

ELECTION OF CIVIL SOCIETY CONSTITUENCY REPRESENTATIVE ON THE NEITI NATIONAL STAKEHOLDERS WORKING GROUP (NSWG): CALL FOR VOLUNTEER NOMINATIONS INTO THE SELECTION COMMITTEE

MARCH 25, 2024

BACKGROUND

The National Stakeholders Working Group (NSWG) otherwise known as the “Multi-stakeholder Group (MSG)” or “Board” of the Nigeria Extractives Industries Transparency Initiative (NEITI) is the highest governing structure of the Nigerian chapter of the Extractives Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI). Requirement 1.4 of the EITI Standard 2023 states: “The objective of this requirement is to ensure that there is an independent multistakeholder group that can exercise active and meaningful oversight of all aspects of EITI implementation in a way that balances the interests of the three main constituencies (government, industry and civil society) and that it arrives at decisions in a consensual manner. As a precondition for achieving this objective, the multistakeholder group must include adequate representation of key stakeholders appointed on the basis of open, fair and transparent constituency procedures; make decisions in an inclusive manner; and report to wider constituencies.”

In furtherance of this Objective, a broad collective of Nigerian civil society organisations engaging with the NEITI process initiated an open and participatory process in August 2023 to i) assert the independence of the civil society constituency in the NEITI process and (ii) elaborate and agree the NEITI Civil Society Constituency Guidelines, including a Transitional Protocol for organising our constituency response to the call for a civil society nominee to the NSWG as recently issued by the Office of the Secretary of the Government of the Federation (OSGF).

The process has seen the successful presentation/endorsement of the NEITI Civil Society Constituency Guidelines and Transitional Protocol by civil society organisations, and the ongoing review of membership of the NEITI Civil Society Constituency. We are pleased to now issue this Call for Nominations into the Selection Committee (SC). In line with Articles D to L of the Transitional Protocol, the SC will coordinate the process of (i) searching for and selecting a suitable candidate for the position of Civil Society Representative on the NEITI NSWG and (ii) election and inauguration of the NEITI Civil Society Steering Committee (CSSC).

Please note that the work of the Selection Committee is non-remunerated. Although a volunteer role, this is a serious assignment that will midwife the emergence of a credible, capable, and accountable civil society champion to lead multi-stakeholder engagement on behalf of civil society at the highest level of Nigeria’s EITI and within the global EITI process. To this end, the principles of constituency self-selection, transparency, participation, and accountability must be reflected in every step of the process. Kindly note that the Selection Committee will stand dissolved on the announcement and inauguration of the CSSC.

Functions of the Selection Committee

The Selection Committee will discharge the following functions:

- I) not later than 48 hours after its inauguration issue a call for online nominations, scoring criteria for shortlisting, and guidelines for online election of a Civil Society representative on the NSWG
- II) Review nominations, interview and shortlist applicants, and publish online the scores of all candidates
- III) conduct online elections to select the Civil Society Representative on the NSWG not later than 72 hours after the call for online nominations/shortlisting criteria/guidelines for online elections are published.
- IV) publish online the names of the highest scoring three candidates who best demonstrate an understanding of the multi-stakeholder engagement model and the EITI process, the state of play in the Extractive Industry (EI) sector (including new issues in the 2023 EITI Standard), the capacity to defend and protect the interest of the Civil Society constituency on the NSWG, and the readiness to keep the broader constituency informed and engaged with the work of the NSWG
- V) inform the NEITI Secretariat of the process, scores, and names of winners, providing documentary proof of the openness, transparency, and independence of the process within 48 hours of the conclusion of the elections
- VI) instruct NEITI to, within 48 hours of receiving the communication from the Selection Committee, forward the name of the leading candidate to the Office of the Secretary of the Government of the Federation (OSGF) for onward appointment into the NSWG
- VII) On a date not later than two weeks after the official inauguration of the Board, work with the new Civil Society representative to co-convene a meeting of the Civil Society Constituency to, among other things, elect and inaugurate the members of the Civil Society Steering Committee (CSSC) in line with the provisions of the NEITI Civil Society Constituency Guidelines 2024.

Criteria for Nomination

Nominees for the Selection Committee must meet the following criteria (kindly note the scoring criteria):

- i. Be affiliated with recognised civil society organisations, but standing in their individual capacities (mandatory)
- ii. Possess at least 10 years experience managing a national NGO or NGO Coalition, preferably with evidence of decision-making involvement in leadership search/headhunting, elections, or transition processes in coalitions or networks (20 points)
- iii. Have demonstrable experience engaging with multi-stakeholder initiatives, preferably the EITI/NEITI (20 points)
- iv. Demonstrate a thorough understanding of the Civil Society Constituency Guidelines and its Transitional Protocol, especially the provisions of the Protocol related to the role of the Selection Committee (20 points)
- v. Show evidence of clarity on the role of the Civil Society Representative and the expected capabilities and strengths of the desired candidate (20 points)

- vi. Be a role model of the values of civil society engagement as enshrined in Requirement 1.3 of the EITI Standard 2023 (20 points)
- vii. Provide the names, email, and phone contacts of two credible referees who can attest to their experience, capability, and integrity (mandatory)
- viii. Individuals affiliated to civil society organisations outside of the NEITI Civil Society Constituency Database will ALSO be eligible to be nominated
- ix. Individuals working with Organisations to which Selection Committee members are affiliated CANNOT be nominated/elected in the Elections for NEITI Civil Society Representative
- x. At least one of the three members of the Selection Committee must be female

NOMINATION GUIDELINES

- Nominations (including self-nominations) should include the name, organisation affiliation, email address, and WhatsApp phone number of the nominee, a brief resume (not more than three pages), and a statement (not more than 300-words) explaining the nominee's suitability and motivation for the role.
- Nominations should be sent to the Guidelines Committee by email: neiticoconstituencyguidelines@gmail.com with the subject line "Nominations for NEITI CS Selection Committee"
- All nominations must be received on or before **midnight WAT on 27th March, 2024.**

Kindly share this information with Civil Society Organisations within your networks.