed adopting a recovery-based funding model
337	similar to that of NNPCCL by leveraging recoveries arising from NEITI Industry Audit Reports.
338	7.6 Utilisation of NSWG Emails
339	Dr. Erisa Danladi advocated for the use of official NSWG email accounts alongside the
340	WhatsApp platform for reviewing reports and other documents to enhance the quality of
341	deliberations and feedback.
342	7.7 Observer Status
343	The Secretariat informed members that, in addition to being granted observer status, Amb.
344	Pieter Leenknecht had requested to be added to the NSWG WhatsApp Group. While members
345	agreed to maintain his observer status, the NSWG declined the request for inclusion in the
346	WhatsApp Group and requested clarification on the scope of observer participation in NSWG
347	activities. The Secretariat to provide guidance on the scope of EITI observer status and the
348	extent of participation of observers in NSWG meetings and activities.
349	8.0 CLOSING
350	Amb Adoli, thanked all members for their contributions to the meeting and called for
351	the adjournment for the meeting.
352	Dr Erisa Danladi Sarki, representative of the civil society moved the motion to
353	adjourn the meeting and Comrade Williams Akporeha, representative of NUPENG
354	seconded the motion.
355	The meeting ended at 3:48 pm.

SIGNED:

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Orji Ogbonnaya Orji Ph.D
 Executive Secretary

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Jane O. Onwumere
 Director Legal Services