Maria J. Ezpeleta  
Senior Gender Advisor Extractives Industry  
Oxfam America  

Dear Maria and signatories,  

I am writing to thank you for the public letter dated 22 February 2022 in support of incorporating more nuanced gender provisions into the EITI Standard revision process. Your letter proposing gender as a priority in refinements to the EITI Standard and the intersectional approach is precise and valuable. This will feed both into the International Secretariat's and the Board's work in the coming months.  

In the lead-up to each Global Conference, the EITI Board has considered opportunities to strengthen EITI implementation. At the 52nd Board Meeting in February 2022, the EITI International Secretariat was mandated to conduct scoping possible refinements to the EITI Standard. In keeping with this mandate, the International Secretariat will support constituency consultations on the scope for refinements to the EITI Standard in April 2022. A working group on refinements to the EITI Standard will be established following the 53rd Board meeting in June 2022. Through the Board’s Implementation Committee, this working group will submit recommendations on refining the language of the Standard for the Board’s consideration.  

We, therefore, don’t propose to share the letter with Board members at this point but will ensure that the letter and its recommendations serve as a resource for the working group in due course. We expect further submissions and suggestions on the Standard in the coming months and would not be sharing each of these with the Board on receipt, so I hope you will understand the spirit in how we wish to proceed.  

We encourage you to use the constituency consultations in April 2022 to engage with the broader civil society constituency on mainstreaming gender within the EITI Standard. We also encourage you to engage with the Board members who will participate in the working group to refine the EITI Standard, as an important avenue for reaching consensus and providing recommendations to the Board.  

We look forward to our continued collaboration in the lead-up to the 9th EITI Global Conference.  
Yours sincerely,  

Rt Hon. Helen Clark  
Chair  
Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI)  

CC. Joe Bardwell and Elisa Peter from PWYP; Maria Ramos and Emily Greenspan from Oxfam.