



GOVERNMENT OF SIERRA LEONE
National Council for Civic Education and Development (NaCCED)
No. 21 Steward Street, Freetown

Minutes for OGP SC Meeting

Place: 21 Steward Street

Date: 28th July, 2023

Time: 2:00 pm

Agenda:

- Opening prayers
- Self-Introduction
- Welcome remarks
- Update on the NAP 4 Implementation and key Actions around the NAP V Development
- Revision of the Steering Committee membership
- OGP Global Summit in Estonia 6 – 7 September
- AOB
- Adjournment

Introduction: The OGP Coordinator, Mrs Hannah Jimmy called the meeting to order at 2. 20pm. The meeting started off with individual silent prayers. The meeting started with self-introductions as there were new representatives from Ministries Department and Agencies and Civil Society organizations. Mrs Jimmy in her welcoming remarks, on behalf of the Chairman thanked SC members for coming to the meeting and acknowledged the turnout for this meeting. She thanked all members present for the various roles they played in the just concluded general elections. She encouraged all to try as hard as possible to be attending meeting on time. She went on to say that just before we postponed all meetings due to elections activities SC members were expected to have conducted a parallel monitoring visit to implementing agencies to assess the implementation progress of the milestones in the various commitments. The OGP unit provided the monitoring tool, sent out letters and provided resources to carry out this activity, Transparency International and Education for All Coalition were the only SC members who conducted this activity and sent in their report. She encouraged members to be more committed to the process and being members of this local global initiative requires their full participation and commitment in all related activities. Their lack of participation will affect Sierra Leone's prominence in the OGP global stage.

Update on the National Action Plan (NAP) 4 implementation Progress and the NAP 5 Development. Mrs Jimmy reminded SC members that we are almost at the end of the NAP 4 implementation process and will soon commence activities related to the NAP 5 development process.



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The process will entail lots of consultations, sensitization and expert meetings which will need the collective participation and commitment of all SC members to ensure that the NAP 5 commitments are robust and aligned with government priority programs. Rev. Diamond Suma in his response firstly gave a brief update on the progress of implementation on the open parliament commitment. He reiterated Parliament commitment to the OGP process as always, The office space for CSO has been set up and fully equipped, The Parliamentary Civil Society Organization Network (ParlCSONet) that comprise representation from the political parties in parliament, OGP Unit, Development partners and civil society has also been set up. The committee has met, drafted and agreed on their terms of reference and their respective roles. Parliament is currently organizing training for new members of parliament on the OGP process. He further noted that CSO should familiarize themselves with the roles of the various committees in Parliament and encouraged all present to be participating in the annual budgetary process.

There was representation from Electoral Commission Sierra Leone, since this was his first meeting he observed and promised to report and send updates on progress of implementation on the Elections commitment. The representative from the Justice Sector Coordinating Unit said they are working hard to ensure an independent and impartial judiciary, the need to give maximum satisfaction when it comes to legal procedures and ensure citizens are confident in court decisions. He briefly outlined challenges which are not limited to inadequate funds and also access to technical resources.

Mrs Jimmy proposed that for the NAP 5 development process, in collaboration with Steering committee members to hold one big consultation, in Freetown inviting two representatives at district level (1 from Civil Society and 1 from the media) this consultation will go along with sensitizations of the process, the next activity will be putting together these feedback and then start engaging on expert meetings. After the expert meetings, the draft document will be up for public comments and feedback. NaCCED will coordinate a pre cabinet briefing on draft commitment and milestones and then do a final document for sub mission to OGP Global Support Unit (See attached a draft of proposed activity as against the time line). Mrs Jimmy informed SC members that Sierra Leone has now opted for the four years implementation period for National Action Plans instead of the two years plan we are currently on. This 4 year period will give government enough time to fully implement the milestones in the commitments. Mrs Lavina Banduah agreed that the two years implementation period was really short and cautioned that even though the four years is a long time we should be mindful of submitting many commitments. Mr Ismail Kanu agreed that we should still maintain having four to six bold, transformative and ambitious commitments.

Mrs Jimmy further encouraged Civil Society members to recommend or propose commitments that we can start with and take to the public for their inputs. In addition she also informed the Steering Committee members present of an email she received from OGP Uganda proposing Sierra Leone OGP consider a commitment on prioritizing women's participation in public procurement. Rev Wilfred



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Bangura from Anti-Corruption Commission said that indeed it is something that they will be interested in especially with the Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Act which encourages the participation of women in governance.

Revision of the Steering Committee membership.: Since the development of the NAP 4 and through out its implementation period, the Steering committee has continuously been challenged with the full commitment and participation of members, this has been noted in several meetings. Mrs Jimmy proposed that SC members consider a revision of the current membership as we are about to commence the development of a new national action. Rev Diamond said that we should send these defaulting Departments, Agencies and Civil Society representatives an email and give them a final reprimand before we consider such a move. This recommendation was seconded by Mr Joseph Conteh.

OGP Global Summit 2023 .The OGP Global will be hosting its annual global summit in Estonia at the capital city of Tallinn, on the 5th to the 7th of September 2023. The registration for participants closed in May and Mrs Jimmy asked for SC members who registered for this event. She also informed members that she has asked for late registration link for Senior government officials which OGP- Support Unit sent and she has shared with the Hon Speaker and Clerk of Parliament respectively and the Minister of Information and Civic Education. She will be working with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to facilitate the issuance of a Schengen visa to members of the Sierra Leone Delegation.

AOB .Mrs Hannah Jimmy recommended that the location of the next steering committee meeting be the new ACC office which was seconded by Rev Alusine Diamond Suma. Rev Wilfred said he will confirm with the Commissioner ACC and revert. Rev Alusine Diamond Suma moved the motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Mr Ismail Kanu.

ATTENDANCE

Mrs Hannah Hamida Jimmy -	NaCCED
Mr Moses Konuwa –	EFA/SL
Rev Alusine Diamond Suma -	WFD
Ms Nancy Koroma -	MIC
Mr Joseph M Conteh -	JSCO
Mr Martin M Rogers -	MoF
Mr Abdul Rahman Sesay -	BAN
Idrissa Koroma -	EFA/SL
Mr Edmundson Sony Cole -	NaCCED
Mr Michael Lebbie -	NaCCED
Mr Alhassan Sesay -	RAIC
Rev Wilfred Bangura -	ACC



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Mr Ismail Kanu -
Mrs Lavina Banduah -

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