

Second Expert Group Workshop on Extractive Industries

11-12 June 2015 – Geneva, Switzerland

Agenda

INVITATION ONLY

Thursday 11 June

9.30 – 10.00

Session I: Introduction

Chair: Rafael Benke, Theme Leader

Welcome remarks will be given by ICTSD, the World Economic Forum, the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) and the Theme Leader. The Theme Leader will provide a brief overview of issues covered so far by the Expert Group as well as expectations for the workshop.

10.00 – 11.30

Session II: State Owned Enterprises

Chair: Rafael Benke, Theme Leader

Presentation: Christine Jojarth, Stanford University

Discussant: Paolo de Sa, World Bank

State-owned enterprises and national oil companies play an increasingly important role in the extractive sector. The think piece will look at some of the challenges related to the governance of such enterprises, investment, competition and trade. It will suggest options for improving the governance and reducing the opacity and level the playing field.

11.30 – 11.45

Coffee break

11.45 – 13.00

Session III: Anchoring mineral infrastructure in regional integration – can trade frameworks help?

Chair: Scott Vaughan, IISD, Co-convenor

Introduction: Isabelle Ramdoo, ECDPM

Discussant: Harsha Vardhana Singh, ICTSD; Rafael Benke, Theme Leader

Huge investments are being channelled into infrastructure for extraction entailing significant opportunities for enhanced trade in goods and services. However, there is little awareness about these additional opportunities and they seem to be rarely harnessed due to lack of coordination at all levels. This think piece will provide an insight into the opportunities and suggest ways on how to seize them more systematically.

13.00 – 14.00

Lunch

14.00 – 15.30

Session IV: The role of PPMs in the extractive industry

Chair: Scott Vaughan, IISD, Co-convenor

Presentation: Professor Thomas Cottier, WTI

Discussant: Alexander Keck, WTO; Alice Tipping, ICTSD

Throughout the deliberations of the Expert Group, references to standards/PPMs have come up. In this discussion, experts will be invited to take a closer look at the challenges and opportunities of applying standards/PPMs in global trade of minerals and metals. Options for strengthening the trade system's response to sustainability standards will be presented and discussed.

- 15.30 – 15.45 **Coffee break**
- 15.45 – 17.00 **Session V: Social and Environmental Sustainability – options for addressing the situation**
Chair: Harsha Vardhana Singh, ICTSD
Introduction: Hafiz Mirza, UNCTAD
Discussant: Jorge Viñuales, Cambridge University

As discussed at the previous meeting, a number of concerns and tensions pertaining to extractive industries are occurring in the realm of the investment policy. Issues around transparency and accountability and tensions between investor, host country and the local communities around the sharing of the benefits were discussed in detail. This session will look more specifically on social and environmental concerns and discuss options for addressing the situation.

- 17.00 – 18.00 **Session VI: Framing Policy Options to Strengthen the Regulatory System: A Conceptual Framework**
Chair: Harsha Vardhana Singh, ICTSD, Knowledge Manager of the E15 Initiative
Introduction: Ilaria Espa, WTI; Isabelle Ramdoo, ECDPM
Discussant: Jane Korinek, OECD

A set of common objectives around transparency, predictability and flexibility have been identified in think pieces prepared for the Expert Group. The paper will propose a conceptual methodology for assessing all issues against these three over-arching objectives.

- 18.00 – 18.15 **Wrap-up**
Chair: Rafael Benke, Theme Leader

- 19.00 **Dinner**

Friday 12 June

- 9.00 – 12.00 **Session VII: Presentation and discussion of possible policy options**
Chair: Ricardo Meléndez-Ortiz, ICTSD, Convener
Introduction: Rafael Benke, Theme Leader

The goal of the E15 Initiative is to propose policy options to the international community. Based on the discussions at this and previous workshops and an introduction by the Theme Leader, the Experts will be invited to define the range of policy options that should form the final output from the Group.

- Around 11.00 **Coffee break**

- 12.00 – 13.00 **Next steps**
Chair: Ricardo Meléndez-Ortiz, ICTSD, Convener

- 13.00 – 14.30 **Lunch**