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9 July 2014

HE Augustin MATATA PONYO  
Prime Minister  
The Democratic Republic of the Congo

## THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO (DRC) EITI COMPLIANCE

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Your Excellency,

As you may know, the EITI Board decided at its meeting on 2 July 2014 to lift the suspension of the Democratic Republic of Congo and declare your country Compliant with the EITI requirements. This decision follows the extensive work undertaken by your government as part of the implementation of the corrective actions requested by the Board. Based on a review by the International Secretariat, the Board concluded that your country has developed a robust process to disclose reliable and comprehensive figures of revenues from the extractive sector, allowing citizens of the DRC to see how much the government receives from oil, gas and mining companies.

The EITI Board congratulates your government and the multi-stakeholder group on this excellent achievement. The Board encourages your government to maintain its commitment and take all necessary measures to fully implement the EITI Standard. As part of this, we call on your government to widen EITI reporting to the artisanal mining sector to promote peace and security in eastern DRC. The Board also called on the EITI-DRC Executive Committee to deepen EITI reporting in state-owned enterprises and government agencies collecting revenues on behalf of the government. This will include full disclosure of the beneficial ownership of oil, gas and mining companies, state ownership, production figures and revenues arising from the exploitation of your country's vast natural resources.

It was a pleasure to meet with your delegation, which was led by Minister Celestin Vunabandi in Mexico. The Board welcomed stakeholder's engagements, including the participation of Mr Daniel Mukoko Samba, Deputy Prime Minister, Mr Martin Kabwelulu, Minister of Mines, Mr Crispin Atama, Minister of Hydrocarbon, Mr Patrice Kitebi, Minister of Finance, and Mr Bavon N'sa Mputu, Minister of the Environment. The Board commended their effective leadership in ensuring detailed reporting, and the ensuing open debate that prevailed. The Board expresses its appreciations to all members of the multi-stakeholder group and its committees for their dedicated efforts in bringing transparency and accountability in the management of DRC's natural resources. The full text of the Board decision is appended to this letter.

Yours sincerely,



Rt Hon Clare Short

*Chair*

*Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative*

## **Annex: Full text of the Board decision on the Status of the DRC**

*The EITI Board designates the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) as EITI Compliant and its suspension is lifted as of 2 July 2014. Having considered a review prepared by the International Secretariat, the Board agreed that the DRC had addressed the remedial actions required to meet the requirements as set out in the EITI Rules. The Board welcomed the work done by the MSG to address the Sicomines agreement in accordance with requirement 9f. The Board called on the MSG to ensure that the agreement is addressed in forthcoming EITI Reports in accordance with requirement 4.1.d of the EITI Standard. In accordance with the transitional arrangements, the DRC is encouraged to transition to the EITI Standard as soon as possible, including by updating their EITI workplan to address the necessary actions and in order to meet the deadlines set out below. In accordance with the EITI Standard:*

- *The DRC must be revalidated within three years i.e. Validation will commence on 2 July 2017 or earlier upon request of the multi-stakeholder group. Validation will be conducted in accordance with the EITI Standard.*
- *Stakeholders in the process may call for a new validation at any time within that period if they think the process needs reviewing. Where valid concerns exist that a country has become EITI Compliant, but its implementation of the EITI has subsequently fallen below the standard required for Compliance, then the Board reserves the right to require the country to undergo a new Validation or face delisting from the EITI.*
- *In accordance with the EITI Standard, the DRC is expected to produce EITI reports annually. EITI Reports should cover data no older than the second to last complete accounting period. The DRC is required to produce the 2012 EITI Report by 31 December 2014 in accordance with the EITI Standard.*
  - *In accordance with requirement 7.2, the DRC is required to publish an annual report on the previous year's activities, detailing progress in implementing the EITI. The annual report for 2014 should be published by 1 July 2015.*

*The Board congratulates the government of the DRC for its sustained commitment and leadership in the implementation of the EITI process. The Board also congratulates the DRC multi-stakeholder group for its efforts in promoting an informed debate for the management of the country's vast natural resources.*