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« Another EITI Committee is being created in the Democratic Republic of Congo ».

The Publish What You Pay Coalition of the Democratic Republic of Congo is concerned by the systematic violations by the Minister of Planning of the provisions of the Source Book, of Decree n°05/160 of November 18, 2005 on the creation, organisation and functioning of the National Committee and of decree n°01/CAB.MIN/PL//2006 on the nomination of the members of the technical committee of the Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative.

On March 2007, the President of the Technical committee, Mr. Désiré NKOY addressed a letter to the Ministry of Plan in which he explained the progress and current state of the EITI in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Thereafter, he repeatedly tried to no avail to meet the Minister in order to ask him to convene a meeting of EITI stakeholders.

Without responding to the above-mentioned letter or consulting those directly involved in accordance with EITI prescriptions at the national and international levels, the Minister appointed another EITI Coordinator to replace the one in service.

Currently, the Minister is holding consultations with Civil Society organisations of his liking, with the aim of replacing appointed Civil Society members of the National and Technical EITI Committees, whose organisations are established actors in the promotion of transparency and good governance.

The Publish What You Pay Coalition, whose mission is to support the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative, denounces these violations, which risk discrediting the EITI process in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

In light of this, the Coalition recommends:

➤ ***To the Ministry of Plan***

- To refrain from further unilateral actions,
- To convene a meeting for EITI stakeholders to find common ground and define an agreed work plan.

➤ ***To the World Bank***

- To suspend all assistance to the Congolese Government in the framework of the Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative until the Minister of Planning takes into account the views of all EITI stakeholders in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

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For the Publish What You Pay Coalition

1. Association africaine de défense des Droits de l'Homme, ASADHO,
2. Centre National pour le Développement et la Participation Populaires, CENADEP
3. Centre des Droits de l'Homme et du Droit Humanitaire,
4. Groupe d'Action Non Violence Evangélique, GANVE
5. Groupe d'Appui aux Exploitants des Ressources Naturelles, GAERN
6. Héritiers de la Justice
7. Nouvelle Dynamique Syndicale, NDS
8. Conseil Régional des Organisations de Développement du Kasai Oriental, CRONGD, Kasai Oriental
9. Cercle pour la Défense de l'Environnement,
10. Maniéma Liberté
11. Centre de Développement pour la Femme
12. Réseau de Lutte contre la Corruption et la Fraude
13. Organisation des Ecologistes et Amis de la Nature, OCEAN
14. Centre pour la Promotion et l'Education des Communautés de base, CEPECO
15. Réseau Ressources Naturelles, RRN