

February 21, 2019

Francis R. Fannon  
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US Department of State  
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**RE: Contract Transparency at the 42nd EITI Board Meeting in Kiev on Feb.26-28**

Dear Assistant Secretary Fannon:

As you know, contract transparency is on the agenda at the upcoming Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) Kiev Board Meeting as part of the discussion on revising the EITI Standard. I am writing to ask that the US Government support advancing contract transparency as a requirement within the EITI.

According to the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the [publication of contracts is now established as an international norm](#) alongside project-level disclosure of resource revenues. The IMF first endorsed the practice in 2007. Contract disclosure is required for extractive industry clients of World Bank's [International Finance Corporation](#) and [Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency](#) and for petroleum sector clients of the [European Bank for Reconstruction and Development](#). It has also been endorsed by the [United Nations](#), [International Bar Association](#), the [B-Team](#), the [OECD](#), and the [International Council of Mining and Metals](#).

Uptake within the EITI member countries has also been strong since the EITI changed the Standard to “encourage” contract disclosure in 2013. Already [more than half of implementing countries have already disclosed contracts](#) (31 of 51) and [24 have laws requiring disclosure](#). Within the private sector, [at least 16 EITI supporting companies have made statements supporting contract disclosure](#). This includes seven out of the 10 extractive industries companies on the EITI Board.

Given these developments, Publish What You Pay - US (PWYP-US) along with the global PWYP network is backing an EITI contract

ActionAid International USA  
Amnesty International  
American Jewish World Service  
Bank Information Center  
CARE USA  
Catholic Relief Services  
Columban Center for Advocacy and Outreach  
CorpWatch  
Crude Accountability  
EarthRights International  
EARTHWORKS  
Environmental Defense Fund  
EG Justice  
Environmental Defense  
Friends of the Earth  
Gender Action  
Global Financial Integrity  
Global Rights  
Global Witness  
Government Accountability Project  
Human Rights Watch  
International Budget Project  
International Labor Rights Forum  
Justice in Nigeria Now  
Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns  
Micah Challenge USA  
Natural Resource Governance Institute  
ONE Campaign  
Open Society Policy Center  
Oxfam America  
Pacific Environment  
Presbyterian Church USA  
Project on Government Oversight  
Robert F. Kennedy Center for Human Rights  
Sustainable Energy & Economy Network  
The Borgen Project  
United Methodist General Board of Church and Society  
United Steelworkers  
United to End Genocide

disclosure requirement and hopes that the US Government will, too. As a strong supporter of EITI, we ask the US Government to use its position of leadership to ensure that the EITI Standard keeps pace with the international norm. Failure to align with global standards threatens the credibility of EITI and those who support and engage with it.

We would be grateful if you could share the US Government's position on this matter.

Regards,

Filmona Hailemichael  
Director  
Publish What You Pay - United States

CC:

Daniel Kaufmann, EITI civil society board member for Europe and North America

Jana Morgan, EITI civil society alternate board member for Europe and North America