

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP  
STEERING COMMITTEE (OGP-SC) MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 15<sup>TH</sup>  
DECEMBER, 2022 AT THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE OFFICE OF THE  
SENIOR PRESIDENTIAL ADVISOR AT 11:00 AM**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

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| 1. Hon. Yaw Osafo-Mafo       | Senior Presidential Advisor (Chairman)  |
| 2. Mrs. Thelma Ohene-Asiamah | Director, F&A and OGP PoC, PSRS         |
| 3. Ms. Mary A. Addah         | Programmes Manager, GII                 |
| 4. Ms. Regina O. Amanfo      | Senior Programmes Officer, CDD-Ghana    |
| 5. Mr. Mawuli Segbefia       | Ministry of Information                 |
| 6. Mrs. Linda Ofori-Kwafo    | Executive Director, GII                 |
| 7. Mr Richard Ebo Amuah      | Chief Budget Analyst, MoF               |
| 8. Ms. Esther Ahulu          | Programmes Manager, CHRI/RTI Coalition  |
| 9. Dr. Emmanuel Ayifah       | SEND-Ghana                              |
| 10. Dr. Eric Oduro Osae      | Director General, Internal Audit Agency |
| 11. Mr. Musah Issah          | Ministry of Communication MoC / NITA    |

**ABSENT WITH APOLOGY**

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| 1. Mrs. Halima S. Yakubu  | Chief Director, PSRS                       |
| 2. Hon. Emmanuel Bedzrah  | Member of Parliament, Ho West Constituency |
| 3. Dr. Kwesi Jonah        | Senior Research Fellow, IDEG               |
| 4. Charles Nana Antwi     | Deputy Executive Director, EOCO            |
| 5. Hon. Ama Pomaa Boateng | Member of Parliament, Juaben Constituency  |
| 6. Ms. Kathy Addy         | Deputy Chair, NCCE                         |
| 7. Ms. Domtie Sarpong     | Principal State Attorney, ORC              |
| 8. Mr. Isaac Aidoo        | OGP PoC, STMA                              |
| 9. Ms. Mina Mensah        | Director, CHRI, Africa Office              |
| 10. Dr. Steve Manteaw     | Co-Chair GHEITI                            |
| 11. Ms. Nafi Chinery      | West Africa Regional Manager, NRG          |
| 12. Mr. Kwabena Denkyira  | Director, HRMD, MLGRD                      |
| 13. Mrs. Eunice Osae      | Director, CMD, OHCS                        |

**IN ATTENDANCE**

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| 1. Ms. Annette O. Boateng   | Programme Officer, PSRS |
| 2. Mr. Nana Kwabena Nketiah | IT/IM Officer, PSRS     |

NO.	MINUTES	ACTION BY
1.0	<p><b>OPENING</b></p> <p>The meeting was called to order at 11:20 am with a prayer by Ms. Annette O. Boateng, Programme Officer.</p> <p>The meeting was chaired by Hon. Yaw Osafo-Maafo, Senior Presidential Advisor and Chairman of the Open Government Partnership (OGP) National Steering Committee.</p>	
1.1	<p><b>Opening Remarks by Chairman</b></p> <p>The Chairman, Hon. Yaw Osafo-Maafo welcomed all members and remarked that, the meeting was the last meeting for the year 2022. He congratulated all Steering Committee members for their immense contribution in ensuring that implementation of OGP succeeded in Ghana. He further wished all members a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.</p>	
2.0	<p><b>CORRECTION AND ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES</b></p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting was read but no corrections were made.</p> <p>In the absence of any corrections, Dr. Eric Oduro Osae, Director General, Internal Audit Agency moved for the adoption of the previous minutes as a working document and was seconded by Ms. Mary A. Addah, Programmes Manager, Ghana Integrity Initiative (GII).</p>	
3.0	<p><b>MATTERS ARISING</b></p>	
3.1	<p><b>Update on Conference on Beneficial Ownership Disclosure and discussion on way forward</b></p> <p>The OGP Point of Contact, Mrs. Thelma Ohene-Asiamah indicated that the Committee which was constituted to work on the issues and recommendations that came out of the Beneficial Ownership Conference was unable to meet in view of several activities that came up.</p> <p>The Chairman advised that the Committee should meet in the second week of January to complete the task.</p>	<p><b>OGP, PoC</b></p>

<b>4.0</b>	<b>MAIN BUSINESS</b>	
<b>4.1</b>	<p data-bbox="288 264 1209 338"><b>Report on the participation of Ghana in the 2022 OGP Africa and Middle East Regional Meeting and Matters Arising</b></p> <p data-bbox="288 376 1209 483">The OGP Point of Contact, Mrs. Thelma Ohene-Asiamah briefed members on the 2022 OGP Africa and the Middle East Regional Meeting.</p> <p data-bbox="288 488 1209 629">She indicated that from 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> November, 2022, the Senior Presidential Advisor together with the Point of Contact participated in the 2022 Africa and the Middle East Regional Meeting held in Marrakech, Morocco.</p> <p data-bbox="288 674 1209 887">Ms Mary A. Addah, Programmes Manager, Ghana Integrity Initiative and Mr. Isaac Aidoo, Point of Contact, Sekondi-Takoradi Municipal Assembly who are all Steering Committee members also participated in the meeting. The Municipal Chief Executives from Shama and Sekondi Takoradi and other Civil Society Organisation (CSO) representatives from Ghana also participated in the Regional Meeting.</p> <p data-bbox="288 931 1209 1144">According to her, the meeting began with a grand opening ceremony where several speakers such as the Minister for Digital Transition and Administration Reform in Morocco, the Chief Executive Officer, OGP, Mr. Sanjay Pradhan, the Co-Chair for the Global OGP Steering Committee, Aidan Eyakuze took their turns to make statements and it was a great success.</p> <p data-bbox="288 1189 1209 1256">The Chairman also participated in three panel discussions on the first day, 1<sup>st</sup> November, 2022.</p> <p data-bbox="288 1301 1209 1469">The first was the Ministerial and High-Level meeting. According to her, it was a facilitated conversation which was attended by other Ministers and High-Level personalities from the Region. The Chairman was accompanied by the Point of Contact and Ghana's Ambassador to Morocco.</p> <p data-bbox="288 1514 1209 1727">The second panel discussion was on the theme; <i>OpenGov for Impact, Improving Lives through Responsiveness, Just and Efficient Delivery</i>. It was a chat show kind of discussion, and it was very successful. She further stated that throughout the Conference other speakers referred to statements the Chairman made when he was on the panel discussion which showed the impact that his participation made.</p> <p data-bbox="288 1771 1209 1951">The third Panel discussion was on "Who benefits from Infrastructure Investments?". According to her, Ghana shared lessons from the application of Beneficial Ownership Disclosure. The Chairman was represented on this panel discussion by Ms Mary Addah, Programmes Manager, GII and this was also very successful.</p>	

<p>4.2</p>	<p>On the second day, according to the Point of Contact, the Chairman had a Bilateral meeting with Mr. Sanjay Pradhan, Chief Executive Officer, OGP where several discussions were held on Ghana's membership on the OGP, and how Ghana could be more visible on the OGP.</p> <p>Several strategies were discussed and agreed with the Chief Executive Officer, OGP regarding Ghana's membership. It was further agreed that discussions would be held on the issues discussed with the OGP Regional Lead, Africa and the Middle East after the Christmas holidays. The Committee constituted to work on issues that came out on the Conference on Beneficial Ownership Disclosure to also discuss and submit recommendations on issues that came out of the Bilateral meeting with the Chief Executive Officer, OGP in Morocco.</p> <p>The Chief Executive Officer told the Chairman that he would like to see Ghana vie for a position on the Global OGP Steering Committee and to consider advancing a commitment in political party financing in the next Action Plan. He said they were ready to share experiences from other countries so that Ghana could take it up.</p> <p>The Chief Executive Officer also wanted Ghana to join the Beneficial Ownership Leadership group and to also attend the OGP Global Summit that will happen in 2023 in Tallinn, Estonia.</p> <p>The OGP Point of Contact informed members that she participated in a Points of Contact meeting where issues regarding development and implementation of Action Plans were discussed. The new standards by the Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) Team of the OGP were also explained and discussed.</p> <p>She added that the day was climaxed with a Gala Dinner hosted by the Government of Morocco.</p> <p>On the third day, the Point of Contact participated in several meetings including a Consultative Meeting to discuss the OGP Strategy document for the next medium-term.</p> <p><b>Discussion on status of implementation of 4<sup>th</sup> OGP National Action Plan and way forward</b></p> <p>The OGP Point of Contact informed members that by June 2023 the implementation of the 4<sup>th</sup> Action Plan would have come to an end. She added that Ghana would be assessed by the implementation of the milestones that was stated in the 4<sup>th</sup> Action Plan.</p> <p>She suggested that the committee should work towards organising some Feedback and Monitoring Sessions to gather information from Implementing Agencies to prepare a Self-Assessment report.</p>	<p><b>Sub-Committee</b></p>
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	<p>She indicated that during a Stakeholder engagement on the implementation of the 4<sup>th</sup> National Action Plan in October 2022 a matrix for monitoring implementation was presented to participants and therefore that will be used to also collate information from Implementing Agencies. She further stated that she was yet to forward the matrix to the Implementing Agencies to populate and provide information on the status of implementation.</p> <p>Ms. Esther Ahulu, Programmes Manager, CHRI/RTI Coalition suggested the workshop should be done virtually to solicit feedback from the focal persons due to budgetary constraints.</p> <p>Hon. Yaw Osafo-Mafo, the Chairman asked the PoC to organise a virtual meeting on this matter.</p>	<b>OGP, PoC</b>
<b>4.3</b>	<p><b>Discussion on development of 5<sup>th</sup> Open Government Partnership National Action Plan</b></p> <p>The OGP Point of Contact informed members that she confirmed in Morocco that Ghana was supposed to submit the 5<sup>th</sup> Action Plan in December 2023. She further stated that looking at the new standards that the Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) had published they would expect co-creation to start at least six months before or earlier. They would also expect that Ghana goes through all the processes of consultation, validation and have evidence for all those actions before the next Action Plan is submitted.</p> <p>The OGP Point of Contact suggested that the Committee should meet right after the Christmas break to start with the co-creation before the consultation. She indicated that funding will be a problem but was hopeful the Regional Lead will come up with ideas on how to get funds.</p> <p>The OGP Point of Contact informed members that Energy Growth Hub and BudgIT had contacted her to make presentations to the Steering Committee on commitments that should be considered in the 5<sup>th</sup> Action Plan. The Chairman stated that it was in the interest of the Committee to encourage such presentations and asked that the presentations should be made at the next Steering Committee meeting.</p>	<b>OGP, PoC</b>
<b>5.0</b>	<b>ANY OTHER MATTERS</b>	
<b>5.1</b>	<p><b>Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice (CHRAJ) to Join the OGP Steering Committee</b></p> <p>The OGP, PoC informed members that in view of changes made to the 4<sup>th</sup> Action Plan, CHRAJ had been included in the Action Plan to implement the commitment on Citizens' Complaints Centre. She suggested that a letter should be sent to CHRAJ to nominate an officer</p>	<b>OGP, PoC</b>

<p><b>6.0</b></p>	<p>to represent CHRAJ on the Steering Committee. The Chairman and members had no objection to the suggestion.</p> <p><b>CLOSING</b></p> <p>The Chairman thanked all members for their active participation and dedication towards the implementation of the 4<sup>th</sup> OGP National Action Plan and wished them a Merry Christmas and a prosperous new year.</p> <p>In the absence of any further deliberations, the meeting ended at 12:30pm.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 20px;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>.....</p> <p>Hon. Yaw Osafo-Mafo (Chairman)</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>.....</p> <p>Mrs. Thelma Ohene-Asiamah (Secretary)</p> </div> </div>	
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