TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE CIVIL SOCIETY ADVISORY GROUP (CSAG)

This document provides information on the make-up, roles and responsibilities of a body newly created under the 2019 Guidelines to support and enhance internal governance of the CSO EITI constituency. The body aims to make the selection process of EITI CSO Board members more independent, transparent, equitable and regionally representative. The body is called the "Civil Society Advisory Group" (CSAG), and is established every 3 years.

Background
The EITI Civil Society Board Members of 2016-2019 endorsed new Constituency Guidelines for Civil Society ('the Guidelines) in February 2019. The Guidelines provide for the establishment of a CSAG with responsibilities that include the selection of EITI CSO Board members. To be clear, the CSAG members are not Board members. Rather, the CSAG members select nominations to become the CSO Board members. A central new feature of how the civil society Constituency is self-organizing is to create a closer connection to regional constituencies while ensuring efficiency in Board member selection. The Guidelines establish that an Independent Organization (IO) will facilitate the process to establish the CSAG. The information below is based on the Guidelines.

CSAG Membership
The CSAG will include ten members as follows:

- Six members will be representatives selected from each of the following regions, respectively (1 representative per region): 1) Eurasia; 2) Francophone Africa; 3) Anglophone and Lusophone Africa; 4) Southeast Asia and Pacific; 5) Latin America and Caribbean; and 6) Europe, North America and Middle East and North Africa;

- Two members will be representatives of international CSOs; and

- Two members will be former EITI CSO Board members, or current EITI CSO Board members who do not intend to present a candidacy.

CSAG Responsibilities
The CSAG's main responsibility is to select the individuals from the civil society constituency to be nominated for appointment to the EITI Board at the EITI Members' Meeting. The CSO constituency nominates five Board members and five alternates. The IO will support the CSAG by managing the selection process for the EITI CSO Board members.

More specifically, the list of CSAG responsibilities include:

- To select the EITI CSO Board members (including screening of initial candidates, interviewing them, developing the short-list, and final selection based on criteria);

- To resolve grievances against an incumbent CSO Board member;

- To receive plans from CSO Board members related to self-assessment tools; and

- To be consulted by the IO on issues regarding objections or disputes to the nomination of CSO Board members.

Role of the Independent Organization in Establishing the CSAG
An IO shall facilitate the process to establish the CSAG, convene it, and provide logistical support during selection and nomination of the CSO Board members. To date, the Consensus Building Institute (CBI) has been contracted by Publish What You Pay as the IO for purposes of facilitating the process of CSAG establishment.