

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP STEERING
COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 17TH DECEMBER, 2020 AT THE
CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE OFFICE OF THE SENIOR MINISTER
AT 11:00 AM**

MEMBERS PRESENT

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| 1. Hon. Yaw Osafo-Mafo | Senior Minister (Chairman) |
| 2. Mrs Thelma Ohene-Asiamah | Director, F&A and OGP PoC, OSM |
| 3. Linda Ofori-Kwafo | Executive Director, GII |
| 4. Mr Kwesi Jonah | Senior Research Fellow, IDEG |
| 5. Dr Steve Manteaw | Co-Chair, GHEITI |
| 6. Ms Domtie Sarpong | Principal State Attorney, RGD |
| 7. Ms Mary A. Addah | Programmes Manager, GII |
| 8. Mr George Osei-Bimpeh | Country Director, SEND-Ghana |
| 9. Ms Regina O. Amanfo | Snr. Programme Officer, CDD |
| 10. Mr Eric Akumiah | Data Expert, MoC |
| 11. Ms Nafi Chinery | West Africa Regional Manager, NRGi |
| 12. Ms Patricia Dovi Sampson | Director, PPME, MoI |
| 13. Nana Antwi | Deputy Executive Director, EOCO |
| 14. Mr Isaac Aidoo | OGP PoC, STMA |

ABSENT WITH APOLOGY

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| 1. Hon. Emmanuel Bedzrah | Member of Parliament, Ho West Constituency |
| 2. Mrs Halima S. Yakubu | Ag. Chief Director, OSM |

ABSENT

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| 1. Hon. Ama Pomaa Boateng | Member of Parliament, Juaben Constituency |
| 2. Ms Kathy Addy | Deputy Chair, NCCE |
| 3. Ms Mina Mensah | Director, CHRI, Africa Office |
| 4. Ms Mavis Asare Donkor | Director, PBMED, OHCS |
| 5. Mr Richard Ebo Amuah | Chief Budget Analyst, MoF |
| 6. Ms Fati Lily Soale | Director, Human Resource, MLGRD |
| 7. Ms Esi Sey | Chief of Operations, IDEG |
| 8. Ms Esther Ahulu | Programmes Manager, CHRI/RTI Coalition |

IN ATTENDANCE

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| 1. Mr Michael Adu-Gyamfi | Deputy Director, OSM |
| 2. Mr Ato K. Bessa-Simons | Assistant Programme Officer, OSM |
| 3. Ms Annette Boateng | Assistant Programmer, OSM |
| 4. Awurakua Addo Nyarko | ADIIB, MoI |

NO.	SUBJECT	ACTION BY
1.0	<p>Opening</p> <p>The meeting was called to order at 11:45 am with a prayer by Ms Annette Boateng, Assistant Programmer, Office of the Senior Minister (OSM).</p> <p>The meeting was chaired by Hon. Yaw Osafo-Mafo, Senior Minister and Chairman of the Open Government Partnership (OGP) Steering Committee.</p>	
2.0	<p>Opening Remarks by Chairman</p> <p>The Chairman, Hon. Yaw Osafo-Mafo welcomed all members to the virtual meeting.</p>	
3.0	<p>Correction and Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting held on Wednesday 18th November, 2020.</p> <p>In the absence of corrections, Ms Domtie Sarpong, Principal State Attorney, Registrar General's Department moved for the acceptance of the minutes of the previous meeting. Her motion was seconded by Ms Mary A. Addah, Programmes Manager, GII.</p>	
4.0	<p>Matters Arising</p>	
4.1	<p><u>Update on Liaising with the African Center for Economic Transformation</u></p> <p>The OGP, Point of Contact Mrs Thelma Ohene-Asiamah, informed members that Mr. Kwesi Jonah, Consultant, Senior Research Fellow, IDEG was still working on the gap analysis as part of processes towards the preparation of the National Action Plan (NAP) 4 and was yet to liaise with the African Center for Economic Transformation (ACET) to collaborate on the political economy analysis aspect of the consultancy assignment.</p> <p>She further informed the meeting that, she contacted the OGP Support Unit via email and a representative from the African Center for Economic Transformation (ACET) was introduced to her as the focal person to assist Ghana on matters of the political economy analysis bit of the NAP4. She indicated that she had made contacts with the representative from African Center for Economic Transformation (ACET) but she was yet to receive a response.</p> <p>The Committee advised that the Consultant, Mr. Kwesi Jonah should contact ACET.</p>	Consultant

<p>5.1.1</p>	<p>and 3rd NAPs, he observed some commitments that have spanned all the previous NAPs and these included the Right to Information Law, the Fiscal Responsibility Law, Open and Transparent Contracting by Government, Verification of Asset Declaration by Public Officers.</p> <p>He indicated that OGP is a continuous process, so it is not out of place to roll-over activities that had not been implemented.</p> <p>According to him, a desktop analysis he conducted on all the three (3) past OGP NAPs revealed some gaps that must be addressed. They include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy Gaps, • Implementation Gaps, and • Institutional Gaps. 	
<p>5.1.2</p>	<p><u>Policy Gaps</u></p> <p>The Consultant in his briefing, informed the meeting that, for more than four years some major government policies, had remained on the manifesto promises of the ruling party without being implemented. For some reasons, they had never found their way to the Open Government Partnership Action Plan. A good example is the Affirmative Action Bill, which he stated was a potential policy that could be attained but ignored.</p> <p>Again, another important matter of interest to OGP is the people's participation in local governance, especially with the issue of the people directly electing their own Metropolitan, Municipal and District Chief Executives (MMDCE).</p>	
<p>5.1.3</p>	<p><u>Implementation Gaps</u></p> <p>Regarding this, Mr. Kwesi Jonah indicated that implementation gaps are commitments in the various OGP National Action Plans that had not been realised by way of implementation.</p> <p>He gave examples as the Right to Information Act (RTI) and the Fiscal Responsibility Act. He indicated that OGP has the responsibility to monitor their implementation so as to get to know their implementation challenges and the necessary redress mechanisms to put in place.</p> <p><u>Institutional Gaps</u></p> <p>The Consultant explained institutional gaps to mean the critical institutions helpful for the implementation of OGP</p>	

<p>5.3</p>	<p>Agreement on dates for Physical and Virtual National Stakeholder Consultative meetings and plans for OGP in 2021.</p> <p>The OGP Point of Contact, Mrs Thelma Ohene-Asiamah took members through the proposed dates for both the face to face and Virtual National Stakeholder Consultative meetings and upon further deliberations, members accepted proposed dates as scheduled dates for the face to face and Virtual National Stakeholder Consultative meetings for OGP in 2021.</p>	
<p>6.0</p>	<p>Any Other Matters</p> <p>The OGP Point of Contact, Mrs Thelma Ohene-Asiamah, informed the committee of a virtual workshop for OGP Leaders in Africa and the Middle East that took place in which she and Linda Ofori-Kwafo, Executive Director, GII represented Ghana.</p> <p>She informed the Committee that the objective of the forum was to discuss the post pandemic world and map out priority areas for Government response.</p> <p>She added that at the end of the meeting, the following priority areas came out; Citizen’s Participation and Inclusion, Anti-Corruption, Transparency, Management of COVID-19 and Public Service delivery.</p> <p>The OGP Point of Contact was tasked to contact the OGP Regional Support Unit for copies of the presentations made during the meeting or for a copy of the meeting report and circulate among committee members.</p> <p>The OGP Point of Contact, Mrs Thelma Ohene-Asiamah, informed the Committee of an upcoming virtual workshop for OGP Leaders in Africa and the Middle East on 24th November 2020. She mentioned that she would be participating from the Government side with Mrs Linda Ofori- Kwafo Executive Director, GII representing the Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) side.</p>	<p>OGP Point of Contact/</p>
<p>7.0</p>	<p>Closing</p> <p>The Chairman thanked members for their contribution and active participation in all meetings of the Committee and implored all to put their hands to the wheel to get the 4th OGP National Action Plan prepared.</p> <p>The meeting came to a close at 1:20pm after the closing prayer was said by Mrs Thelma Ohene-Asiamah, OGP Point of Contact.</p>	