



**Local Project Approval Committee (LPAC) Meeting
Strengthen Transparency, Accountability, Oversight and Participation (STAOP)**

**Wednesday, May 29, 2013
Ministry of Planning and Economic Affairs**

10:00 hrs

Minutes

Present:

No	Name	Institution	Email	Contact #
1.	Daniel B. Tipayson	LACC	dtipayson@yahoo.com	07777530239
2.	Joseph S. D. Suah	PPCC	jsdsuah@yahoo.com	0886551122
3.	Anthony P. Tarbah	PPCC	tarbah.p@yahoo.com	0886535347
4.	Nathan B. Bengu	PPCC	nathanbengu@yahoo.com	0886518215
5.	Dominic Tarpeh	GC	tarpehd@yahoo.com	0886578289
6.	Elizabeth Sele. Mulbah	GC	lizsmulbah@yahoo.com	0886517901
7.	Stephen Manley	GC	woniwala@yahoo.com	0886494763
8.	Nessie Golakai	UNDP	nessie.golakai@yahoo.com	0886440315
9.	Rose Muchiri	UNDP/MoPEA	rose.muchiri@undp.org	0880421642
10.	Cleophas Torori	UNDP	Cleophas.torori@undp.org	0880954108
11.	Lee Mason	MoPEA/NIMSU	lmason@mopea.gov.lr	0886546346
12.	Samson Tokpah	LEITI	sstokpah@leiti.org.lr	0880299213
13.	Naomi Walker	IAS	landofpharaoh@yahoo.com	0886533305
14.	Paul Collins	IAS	Yuahcollins@yahoo.com	0886641187
15.	Harrison Luo	MoPEA	harrisonluo@yahoo.com	0886746744
16.	Trinity Yekeh	UNDP	trinity.yekeh@undp.org	0886431492
17.	J. Kpadeh Sumo	MoPEA	jksumo@mopea.gov.lr	0880680741
18.	Yvonne Wolo	UNDP	Yvonne.wolo@undp.org	0886551884

Agenda:

1. Introduction
2. Welcome and Opening Remarks
3. Presentations
4. Discussions
5. Closing

I. Introduction

A Local Project Appraisal Committee (LPAC) Meeting was held on Wednesday, 29 May 2013 in the conference room of Ministry of Planning & Economic Affairs (MPEA) to validate the programme on **Strengthen Transparency, Accountability, Oversight and Participation (STAOP)**. The meeting brought together key stakeholders of the programme including Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission (LACC), Governance Commission (GC), Liberia Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (LEITI), Public Procurement and Concessions Commission (PPCC), Internal Audit Secretariat (IAS), Ministry of Planning and Economic Affairs (MoPEA) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

This programme, the outcome of extensive consultations amongst stakeholders, seeks to support the efforts of government and that of other actors' in fighting corruption and promoting transparency and accountability in Liberia. It will do so by establishing a broad consensus and building coalitions with civil society, the media and youth groups in advocating for integrity, transparency and accountability in governance.

Chair: The Meeting was chaired by Mr. Harrison LUO, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Planning & Economic Affairs

II. Welcome and Opening

Welcome and opening remarks were made by Mr. Daniel Tipayson, Executive Director of LACC, Cleophas Torori, Deputy Resident Representative of Programme, UNDP and Harisson Luo, Deputy Minister of MoPEA.

III. Presentations

This was a shared responsibility between UNDP and the government. Ms Yvonne Wolo Programme Analyst UNDP, Daniel Tipayson, Executive Director LACC and Lee Mason NIMSU Coordinator, MoPEA made a joint presentation on the background of the programme, brief overview, financial outlay as well as management arrangements respectively.

IV. Key Discussion Points

1. **Funding:** The programme has a total budget of \$5,030,500 over the 4-year period. UNDP provided \$350,000 seed funds for the remaining six months in 2013 implementation. It is expected that funding gap for the next four years will be covered from either Government of Liberia Development Budget through parallel funding and/or through vigorous resource mobilization efforts spearheaded by LACC and partner Agencies (GC, PPCC and LEITI, etc) It was suggested, for example, that a donor round table conference be organized to mobilize resources once the document is approved.
2. **Formation of a Technical Working Group (TWG):** A recommendation was made for the establishment of a TWG consisting of the implementing partner and responsible parties and chaired by LACC.. Additionally, individual Responsible Parties to appoint focal persons (not separately employed) to follow-up on all activities of the programme.
3. **Participation of General Auditing Commission (GAC):** Though absent, the critical role of GAC in the fight against corruption was noted and a recommendation made for them to be invited to serve on the board. It was, however, also noted that GAC had been invited but failed to respond. It was agreed that GAC be brought on board in future during review of the document to embed activities that could be implemented by, or in collaboration with them.
4. **Prevention of Corruption:** Prevention of corruption should be viewed in the context of Vision 2030, targeting the next generation. In this regard, establishment of Vision Clubs in schools was proposed as a good entry point as part of building broad-based coalitions in the fight against corruption
5. **Use of social media** to fight corruption was proposed as an emerging innovation especially among young people.
6. **Project Board Meeting:** It was agreed that a schedule of project board meetings be developed.
7. **Clarification on LEITI's activity:** LEITI was requested to provide clarity on/or modify activity description 1.4.3 on database creation reflected under Output 1.4 (Enhance transparency and accountability in extractive industry and natural resource sector).





V. Endorsement of Programme/final observations by Board Members

After extensive discussions, the programme to Strengthen Transparency, Accountability, Oversight and Participation (STAOP) was unanimously endorsed by all key stakeholders in attendance. In endorsing it, they made the following final observations:

- i) MPEA – STAOP an important programme which should start being implemented and can be modified in future;
- ii) LEITI – approves the programme and will be happy to provide final editorial input;
- iii) GC – welcomes the programme which is in-line with GC's integrity mandate area and would like to have this integrated more strongly in the future; GC also wishes to see a clear schedule of Board Meetings that will be followed closely;
- iv) PPCC – Welcomes the programme and commits to its implementation, playing its role as required;

- v) Internal Audit Secretariat – Agrees fully with the objectives of the programme and wishes to associate with it;
- vi) LACC – welcomes the programme and recognizes role as IP, and commits follow-up on GoL’s contribution and urges UNDP to kick-start implementation;
- vii) UNDP – thanks all for the unanimous endorsement and offers to work with LACC and other partners in staging an integrity donor round-table conference to mobilize resources for the programme capitalizing on the goodwill and interest shown by some donors.

With this, the LPAC meeting was adjourned.

On behalf of:	Signature	Date	Name/Title
Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission (LACC)		<u>June 6, 2013</u>	 Mr. Daniel B. Tipayson Executive Director/LACC
Ministry of Planning & Economic Affairs		<u>06/06/13</u>	Mr. Harrison Luo Deputy Minister/MoPEA
UNDP		<u>5/6/13</u>	Mr. Cleophas Torori Deputy Country Director Programme

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