

Africa Steering Committee Meeting

Paris, France

20 June 2019

MINUTES

Participants:

ASC members

1. Mutuso Dhliwayo, East and Southern Africa representative, Zimbabwe (MD)
2. Sangare Tiemoko, Francophone West Africa representative, Mali (ST)
3. Moses Kulaba, EITI Board member, Tanzania (MK)
4. Dupleix KUENZOB, Central Africa representative, Cameroon (DK)
5. Brice Mackosso, EITI Board member, Congo Brazzaville (BM)

PWYP Secretariat

1. Demba SEYDI, Regional Coordinator FWA (DS)
2. Nelly BUSINGYE, Regional Coordinator ESA (NB)
3. Elisa PETER, Executive Director (EP)
4. Eric BISIL, Regional Coordinator Central Africa (attended remotely)

Apologies: Erisa DANLADI, Faith NWADISHI, Mtwalo MSONI

Acronyms

ASC : Africa Steering Committee

AWA: Anglophone West Africa

RCs: Regional Coordinators

ACTIONS

ACTIONS	By Who	By When
Share PWYP Africa Protection Strategy	Secretariat	Immediate
Send comments to the secretariat on the 2020 PWYP Africa Conference concept note	Secretariat	30th June
Constitute a committee that will consult with members and receive feedback on the elections of the CSO representatives to the EITI Board	ASC Chair	End of July

Decision

- Constitute a committee to look into the issues raised by members in regards to the EITI CSO board nominations
- The next ASC online meeting will take place in August date TBC.

Introduction

MD welcomed members and secretariat staff to the meeting. He informed the meeting that Anglophone West Africa was not represented because of visa challenges. He also noted, that the ASC will have only one female representative after the departure of Faith Nwadishi. The agenda was adopted with amendments. In absentia, MD congratulated Mtwalo Msoni upon his election to the EITI Board and welcomed him to the Africa Steering Committee. MK was also appreciated during the meeting for his tenure as a CSO representative to the EITI Board and encouraged to continue supporting and working closely with the ASC and PWYP members.

Adoption of Minutes/ Review of actions

NB presented an overview of the actions from the two previous in-person meetings in Brussels and Dakar. The PWYP Africa Protection Strategy was shared with the ASC, however the ASC was not able to provide comments. It was agreed that it is shared again for their information. DK met PWYP members in Gabon to discuss progress made on the process of re-engagement. Three organisations are working with EB to finalise the process.

The minutes of the last meeting were adopted.

Updates from sub-regions

The secretariat provided updates from each sub-region.

East & Southern Africa

NB shared a number of actions over the past five months. She participated in the 2019 Alternative Mining Indaba (AMI), a breakout session was organised by PWYP members jointly with Global Witness, PWYP SA and Zimbabwe on **'Finding the Millions: Using Extractive Companies' Revenue Disclosures for Tax Justice'**. The session was attended by various organisations attending the AMI, it was facilitated by PWYP Zimbabwe, PWYP South Africa, Global Witness and Natural Resources Governance Institute. She also informed members that all ESA members were represented at the Global Assembly. A number of fundraising activities took place during the period. PWYP received a grant from the Finnish Ministry of Foreign Affairs amounting to 1million euros, the grant is a multi country project titled: **'Promoting the equitable and transparent generation and allocation of extractives revenues for sustainable development.'** covering Tanzania, Mozambique and Uganda, the work is centered around tax and extractives, with support going to the PWYP coalitions in the countries to carry out various activities on research, advocacy and capacity building. A Proposal to World Bank for a project titled **'Contracts for Accountability'**, the lead grantee is Natural Resource Governance Institute (NRGI) in collaboration with PWYP. Implementing countries will include: Tanzania, Guinea and Eurasia. Disbursements for the OSISA grant for PWYP Coalition in Southern Africa is underway, a number of delays have been encountered, however the coalitions have embarked on implementation. An additional Concept note drafted in consultation with the PWYP

national coordinators of Zambia, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Madagascar, Malawi was submitted to OSISA, however no feedback has been received. NB also informed the ASC that the PWYP SA national coordinator had resigned, the coalition steering committee is leading the process to address the gaps and challenges faced by the coalition. She also noted that a number of the coalitions have been engaged in various advocacy activities at national and regional level. For example; the coalition in Uganda is working with other civil society organisations to strengthen participation in the EITI sign up process. Three members of the PWYP coalition out of five civil society representatives are members of the Multi-stakeholder group in Uganda. Zambia held their 2019 Alternative Mining Indaba from 12-14th June 2019 bringing together over 100 participants from various provinces including community members, local leaders, national civil society organisations. Malawi held a number of activities to provide input into the MWEITI Validation report.

Central Africa

Between May and June 2019, Eric Bisil's (EB) actions consisted mainly about learning the challenges facing coalitions in Central Africa and Madagascar but also in identifying the opportunities available to them. To do this, he conducted a survey with the national coordinators of the 7 coalitions in Central Africa and Madagascar. The study report will be available by July 15. In addition to carrying out this inventory, EB actively took part in the secretariat's working sessions on drawing up the 2022 operational plan. He also have actively participated in the mobilization of civil society actors for their participation in the EITI Conference held in Paris. EB also worked participating in the preparation of the next PWYP Francophone Africa regional meeting. He also supports Marion in the civic space pilot project which will contribute to the development of PWYP's strategy for the protection of the civic rights of PWYP members. It also supports the PWYP Madagascar coalition in the implementation of the OSISA-funded project, which aims essentially to help this coalition to adopt a strategic plan but also to organize its general assembly in the coming months.

Francophone West Africa

DS presented the progress made on the implementation of the gender project, including the printed final report, the capacity building and strategy workshops planned in the three pilot countries (Burkina Faso, Guinea and Senegal) by the end of July. As part of the EITI Global Conference, DS has made a presentation on "*Gender-equality and women's participation in EITI- based on the West Africa pilot Project's findings*" during the CSO half day with participation of delegates from different regions. The participants show interest of hosting similar project with support from PWYP.

Still on gender, DS mentioned that the 2019 EITI Standard has made explicit reference to considering gender in EITI implementation. Specifically, the Standard will require MSGs to consider gender balance in representation; require disclosure of employment figures by company, gender, and occupational level; encourage gender considerations in dissemination of EITI data; and encourage MSGs to document how they have taken gender considerations and inclusiveness into account.

On civic space, DS reminded that two civil society activists are still detained in Niger. He recommended the ASC to keep supporting the coalition in Niger on this, potentially by seizing the ECOWAS Commission and any other regional body to urge Niger government to release these activists. Demba informed the ASC members that he will be travelling to Niger with Marion MONDAIN, the PWYP Human Rights and Civic Space Advisor, as part of the implementation of the Pilot Project in two

selected High-Risk countries (Niger and Congo B.). This project aims to help define – by first mapping the possibilities and priorities for PWYP engagement in two selected high risk countries - an effective approach for PWYP to defend human rights and civic space with regard to extractive transparency. It will serve as a basis to better understand the challenges and needs of PWYP members on the ground in order to inform the design of a long-term strategy to address civic space issues impacting the movement.

The coalition In Guinea Bissau has recently organised a general assembly (26 – 28 April 2019) with attendance of Demba and various officials from the government. The coalition has elected a new young national coordinator and steering committee including young activists and women. PWYP needs to support the new leadership on capacity building and outreach to donors so that they can fulfil successfully their mandate.

From 17 to 19 July, Demba and Eric are organising the PWYP Francophone Africa regional meeting hosted by PWYP Cote D'Ivoire. Demba has shared the progress on the preparations. The meeting will include learning and experience sharing sessions, sub-regional caucuses to identify potential campaign opportunities in each. A complete day will be devoted to the operational plan of PWYP Vision 2025. This will be organised under the harmonised methodology in each PWYP regional meeting.

As part of the PWYP Pan African Advocacy Agenda on the Africa Mining Vision, Demba informed that PWYP has commissioned a consultant to undertake a synthesis of the research and advocacy work done to date by national PWYP coalitions in Africa to advance implementation of the AMV, and identify key policy asks. The advocacy agenda aims to advance key elements of the AMV, including in relation to stability clauses and tax holidays; public disclosure of extractive contracts and beneficial owners of extractive projects; protection of civic space; and enabling women to effectively participate in natural resource governance decisions.

Anglophone West Africa (written report shared by Stephanie)

Since the last ASC meeting, progress to implement the recommendations from the Liberia ASC mission report have stalled entirely. Despite clear recommendations for next steps (revising the coalition's charter, preparing for leadership elections and holding a General Assembly) as well as a budget being made available by the PWYP Secretariat, the current coordinator of the coalition was unable to get sufficient response/interest from members to fix a date for a meeting before the end of 2018, and has not shown any evidence of being able to push this agenda forward since then. As a result, Liberia was not represented at the PWYP Global Assembly.

The Secretariat has made the same funding available in 2019 and is proposing to work again in 2019 with the consultant, Sam Tokpah, to try to ensure that the recommendations are implemented. This is a serious challenge and one on which the ASC may need to provide further encouragement to the members in Liberia; or consider whether to de-list the coalition. In the region more widely, the Secretariat has consulted with the AWA ASC representative, and subsequently with the ASC via email, on engaging Sam Tokpah to continue supporting the ASC's re-engagement efforts, including to coordinate the planning for an AWA regional meeting in September 2019; and to undertake outreach to coalition members in Ghana and Sierra Leone. In terms of achievement, PWYP Nigeria has recently launched a campaign – [#Wetinwegain](#) – aiming to provide accessible information to Nigerian citizens

about revenues received for oil, so that they can ask informed questions about how those revenues have been used for the public benefit.

Discussion on sub-regional reports and key issues/ challenges and lessons learned

MK sought clarification on the scope of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) Finland project and if Kenya could be included. It was noted that the countries selected for the MFA Finland grant were priority countries for the grant in addition to complimenting the work that Finland is doing on tax justice in Tanzania and Mozambique. However, there are other funding opportunities that the secretariat is pursuing for other regions and countries. NB also clarified that the challenges facing the PWYP Coalition in SA are being handled by the steering committee, the secretariat is working closely with the coalition chair and the host institution. The coalition in Mozambique is also undertaking a review of their engagement strategy and will be organising an AGM before the end of the year. DK also emphasised the fact that national coalitions should be able to use their structures to resolve any issues with some support from the secretariat and the ASC representatives. ST also emphasized the need to pay attention to the code of conduct to allow the coalitions work better in the structures provided for.

The committee also discussed the importance of having more female representation at the ASC level as it was noted during the meeting that the ASC will only have one female representative. ST noted that it is important to strengthen the representation of women at national coalition level because if it is not addressed, it will manifest itself at much higher positions like the ASC and EITI board. It was proposed that RCs carry out an assessment on why some women are having obstacles in vying for positions at different levels national, regional and globally. It was also noted that it is important to reach out to young women (youth) as a way of encouraging more female representation at different levels.

Africa Regional meetings / Africa Conference

NB and DS presented an overview of the regional meetings and 2020 PWYP Africa Conference. It was noted that all regional coordinators will be organising regional meetings between June and September 2019. The meetings are aimed at consulting members on the operational plan for the first three years of the 2025 strategy. They are targeting coalition coordinators and selected representatives of the coalition to strategise on areas that will be key in the implementation of vision 2025.

NB presented an overview of the 2020 Africa Conference. The conference is scheduled to take place either July or August 2020. An open call for the application of the host of the conference will be sent out beginning of July. The ASC will take their decision and communicate to members by end of August 2019. The committee agreed that it was important to give an opportunity to regions that have not hosted in the recent past for example; West Africa, Central Africa and East Africa. NB informed the committee that once the decision has been made on the host, the secretariat will work closely with the organising committee including representatives from the ASC to fundraise and reach out to all members to organise a successful Africa Conference.

Vision 2025: Operational Plan 2020 - 2022

EP presented the process that will take place from June to September 2019 to operationalise Vision 2025 and reported back on the Global Council's meeting (Istanbul, May 2019), which DK had unfortunately not been able to attend (visa issues). EP noted that the new Global Council members had agreed the following collective priorities for their 3 year term:

1. The GC will lead the implementation of the Global Goals of Vision 2025 strategy to 2022

2019 goal: The GC will actively participate in the regional meetings in 2019 to support the development of effective implementation plans across the global coalition

2. The GC commits to learning and integrating lessons to enhance PWYP's global impact

2019 goal: The Global Council will share information and best practices from their respective organisations/coalitions to inform the development of PWYP's monitoring, evaluation and learning framework for Vision 2025

3. The GC will ensure that empowered people and communities are at the centre of PWYP's agenda for change

2019 goal: the GC will support the development of clear advocacy messaging before, during and after the EITI global conference in relation to protection of civic space .

EP also noted that the GC had expressed a preference for the PWYP Secretariat to take the lead on implementing two of the four goals of Vision 2025 (Informed, Influential, Heard, Connected), specifically "Heard"(to support and defend the right of citizens, particularly the most marginalised, to be involved in decisions that affect them) and "Connected" (to build an effective and inclusive global coalition which works through collective action). It was suggested that the national coalitions could take the leadership at regional level to promote the goals "Informed" (identify and campaign for information which needs to be in the public domain for citizens to use) and "Influential"(to use data and information to drive the changes we want to see).

The role of the Secretariat as well as the role of the national coalitions in driving the implementation of Vision 2025 will be further explored through a series of regional meetings in MENA (June), Francophone Africa (July), Europe/North America (July), Anglophone East and Southern Africa (August), Eurasia & Anglophone West Africa (September) and Latin America (September). It is expected that a 3 year implementation plan for Vision 2025 for the global movement (as well as programme of work for the Secretariat) will be ready before the end of the year based on all the input received through the regional consultations for the years 2020-2023.

Welcoming new ASC members

MD noted that the new ASC member; Mtwalo Msoni could not make it for the ASC meeting because the flight could not be changed. Therefore, MK was asked to give remarks on his tenure in the ACS as well as a de- brief on the EITI CSO board elections. MK highlighted the work he has been involved in since he became a member of the ASC . He cited areas that have improved for example: i) the role of the ASC in recruitment of the regional coordinators, ii) streamlining the communication between the RCs and the committee iii) identifying the work the ASC does. MK shared with members areas that need to be strengthened which include; i) the number of members on the ASC , this is because

currently the number has reduced from seven to six, ultimately this could affect decision making in the committee- he suggested a review of the Africa Charter to address this issue as this could even reduce further in future. MK also recommended the need to strengthen communication and coordination between the national coalition and RCs. He also informed the committee that the Africa representation at the EITI board needs to be followed up as seen from the last board nominations where the Africa representatives have reduced from three to two. He also highlighted the issues raised by members of the Anglophone/ Lusophone region on the issue of individual versus organisational representation which needs to be clarified during the selection process for CSO EITI board members.

In response to MK's remarks, the chair appreciated his contribution to the ASC and encouraged him to continue working with the ASC and members. MD suggested that the secretariat provides a symbol of appreciation to the outgoing ASC members. MD also noted that a meeting for Anglophone/Lusophone representatives was held on the sidelines of the EITI conference, and the issues MK raised were discussed. The ASC agreed that it was important to constitute a committee to generate more feedback from members to feed into reviews that will be done on the EITI CSO board selection process. It was also noted that there is a need to look into how grievances are raised and handled. DK also noted that it is important to resolve the matters raised.

In regards to communication, NB informed the committee, a lot of progress had been made to enhance communication with members, however there are still challenges in getting adequate responses from coalitions even after using multiple sources of communication.

New Countries

Members discussed Gabon and Equatorial Guinea, there was a general consensus of the need to discuss more broadly how best to address the issues around civic space. The ASC members agreed to include this to the discussions of the ASC sub-committee. For Gabon, PWYP needs to make sure that the re-engagement process takes into consideration the previous issues faced with this coalition. Potentially, they will have a side meeting with delegates from Gabon at the francophone regional meeting in Abidjan in July.

Any other business

The committee discussed the challenges in having the online meeting. They agreed that the secretariat continues using the Blue Jeans option because of the challenges faced in the direct phone option that did not work well during the last ASC call.

Close of meeting

The Chair thanked members for attending the meeting. The next ASC meeting will take place online in August on a date to be confirmed by the secretariat in consultation with members.