

**Fisheries Transparency Initiative (FiTI)
National Multi-Stakeholder Group (NMSG)
Minutes of Meeting**

Date: 19th August 2024
Time: 10h30am
Venue: Department of Blue Economy, Maison Collet, Victoria

Members in Attendance		
Members Present	Mr. Philippe Michaud	Chair
	Mr. Rodney Nicole	Belombre Fishermen Association
	Mr. Muditha Gunatilake	AFPES
	Mr. Antoine Marie Moustache	Nature Seychelles
	Dr. Marie-Therese Purvis	S4S
	Ms. Stephanie Radegonde	Department of Fisheries
	Mr. Faizal Suleman	Glacis Fishermen Association
Observers	Ms. Nathanielle Morel	Alternate - FiTI National Secretariat
	Ms. Betty Victor	Seychelles Fishing Authority
	Mr. Yannick Memee	FiTI International Secretariat
	Mr. Gervais Verlaque	Student
Members Absent	Mr. Selwyn Edmond	Seaward Co Ltd.
	Ms. Wilna Accouche	Green Island Foundation
	Mr. Louis Bossy	Chairman of the Fishing Boat Owners Association (SFBOA)
	Hon. Wallace Cosgrov	Member of the National Assembly (MNA) United Seychelles Opposition
	Honorable Regina Esparon	The Linyon Demokratik Seselwa Party (Government Party).
	Mr. Roy Clarisse	Principal Secretary for the Department of Fisheries
	Ms. Fatime Kante	Alternate - Transparency International Seychelles
	Ms. Kim Samy	FiTI National Secretariat
	Mr Anthony Savy de St. Maurice	General Manager at Aquarius Shipping Agency Limited

Welcome Notes: Chairperson, Mr. Philippe Michaud called the meeting to order at 10:30 am. A warm welcome was extended to all participants.

1. Agenda Setting:

The meeting agenda was adopted and accepted.

2. Confirmation of minutes:

2.1 The minutes from the previous meeting held in June 2024 were reviewed and approved.

3. People Power Project Presentation by Mr. Yannick Memee

3.1 Gave a brief overview of the people power project. The project is currently in phase 3, set to end in November 2024.

3.2 There will be a 2-hour online scoping session for other governmental officers.

3.3 The project aims to translate political support into action, however the progress remains slow.

3.4 The Chair requested that the “tBriefs” including a debrief on “Does Size Matter” should be shared with FiTI members. Mr. Memee stated that the FiTI IT system indicates that emails are sent to respective members, however, he will follow up on the matter.

Action:

- To share the Validation Process PPT with the NMSG Members.
- To ensure full participation in the online scoping session. To invite NBS, National Planning Department,
- Mr. Memee to follow up on the FiTI IT system regarding the “tBriefs” and “Does Size Matter” documents, as well as ensure a copy is circulated to the NMSG.

4. FiTI Workplan for the year 2024

4.1 A workplan was developed by the National Secretariat however it remains a draft.

4.2 The NMSG emphasized that the workplan needs to be realistic and achievable. There is a need to redefine NMSG mandate.

4.3 The workplan will need to be finalized and updated on the MoFBE website before the end of August 2024.

4.3 The workplan should be inclusive of activities and plans for both 2024 and 2025.

4.4 The Chair recommended that a small committee be formed to work on the Workplan.

Action:

- NMSG members and participants- Dr. Purvis, Mr. Marie-Moustache, and Ms. Radeconde -volunteered to collaborate with Miss Morel to develop the workplan.
- A meeting will be scheduled to formalize the workplan the following week.
- To approve and upload the new workplan before the end of August 2024.

5. Terms of Reference ‘ToR’

6.1 A clean copy of the “Terms of Reference” will be circulated, incorporating comments from the meeting.

6.2 Committee Membership and Structure:

6.2.1 The need for a Vice Chair was emphasized as there is currently no Vice Chair and the current Chair of FiTI term might come to an end soon.

6.2.2 The Ministry of Fisheries and the Blue Economy department should each have a representative on the FiTI committee.

Action:

- The Terms of reference should be approved and uploaded on the MoFBE website within a week.
- To ensure the new members be part of the FiTI NMSG meeting by September 2024.
- Will need to recruit a central person to focus on FiTI, EITI, and OGP actions.

6. In-Person Online Scoping Session

6.1 Online Scoping Session: Participation in Fishery Transparency and Policy-Making.

- Tuesday 3rd September 2024 from 1 pm to 3 pm, online.

This workshop is for other *government workers engaged in participation*. The goal of the online scoping session is to provide national government representatives with an overview of the participation status quo, current needs, ideal scenarios, and concrete recommendations based on the outcomes of the NMSG In-person workshop.

Action: Invitees were from the Finance-National Planning Department, Department of Fisheries, Blue Economy Department, OGP, SMSA, and NBS.

7. AOB

7.1 Mrs. Daniela Larue has been approved as the new **FiTI Report compiler** for 2023.

7.1.1 Mrs. Larue will meet with the NMSG members in September 2024.

7.1.2 The FiTI report deadline is scheduled between November to December 2024, and all NMSG members were asked to collaborate as well as review the report before finalizing.

7.2 Ms. Wilna Accouche submitted her resignation as a FiTI NMSG member. The NMSG expressed their appreciation for Ms. Accouche's valuable contribution to the group.

7.3 To request SFA to publish the names of persons who can issue licenses or authorizations on both SFA and MoFBE websites.

7.4 Discussion on possible collaboration with Media on disseminating data and information to the public. However, that might require funding. The paper could include industry challenges and success stories.

7.5 There was mention of MoFBE website not being updated which leaves confusion about the various platforms on the website.

7.6 The FiTI regional coordinator proposed uploading photos and a short biography of FiTI members on the MoFBE website.

7.7 Independent Validator will begin the validation process by September 2024.

7.8 Sea Cucumber Fishing: No diving mortalities were recorded recently but SFA needs to engage with the Ministry of Health to obtain more relevant information.

7.9 Possibility of NMSG Exchange Program with other FiTI NMSG. This was raised as a possibility, however, will have to be reviewed.

7.10 The National Secretariat maintained that all of the National Multi-Stakeholder Group members should actively participate in pushing FiTI Seychelles forward.

7.11 Proposed next meeting date: 1st October 2024.

End of Meeting: adjourned at 11:40 am.

Mr. Philippe Michaud
Chair

Ms. Nathanielle Morel
FiTI National Secretariat Alternate