

9th October 2013

Civil Society elects representatives for PNGEITI MSG

Civil Society representatives from all four regions of Papua New Guinea today endorsed and self-selected seven Civil Society Organisation (CSO) representatives to participate in the formal - PNG Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) Multi Stakeholder Group (MSG) that will be established upon the invitation by Treasurer Hon. Don Polye in November 2013.

This process took place over the last three days at the Second National CSO Consultation conference held in Port Moresby 7-9 October 2013.

The seven CSO organisations are; Transparency International PNG Inc. (TIPNG), Institute of National Affairs (INA), Consultative Implementation & Monitoring Council (CIMC), PNG Council of Churches (PNGCC), Papua New Guinea Mining Watch Inc. (PNGMW), Business Against Corruption Alliance (BACA) and PNG Eco Forestry Forum.

The names of the CSO self-selected representatives and their organizations will be presented to the Treasurer Hon. Don Polye to issue the formal invitation to stakeholders by the end of this week.

In May 2013, the Government of PNG announced at the 6th Global EITI Conference its intention to apply for EITI candidacy. The application for candidacy involves the invitation of Civil Society and Industry to join the State in implementing the EITI.

The EITI sets a global standard for revenue transparency between companies and governments from natural resource extraction activities. It is a robust yet flexible mechanism for monitoring and reconciling these payments and receipts.

Two key requirements of the EITI standard are :

1. Companies publish what they pay and governments publish what they receive in an EITI report
2. This process is overseen by a multi-stakeholder group of governments, companies and civil society and published in a National EITI Report that is accessible to the public for its review, dialogue and debate.

PNG is a resource rich country and with good governance the exploitation of these resources can generate large revenues to foster economic growth and reduce poverty.

The EITI aims to strengthen governance by improving transparency and accountability in the capture of revenues from extractive industry sector.

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