

Stakeholders extol Government efforts to enact the *Tanzania Extractive Industry Transparency Act, 2015*

Stakeholders have commended the government for enacting the TEITA law and have called upon the government to address the some of the following challenges: the Act to properly address the issue of transfer pricing in the extractive sector; should mention the kind of sanctions to be given to companies involved in transfer pricing abuses and should demand mining companies to disclose all their affiliated companies , the Act is silent on the explicit role of LGAs in the sector and the issue of corporate social responsibility. This approbation was made during a breakfast debate organized by Policy Forum in collaboration with HakiRasilimali at New Africa Hotel on 24th February 2017.

Moreover, stakeholders recommended for a revenue tracking mechanism to be put in place that ensures that every income generated from the extractive sector benefit all the Tanzanians and information relating to the sector such as reports should be popularized in a friendly manner that ordinary citizens can understand.

Ms. Alice Swai, a representative from Tanzania Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative (TEITI) Secretariat, said Tanzania is among the countries which have legislated the Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative (EITI), a renowned extractive industry standard in the world geared towards promoting material information disclosure on the legal payments that extractive companies contribute to the government's revenues. Other countries include **Liberia, Nigeria** and **Ukraine**.

In the discussion, Ms. Swai mentioned some of the objectives of the law as being legislating the EITI and provide legal mandate for TEITA Committee as an independent government entity, to improve transparency in the management of extractive sector, to strengthen the level of accountability in extractive companies and government entities and to ensure compliance from reporting entities and adherence to EITI Standard.

During its one year of implementation among other things she said the Act has managed to enhance reliability of data for extractive sector regarding payment, revenues, production, legal and fiscal regime, disclosure of names and shareholders who owns shares in mining, oil and gas companies, accessibility and reliability of data through the website, preparation to disclosure of contracts (MDAs and PSAs), increase of public debate and reporting in conformity to the global EITI Standard.

The discussant of the debate, however, the Executive Director of Lawyers Environmental Action Team (LEAT), Dr. Rugemeleza Nshala, challenged how the Act was passed by the members of parliament under the certificate of urgency which he said denied enough time for

stakeholders to input in the law. Commenting on this, Hon. Cosato Chumi (MP) said as MPs they require a lot of information from stakeholders so that they come up with laws that are favorable to the public.

Mr. Simon Shayo, the Vice President of Geita Gold Mine said that in its one year of implementation of the Act it has regulated an obligatory environment under which companies, the government and other stakeholders are to report on their revenues to the public.

HakiRasilimali strongly aims at advocating for the effective formulation and reforms on policies and laws which govern the Extractive Industries in Tanzania. . Issues chosen for the extractive related discussions are wide-ranging and speakers are drawn from the public sector, academia, civil society, donor agencies and the private sector, and the talks are open to the public and attended by interested individuals and professionals so as to generate and share *knowledge among them as a means of broadening understanding of extractive sector in Tanzania.*