



Fisheries  
Transparency  
Initiative

# 5th meeting of the FiTI International Board

12-13 December 2018, Berlin/Germany

## Meeting Minutes

ID: BM-05\_2018\_MM

**Provided by:** FiTI International Secretariat

**Date:** 19.01.2019

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<b>Date &amp; Time</b>	12 December 2018: 10.00 a.m. – 5.00 p.m. (CET) 13 December 2018: 09.30 a.m. – 4.00 p.m. (CET)
<b>Venue</b>	Berlin/Germany
<b>Hosted by</b>	FiTI International Secretariat
<b>Inputs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Preparatory Paper for 5th International Board (EN/FR)</li> <li>- FiTI Global Code of Conduct (EN/FR)</li> <li>- FiTI Global Branding Policy (EN/FR)</li> </ul>

## Impressions



## Outcomes of meeting

### Welcome and opening remarks

The Chair of the FiTI International Board, Peter EIGEN, opened the meeting by welcoming the Board Members, Observers and guests to the 5<sup>th</sup> meeting.

The Chair introduced Ellen FUNCH, Senior Policy Officer at the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), who gave brief opening remarks. Ms. FUNCH stated the BMZ is helping to improve the availability of fish for food-insecure people around the world and has therefore been following the FiTI for a while now. For the timeframe September to December 2018, the BMZ has been funding activities of the FiTI International Secretariat with a contribution of approx. 123k EUR. Ms. FUNCH also announced the willingness of the BMZ to continue supporting activities of the Berlin-based FiTI International Secretariat in 2019 with roughly a similar amount. The Chair thanked the BMZ for this financial support granted to the FiTI.

Ellen FUNCH also lauded the personal engagement of the FiTI actors during the difficult phase in 2018 and encouraged them to pursue their efforts, including the diversification of funding sources and the identification of a 2<sup>nd</sup> Chair.

On the second day of meeting, the German government was represented by Ms. Annika Mackensen (Deutsche Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit, GIZ).

### Administration

- **Identification of attendance and determination of a quorum**

The Chair noted the apologies of Francisco LEOTTE (Business Stakeholder Group), who delegated his vote to Philippe MICHAUD; and Sebastián LOSADA (Civil Society Stakeholder Group), who delegated his vote to Maria José CORNAX. No response nor an apology were received from Mas Achmad SANTOSA.

With 13 Members present at the meeting, including at least 2 Board Members from each stakeholder group, the Chair identified that a Quorum was reached in accordance with the Board's Terms of Reference and confirmed that the Board was able to make decisions during the meeting<sup>1</sup>. The Board agreed on the Agenda.

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<sup>1</sup> The list of participants can be found in Annex III of the Meeting Minutes.



- **Brief introduction of new participants by the Chair**

The Chair welcomed new participants to the Board and thanked them for their participation:

*Board members*

- Ylva MATTSSON, Senior Analyst, International Affairs at the Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management. Ylva replaces Ms. Gunilla GREIG as a new Board Member representing the Country Stakeholder Group, during Gunilla's temporary leave. The nomination of Ylva was already approved by the Board via Circular #01 [ID: BC-01\_2018].
- Ricardo BERNALES, representative of the Business Stakeholder Group, participating for the first time in an on-site Board meeting.

*Observer*

- Salimata SOUMARE, representative of the African Development Bank (AfDB). Ms. SOUMARE replaces Mr. Jean-Louis KROMER, former FiTI focal point at the AfDB, who had supported the development of the FiTI since the beginning of the initiatives. The Chair thanked Mr. KROMER for his support and welcomed Ms. SOUMARE as the new FiTI focal point.

*Guest*

- José CARDOSO, EITI Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Finance Trade and Blue Economy of São Tomé and Príncipe.

- **Review of participation status of International Board Members**

Following the identification of attendance, the Chair conducted a brief review of the status of participation of Board Members for the last 5 meetings. The Director of the FiTI International Secretariat, Sven BIERMANN, recalled that according to the Terms of Reference of the FiTI International Board, Para. 4, *"it is the responsibility of Board Members to make every effort to attend all meetings of the FiTI International Board. Board Members who are unable to attend a meeting should, as a matter of courtesy, convey their apologies to the FiTI Chair before the commencement of the meeting."*<sup>2</sup>

The review of attendance showed in particular the repeated absences of the Country Representative Mas Achmad SANTOSA (0% in 5 meetings; with 2 non-excused absences). The Board was informed that the FiTI International Secretariat sent various emails and official letters to Mas Achmad as well as his superior, H.E. Minister Susi PUDJIASTUTI on that matter, mostly without any responses from Mas Achmad. The Board was made aware that according to the Terms of Reference of the FiTI International Board *"in case of too many*

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<sup>2</sup> <http://fisheriestransparency.org/fiti-international-board>

*absences of a Board Member, the FiTI International Board may decide to suspend this member for a certain period, and eventually terminate the term of the Board Member” (Paragraph 4, Section 5).*

Some Board Members emphasised the importance of separating the FiTI implementation progress in Indonesia from the personal case of Mas Achmad, representing the Country Stakeholder Group in his personal capacity. It was argued to enforce the rules that govern the Board, whilst being mindful of the importance not to impact the FiTI implementation progress in Indonesia. Board Members argued that although Board Members from Country Stakeholder Groups do not act as representative of their own country but as the whole (global) country constituency, the presence of a Board Member from Indonesia is an asset for the Indonesian Government. It was therefore proposed that any action taken should be communicated adequately to the Country’s Government and that the Government should be given the possibility to send another representative to the Board.

Considering the unsuccessful attempts of the FiTI International Secretariat to communicate with Mas Achmad, the Board reached the following three-phased approach by consensus:

**Decision [BM-05\_2018\_D-01]:**

- 1) Members of the Board will seek to gather additional information on the current situation through their own networks.**
- 2) In case these inquiries do not result in any supporting information by the end of January 2019, and due to the non-compliance of Mas Achmad with his key responsibilities as a Board Member, the Board will suspend Mas Achmad from the Board for a period of six (6) months<sup>3</sup>. Mas Achmad as well as the Government of Indonesia will be informed in written of this decision, with the possibility to suggest another Board Member to replace Mas Achmad<sup>4</sup>.**
- 3) In case of no response from either Mas Achmad or the Indonesian government by the end of the suspension period, the Board will make a decision regarding the removal of Mas Achmad as a Member of the Board.**

- **New applications to the FiTI International Board**

The Board were presented with the following two applications for the stakeholder group of country representatives:

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<sup>3</sup> In case a Board Member does not comply with key responsibilities, the FiTI International Board may decide to suspend a Board Member. During the period of suspension, a Board Member may keep her or his status as a Board Member but shall not engage in any Board activities during this period (Para. 6, section 2).

<sup>4</sup> All Board Members act in their personal capacity. They do not represent their own organization, company, or government. Any replacement of a Board Member must be approved by the FiTI International Board.

- 1) Maimouna Ahmed Salem YAHDHIH, General Director of the Ministry of Finance and Economy of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, which replaced FiTI Board Member Abass SYLLA in the same position within the Government of Mauritania. When replacing Abass, Ms. YAHDHIH also became the new FiTI National Lead as well as the Head of the FiTI National Multi-Stakeholder Group. The Chair thanked Ms. YAHDHIH for her willingness to join the Board and briefly presented her background.
- 2) On 6 December 2018, the Chair received a letter of intention from Mamadou GOUDIABY, Director of Marine Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries and Maritime Economy of Senegal, seeking to become a Member of the FiTI International Board as a representative of the Countries stakeholder group. The Chair thanked Mr. GOUDIABY for his willingness to join the Board. While Mr. GOUDIABY will act as a Board Member in his personal capacity, the Board welcomed his engagement and the possibility that his commitment could support the current dynamics to the FiTI implementation process in Senegal.

The Board reached the following decision by consensus:

**Decision [BM-05\_2018\_D-02]:**

**The Board approved Ms. Maimouna YAHDHIH and Mr. Mamadou GOUDIABY as new Members of the FiTI International Board, both representing the stakeholder group “Countries”.**

- **Overview of tasks identified at previous meetings**

The Chair asked Sven BIERMANN, Director of the FiTI International Secretariat, to present the status of action tasks identified at the previous meeting:

**[BM-02\_2017\_AI-03] Provide guidance on how to promote the FiTI further with the European Commission and EU Member States:** It was acknowledged that no guidance was provided to the FiTI International Secretariat by Members of the Board. The Chair urged Board Members to pursue efforts to promote the FiTI within the European Union in 2019. The item was closed.

**[BM-03\_2018\_AI-02] Send comments on indicators used to identify a New Chair to Working Group “New Chair”:** Following the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the FiTI International Board, some comments were received on the proposed indicators, which allowed the Working Group to identify a short list of candidates to be presented to the Board during the present meeting. This item was closed.

**[BM-03\_2018\_AI-04] Provide an updated version of the FiTI Global Code of Conduct to the International Board:** Based on decision BM-03\_2018\_D-04, the FiTI International Secretariat

prepared a second version, which was presented during this 5<sup>th</sup> meeting (see below). This item was closed.

**[BM-03\_2018\_AI-05] Prepare a brief overview paper of different legal forms and governance structures from similar global, multi-stakeholder initiatives:** The FiTI International Secretariat presented the preliminary results on this matter during this 5<sup>th</sup> meeting (see below). This item was closed.

**[BM-03\_2018\_AI-06] Discuss approaches for engaging with donors regarding a “call for FiTI funding”:** Sven recalled the idea (in particular of Board Members from the Civil Society stakeholder group) of such a “call for FiTI funding” in order to raise funds for countries wishing to implement the FiTI as well as for the FiTI International Secretariat. Civil Society Board Members suggested to organise again reflection sessions in the form of the civil society roundtables, which were held once in the past next to an FiTI International Board meeting. Such roundtables could be used to better organise the civil society input and promote the FiTI overall. In addition to funding for such roundtables, Board Members also emphasised the need that funding is also required for Civil Society representatives to attend Board meetings (in particular outside Europe). Furthermore, Civil Society Board Members also argued in favour of stepping up their advocacy, communication and outreach activities as part of such a “call for FiTI funding”. It was mentioned that the idea of engaging a dedicated Civil Society Coordinator is currently explored. The Chair emphasised the responsibility of all Board Members to support funding activities for the FiTI. This item remains open.

**[BM-04\_2018\_AI-01] Finalise concept note for future collaboration with Global Sustainable Seafood Initiative (GSSI):** Sven reported that a brief concept note was submitted to GSSI (Herman Wisse, Managing Director) for discussions within their Board but that no further response had been received. Sven stated that the FiTI International Secretariat would approach GSSI again in 2019. This item remains open.

**[BM-04\_2018\_AI-02] Draft concept note for a joint side event with Global Fishing Watch at the upcoming “Our Ocean” Conference and seek funding support:** The FiTI International Secretariat conducted a joint side event with Global Fishing Watch and Oceana at the 2018 “Our Ocean” Conference, which took place in Bali in October 2018. This item was closed.

## I.1: Report from the FiTI International Secretariat

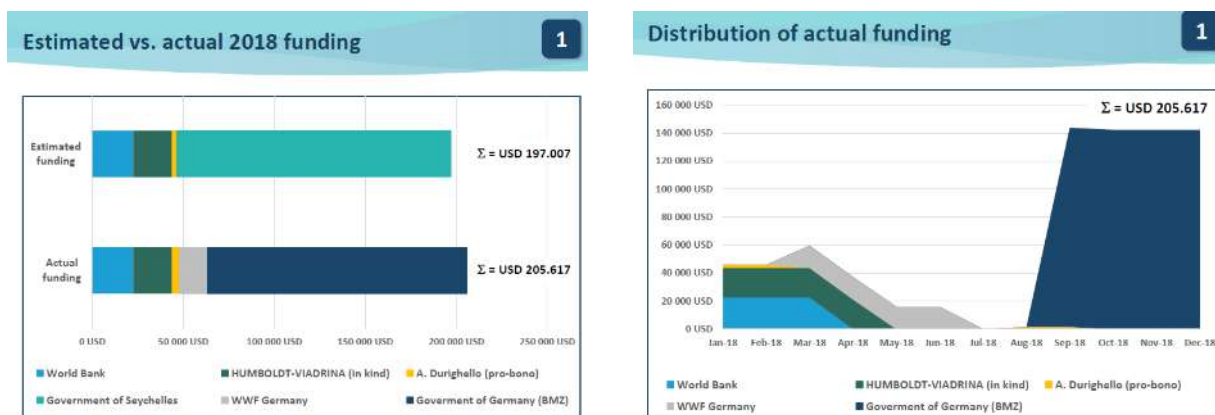
The Chair asked the FiTI International Secretariat to report of the status and activities conducted in 2018.

- **Status report against the realisation of 2018 Workplan of the FiTI International Secretariat**



Sven BIERMANN recalled the priority areas of the 2018 Workplan, as agreed by the FiTI International Board: Supporting implementing countries; Transitioning International Secretariat to Seychelles; Engaging new stakeholders in FiTI; Supporting the FiTI International Board.

Sven stated that the overall estimated funding requirement was eventually reached, in particular thanks to support from the World Bank, WWF (support to FiTI activities in West Africa) and the German Ministry BMZ. However, the contributions were primarily received at the beginning and the end of 2018, leaving a funding gap around mid-2018 (as shown below). Furthermore, 2018 relied again on significant in-kind contributions from the HUMBOLDT-VIADRINA Governance Platform (acting as the International Secretariat) and pro-bono support from the Chair and staff of the International Secretariat. Sven also stated that the FiTI International Secretariat is planning to state all financial contributions transparently on the FiTI website in early 2019.



Sven stated that the uneven funding distribution explains the partial fulfilment of some planned outputs and outcomes.

### (1) Supporting implementing countries

	Planned	Actual	
Output	4x country visits conducted (focus: Seychelles)	6x country visits conducted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3x Guinea (May; July*; October)</li> <li>1x Mauritania (November)</li> <li>1x Senegal (November)</li> <li>1x Seychelles (October)</li> </ul>	✓
	Template for a FiTI National Workplan provided	Template for a FiTI National Workplan not provided yet	✗
	Template for FiTI Candidate Application provided	Template for FiTI Candidate Application [EN/FR] provided in June 2018	✓
Expected outcome	3 of the 5 current countries submitted their FiTI Candidate application to the FiTI International Board in 2018	Only 1 county submitted their FiTI Candidate application to the FiTI International Board in 2018	✗

\* Part of 3<sup>rd</sup> Sub-Regional Workshop on fisheries transparency in West Africa in Guinea

Sven stated that the Template for a FiTI National Workplan was not completed, due to the fact that Mauritania was so far the only country advanced enough to require such a template and that the German Development Agency GIZ supported the Mauritanian National Multi-Stakeholder Group in developing a FiTI National Workplan for 2019. However, the FiTI International Secretariat also supported Mauritania during the elaboration of this Workplan. It is currently planned to engage in discussions with the Mauritanian stakeholders to explore the possibility of providing their templates to the global FiTI community.

Sven stated further that the expected outcome of obtaining Candidate Applications from countries had only been partially reached due to an underestimation of the required time for countries to put the relevant legal, organisational and administration frameworks in place. In 2018, Mauritania was the only country to submit its Candidate Application to the FiTI International Board (see below). It is currently assumed that the Seychelles will submit their Candidate Application within the first quarter of 2019.

### (2) Transitioning International Secretariat to Seychelles

	Planned	Actual	
Output	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>By-laws for the FiTI Association under Seychellois laws presented to the FiTI International Board for approval</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>By-laws are subject to selected legal vehicle for FiTI entity under Seychellois law</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1x country visits for preparation of transition to Seychelles conducted</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Country visit conducted in October 2018</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detailed transition plan and materials (e.g. guidance notes) finalised</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detailed transition planned is established and regularly updated</li> </ul>	
Expected outcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FiTI Association registered in the Seychelles</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No FiTI legal entity has been established yet in the Seychelles (planned for Q1 2019)</li> </ul>	

Sven emphasised that due to the funding situation, the activities to fulfil this work area only started in October 2018. He highlighted that the institutionalisation of the FiTI is an important step, requiring funding and time and will therefore be also a priority area for the work of the International Secretariat in 2019.

### (3) Engaging new stakeholders in FiTI



	Planned	Actual	
Output	3-5 potential implementation countries identified and engaged in discussions to implement FiTI	Total of 7 countries (Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Ghana, Liberia, Peru, São Tomé y Príncipe)	✓
	8-10 potential non-state actors (incl. business and civil society) introduced to the initiative	More than 20 non-state actors introduced to the FiTI	✓
	5 potential non-governmental donors and 3 potential governmental donors identified and contacted to explore their contribution to FiTI funding	4 potential non-governmental donors contacted 2 potential governmental donors contacted	⚠
	1 blog article per month posted on FiTI Website (EN and FR)	Currently 7 blog articles posted during 2018 (EN and FR)	⚠
	Regular social media activities and joint communication activities with partners conducted	Regular Twitter activities conducted; joint communication on relevant occasions (e.g. OOC)	✓
	Planned	Actual	
Expected outcome	1-2 additional countries initiated the process to sign-up to the FiTI	Nigeria and São Tomé y Príncipe initiated the sign-up process	✓
	1 governmental donor and 1 non-governmental donor contributed to the financing of the FiTI International Secretariat	1 governmental donor (German BMZ) 1 non-governmental donor (WWF Germany)	✓
	2 support statements for the FiTI published by non-governmental stakeholders	No activities conducted to obtain further support statements	✗
	Host country for 3rd FiTI International Conference in 2019 confirmed	No activities conducted to identify host country	✗
	200 additional followers on Twitter gathered (baseline: 835)	250 additional Twitter followers (1.084, as of 11 <sup>th</sup> December 2018)	✓

Sven emphasised the importance put in updating the website and Twitter channel regularly to show constant activities and progress of the FiTI, in particular during the first half of 2018, when stakeholders were increasingly concerned about the sustainability of the initiative.

Sven also indicated that due to the difficult funding situation, the International Secretariat had to prioritise some activities of its Workplan, such as outreach activities aimed at obtaining further support statements to the FiTI or obtaining commitments to host the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference of the FiTI.

#### (4) Supporting the FiTI International Board

	Planned	Actual	
Output	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 on-site and 3 teleconferences of FiTI International Board meetings conducted, including preparatory papers and meeting minutes in two languages</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 on-site meeting: Jan 18, Dec. 18 (both in Berlin)</li> <li>1 conference call: Jun 18</li> <li>1 circular: Oct 18</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FiTI Global Code of Conduct presented</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Global Code of Conduct presented in Jan. 18 and Dec. 18</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FiTI Global Travel Policy presented</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Global Travel Policy approved in Jan. 18</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FiTI Guidance Note for Report Compiler presented</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guidance Note for Report Compiler in preparation</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2019 Workplan for International Secretariat presented</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Workplan in preparation</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 Working Groups of the FiTI International Board supported</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Both Working Group supported (for at least 6 months)</li> </ul>	

The 2018 Workplan of the FiTI International Secretariat had been prepared fully in advance of the 3rd International Board Meeting (January 2018) for adoption by the Board. Sven stated that for the 2019 Workplan, the FiTI International Secretariat will gather the expectations of the FiTI International Board first (during this meeting, see below) before finalising a Workplan for 2019.

The Working Group tasked with identifying a new FiTI Chair pointed out that the uncertainty of the initiative caused by the funding situation had been a major obstacle to advance discussions on the new Chair (for further information, see below).

Salimata SOUMARE suggested to use the continental mandate of the AfDB to extend FiTI activities to East Africa. It was proposed to identify a country that could act as a multiplier for the region, in collaboration with the AfDB. Other Board Members supported such a regional approach, potentially also integrating FiTI into a wider good oceans governance framework (instead of advocating for FiTI as a standalone activity).

While FiTI was created to focus on marine fisheries, one Board Member argued that some countries where inland fisheries represent an important activity could also greatly benefit from the FiTI approach. Lake Victoria was mentioned, where small-scale fisheries actors are better organised than on the maritime coast. However, the Chair stated that before discussing the possibility of adapting the FiTI Standard to inland fisheries, the current approach of focussing on marine fisheries should not be changed until the initiative is fully established.

- **New Guidance Note for Report Compiler**

Sven explained that the publication of the first FiTI Reports within the next 12-18 months is crucial, as expectations from donors and technical partners are high towards the FiTI to demonstrate that the initiative indeed increases transparency and participation. Further, he



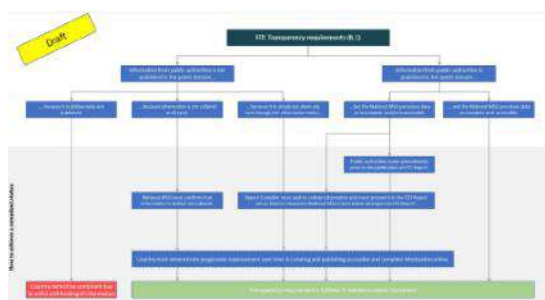
indicated that the first report would be seen as a baseline for other countries to follow, making it important to ensure that this report follows the letter and the spirit of the FiTI Standard. First observations from baseline studies (e.g. conducted by the Seychelles) have shown that professional service providers are already trying to position themselves as future FiTI Report Compilers and that such organisations, in particular the ones working in a similar position for the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative, may have not fully understood the difference between the EITI Standard and the FiTI Standard.

With the first FiTI Reports expected in 2019 (e.g. from Mauritania), it has become a priority of the FiTI International Secretariat to release a guidance note to support Report compilers to act in accordance with the requirements of the FiTI Standard. The FiTI International Secretariat has therefore contracted André STANDING, Technical Advisor to the International Secretariat, to provide such a guidance note.

In a video message, André explained the purpose of the Guidance Note for the Report Compiler and provided an overview of the content of the Guidance Note.

#### Contents of the guidelines

1. Steps in the process of compiling the FiTI Annual Report
2. Understanding the purpose of the FiTI Annual Report
3. Understanding the transparency requirements in the FiTI Standard
4. Requirements of the report compiler in compiling the FiTI Annual Report
5. Anticipating and responding to difficulties in the compilation of the FiTI Report
6. Compiling and presenting the initial findings to the NMSG
7. Presentation of the FiTI Annual Report
8. Guidance on the assessment of each of the 12 transparency requirements



#### Purpose:

- Provide process overview from preparation to completion of the annual FiTI Report
- Clarify key terms contained in the FiTI Standard (e.g. accessible)
- Set requirements for research (e.g. inclusiveness)
- Overcome difficulties (e.g. withholding of information)
- Highlight desired presentation of information

The Board highlighted the importance of such a Guidance Note and welcomed the advanced stated of this document. Sven stated that the Guidance Note will be finalised by the end of February 2019. To support the finalisation of this document, the following Board Members volunteered as reviewer: Barthélémy BATIENO, Maria José CORNAX, Marthin HADIWINATA, Philippe MICHAUD, Eduardo ROLÓN, and Alfred SCHUMM.



It was suggested that synergies could be sought with similar initiatives, such as the Open Government Partnership (OGP), for instance by combining the results of both OGP and FiTI Reports so as to maximise their respective impact.

- **Updates on implementation status of countries**

Sven reported that seven countries are currently engaged in the FiTI. Amongst them, five countries are engaged in the sign-up step process to become FiTI Candidate countries soon: Guinea, Indonesia, Nigeria, Senegal, Seychelles.

He also informed the Board about the recent commitment of Sao Tomé e Príncipe to implement the sign-up steps to become a FiTI Candidate Country (see below).

**Status of countries: Guinea** **3**



**CONCLUDED ACTIVITIES**

- May 2018: Sensitisation workshop on the FiTI for stakeholders residing outside of Conakry (Kamsar)
- July 2018: 1<sup>st</sup> FiTI sub-regional workshop in West Africa, hosted by Guinea
- Oct. 2018: Country visit with major focus on meeting with the Fisheries Minister to discuss the current situation of FiTI in Guinea and discuss the way forward

**ACTIVITIES IN PROGRESS / PLANNED**

- Call between H.E. President Alpha Condé and Peter Eigen (December 2018)
- Multi-stakeholder sensitisation workshop in Forécariah (South) begin 2019
- Stakeholder Mapping of relevant CSO organisations for MSG (with PWYP)

**EXPECTED APPLICATION TO THE BOARD**

- 2019

Andréa DURIGHELLO, FiTI Regional Coordinator for West Africa, reported that the various sources of funding, from WWF, BMZ and the MAVA Foundation (for PRCM), permitted to conduct a total of 3 country visits in Guinea in 2018. However, she emphasised that progress in Guinea has still remained limited because the presidential decree aimed at institutionalising the FiTI in Guinea is still pending signature. Andréa informed the Board that a call between the FiTI Chair and the President of Guinea is planned for December/January to discuss this matter. Despite this significant obstacle, discussions with Guinean actors on how to continue supporting the FiTI process in Guinea have not ceased, allowing to keep the momentum on the FiTI despite the current difficulties.

### Status of countries: Indonesia

3

#### CONCLUDED ACTIVITIES

- No activities conducted in 2018

#### ACTIVITIES IN PROGRESS / PLANNED

- Unclear

#### EXPECTED APPLICATION TO THE BOARD

- Unclear

Sven informed the Board that the FiTI International Secretariat currently has no information on the status of the FiTI process in Indonesia, despite several letters sent by the FiTI Chair and the FiTI International Secretariat to the Board Member Mas Achmad SANTOSA and H.E. Minister Susi PUDJIASTUTI. He reckoned that in similar cases, country visits by the International Secretariat or even the Chair has often reinitiated the process, but that due to the lack of funding in 2018 such a visit was not possible. The Board Members agreed that a country visit in the first half of 2019 should be a priority of the International Secretariat to discuss this matter with the relevant stakeholders. FiTI Board Member Marthin HADIWINATA also agreed to follow up on the current situation.

### Status of countries: Mauritania

3



#### CONCLUDED ACTIVITIES

- Several meetings of the MSG over 2018 to adopt core documents of the FiTI implementation process in Mauritania (ToRs MSG, ToRs Secretariat, Workplan)
- Physical office of the FiTI National Secretariat created within Fisheries Ministry
- Nov. 2018: MSG Workshop to complete FiTI Candidate Application (Nouakchott)

#### ACTIVITIES IN PROGRESS / PLANNED

- Finalisation of a French translation of the FiTI Standard (in progress)
- Consolidation of the FiTI National Secretariat (increase staff and equipment)
- Nomination of alternates for the National MSG (planned)
- Finalisation of ToRs for the 1<sup>st</sup> FiTI Report in Mauritania (in progress)
- First FiTI Report (planned for 2019)

#### EXPECTED APPLICATION TO THE BOARD

- Candidate Application will be submitted on 13 December 2018

Andréa reported that the National Multi-Stakeholder Group (MSG), with the support of the German GIZ, conducted a number of activities during 2018, which led to the approval of their

Candidate Application to the FiTI. She further explained that the French translation of the FiTI Standard was an initiative of the FiTI National MSG of Mauritania. The National MSG will make this non-official translation publicly available, enabling francophone countries to benefit from it for their FiTI process until an official translation of the FiTI Standard is available. She also reported that Terms of Reference for the first FiTI Report had already been drafted and that one of the priorities of the National MSG would now be to adopt these Terms of Reference, in line with the upcoming Guidance Note for Report Compiler. These ToRs will then be used to recruit a Report Compiler soon to elaborate Mauritania's 1<sup>st</sup> FiTI Report (which is due by the end of 2019).

Status of countries: Nigeria
3

CONCLUDED ACTIVITIES

- No activities conducted in 2018
- Brief, informal meeting between H.E. Minister Heineken Lokpobiri and International Secretariat conducted in November 2018

ACTIVITIES IN PROGRESS / PLANNED

- Unclear, as no dedicated Focal Point for FiTI has been determined yet

EXPECTED APPLICATION TO THE BOARD

- Unclear

Sven reported that following the official Letter of Intent sent to the FiTI Chair by Senator Heineken Lokpobiri, Honourable Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development of Nigeria in January 2018, no activities had been conducted in Nigeria. He also stated that no budget had been foreseen in the 2018 Budget of the FiTI International Secretariat to conduct a country visit to Nigeria, which has been raised by a number of national stakeholders as crucial to initiate the process. The Board agreed that the 2019 Workplan of the Secretariat should include a budget to work with Nigerian stakeholders to materialise the commitment made of Nigeria.

The Chair also reported briefly from his several visits to Nigeria as part of the Africa Progress Group (the successor of the African Progress Panel). He reported on the high interest for the FiTI among Nigerian stakeholders and on some activities happening in the fisheries sector, which could with time be a good support for the FiTI.

## Status of countries: Senegal

3



### CONCLUDED ACTIVITIES

- Oct. 2018: Joint visit of PRCM and AfDB to the Marine Fisheries Directorate
- Nov. 2018: Country visit of the FiTI Int. Sec. to the Marine Fisheries Directorate to discuss Senegal's implementation status and way forward
- Dec. 2018: First internal meetings on the FiTI & initial exchanges with relevant stakeholders

### ACTIVITIES PLANNED

- Determine FiTI Focal point within Marine Fisheries Directorate
- Set up a multi-stakeholder platform to guide national FiTI implementation to define a roadmap for FiTI implementation
- Organise information meetings about FiTI (to be upscaled with time)

### EXPECTED APPLICATION TO THE BOARD

- 2019

The Board Members welcomed the positive developments of the FiTI in Senegal as well as the leadership of the Marine Fisheries Directorate of the Fisheries Ministry, whilst pointing out that the lack of involvement of the Fisheries Minister in the process. They also welcomed the approach of Senegal's government to involve all stakeholder groups from the beginning of the process and emphasised the importance of such a multi-stakeholder approach to support a successful FiTI implementation. Despite these positive indications, the Board reemphasised their overall disappointment in the implementation progress in Senegal so far and agreed to review Senegal's status during the next Board meeting.

## Status of countries: Seychelles

3



### CONCLUDED ACTIVITIES

- FiTI Lead Ministry, FiTI National Lead and FiTI National Secretariat determined
- Initial baseline study that assessed how far the Seychelles is in meeting the transparency requirements (based on data of 2016) conducted
- Financial requirements for FiTI Implementation included in national budget\*
- Oct. 2018: First meeting of the National Multi-Stakeholder Group conducted
- Dec. 2018: Second meeting of the National Multi-Stakeholder Group conducted

### ACTIVITIES IN PROGRESS / PLANNED

- Conclude the remaining sign-up steps (i.e. ToR for NMSG, Workplan for 2019)
- Prepare for compilation of first FiTI Report in 2019 (data of 2018)

### EXPECTED APPLICATION TO THE BOARD

- End of March 2019

\* baseline requirement unmet

Philippe MICHAUD, in his role as the FiTI National Lead in the Seychelles, explained that the setting-up of the FiTI National Multi-Stakeholder Group (MSG) has been a long process because of the necessary time to identify members of the MSG. He emphasised that a great

added value of the FiTI is to institutionalise the regular exchange of all stakeholder groups due to the FiTI process (which otherwise only happens on an ad-hoc basis). Philippe also highlighted the value of the multi-stakeholder approach of the FiTI for civil society, who is often not aware of activities in the country.

Sven highlighted the key results of a baseline study, which was conducted in the Seychelles as a preparatory step to support the compilation of the FiTI Report in 2019 and to anticipated challenges that could occur during the reporting process. This baseline study identified information that is already published; information that is available but yet to be published; and information that is not collated or known. Sven also mentioned that this study – presented during the first meeting of the National MSG – was important to highlight the value that the FiTI could bring to the Seychelles (e.g. a lot of information on fisheries management in the Seychelles is already in the public domain, but it is often out to date).

- **Other outreach activities<sup>5</sup>**

01-02 July 2018, Conakry/Guinea: The PRCM organised, with the financial support of the MAVA Foundation and in cooperation with the FiTI International Secretariat, the 1<sup>st</sup> Sub-Regional Workshop on fisheries transparency in West Africa. This workshop gathered multi-stakeholder representatives from Mauritania to Sierra Leone to learn about the FiTI, discuss the issues of transparency and participation in the sub-regional context and exchange lessons learnt with countries already engaged in the FiTI process, like Mauritania and Guinea. The meeting was closed with a series of recommendations to the countries and actors of the sub-region for more transparency and participation and with the adoption of the Conakry Declaration for transparency<sup>6</sup>.

03 October 2018, Geneva/Switzerland: The FiTI International Secretariat was invited by the FAO to present the FiTI at the 2018 WTO Public Forum, as part of the FAO Session “FAO Instruments supporting the Sustainability of Traded Fish and Fisheries Products”. Transparency was presented as a basic condition for sustainable trade and fisheries products, therefore supporting the achievements of the Sustainable Development Goals. The FiTI was introduced besides high-level panellists (FAO, Too Big to Ignore) and presented as a complementary initiative supporting FAO instruments.

29-30 October 2018, Bali/Indonesia: Together with Global Fishing Watch and Oceana, the FiTI International Secretariat organised an official side event at the 2018 Our Ocean Conference. The side-event featured high-level participants, such as the Vice-President and

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<sup>5</sup> Outreach activities of the FiTI International Secretariat are regularly updated at <http://fisheriestransparency.org/events-and-news/fiti-on-the-road>  
The Conakry Declaration, as well as further information on the event can be found at the following page: <http://fisheriestransparency.org/guinea-hosts-first-sub-regional-workshop-on-fisheries-transparency-in-west-africa>



Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Panama, the Vice-President of the Republic of the Seychelles, the Minister of Fisheries and Marine resources of the Republic of Namibia, and the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guards of Canada. More than 120 participants attended this event. Sven highlighted again the importance to clearly communicate the FiTI's transparency approach in order not to confuse stakeholders about different transparency initiatives in marine fisheries (e.g. transparency in vessel movements).

12-14 November 2018, Abuja/Nigeria: The FiTI was presented at the 7<sup>th</sup> West Africa Task Force meeting of the Fisheries Committee for the West Central Gulf of Guinea as part of the implementation of the project "Fisheries intelligence and MCS support in West Africa" funded by the Norwegian Government (NORAD). This meeting, focussed on the issues of transparency and anti-corruption in the fisheries sector, was attended by Government representatives from all six FCWC member countries: Bénin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Liberia, Nigeria, and Togo. The Secretary General expressed the wish to organise a multi-stakeholder regional workshop on the FiTI in the FCWC region in the first half of 2019.

The FiTI International Secretariat also reported on outreach activities conducted with other countries that showed interest in the FiTI.

Peru: Sven reported that the FiTI International Secretariat has been in contact with various stakeholders (government and business) since 2016/17, including with the Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture. Sven emphasised that the support of Board Member Ricardo BERNALES has been instrumental to establishing and intensifying these contacts. The FiTI International Secretariat provided a detailed roadmap in Spanish to the Government of Peru to support Peru in completing the sign-up steps. However, the government reported recently its incapacity to initiate the process due to limited and financial human resources.

Ricardo insisted on the fact that Peru, as all countries in South America, would greatly benefit from the FiTI. He also reported the interest of the Vice-Minister of Fisheries for the FiTI. Ricardo suggested that the reluctance of Peru to engage in the FiTI at this point in time could have been caused by a question of timing, as budget for 2019 was already closed at the moment of the discussions with the FiTI International Secretariat (November 2018). He proposed to continue supporting the FiTI International Secretariat in its discussions with the Government, for instance by organising meetings in Peru and in the South-American region. The Board Members agreed to continue focussing its Latin America outreach activities on Peru for 2019, advising the International Secretariat to allocate funding to conduct onsite meetings with relevant stakeholders (and potentially other stakeholders in the region).

Ghana: Andréa reported on the increasing interest for the FiTI in Ghana, based on the verbal commitment made by the President of Ghana to the Chair to engage in the FiTI. This

commitment was made in Berlin and reconfirmed in Accra during 2018. The FiTI International Secretariat was invited to the 1<sup>st</sup> multi-stakeholder meeting on fisheries transparency in Ghana's fisheries (Accra, Nov 2018), which was organised with the support from EJP and the European Union. It is expected that further meetings on the FiTI will be organised in 2019 to materialise the shared willingness of fisheries actors to increase transparency in Ghana's fisheries management and implement FiTI

Others: Further outreach activities were also conducted with actors from the Gambia, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea-Bissau and Madagascar, as well as with a number of donors and investors. On the latter, Sven reemphasised the possibility to positioning the FiTI as a due diligence tool for the investment community.

## I.2: Update on promoting the FiTI in West Africa

Barthélémy BATIENO, Alternate FiTI Board Member and Partnership and Operations Coordinator/FiTI Focal Point at the Partenariat Régional pour la Conservation de la Zone Côtière et Marine en Afrique de l'Ouest (PRCM) presented the activities conducted under the FiTI Strategy in West Africa, which benefits from the financial support of the MAVA Foundation.

Mr. BATIENO highlighted the good cooperation between the PRCM and the FiTI International Secretariat, which allowed to conduct a number of activities in the sub-region in 2018, including:

- Organisation of a sensitisation workshop on the FiTI in Kamsar (Guinea) in local language (May 2018)
- Organisation of the 1<sup>st</sup> sub-regional workshop on fisheries transparency and FiTI (July 2018, Conakry)
- Funding of the meeting of the FiTI NMSG in Mauritania to finalise Mauritania's FiTI Candidate Application (November 2018, Nouakchott)
- Organisation of a workshop on advocacy around FiTI and transparency (Sally/Senegal, November 2018)
- Participation in joint country visits with the international Secretariat to support FiTI implementation efforts (ex: Guinea, November 2018; Senegal, October 2018)

Barthélémy recalled that their FiTI Strategy has the objective of promoting transparency and participation in fisheries management; supporting FiTI implementation in countries of the sub-region; but also concretely show how the FiTI can be beneficial to countries.

Regarding the geographical location, Barthélémy stated PRCM's wish to extend its support to Guinea-Bissau and the Gambia, in a context where Gambia is to enter negotiations with the European Union for a fisheries agreement. He outlined that the funds of the strategy (provided

by the MAVA Foundation) targets the countries of the Sub-regional Fisheries Commission (SRFC) and emphasised the need to reflect on new funding sources for activities in other African countries. This will be necessary to answer the increasing interest of countries outside of the SRFC and support cross-learning and experience sharing amongst countries. For instance, the neighbouring region of the Fisheries Committee for the West Gulf of Guinea (FCWC – from Liberia to Nigeria) expressed the wish to organise a sub-regional conference on the FiTI in 2019. Barthélémy also shared with the Board the idea to organise a pan-African Conference on fisheries transparency.

The Chair gave the floor to Salimata SOUMARE, representative of the African Development Bank's African Natural Resources Centre (ANRC) and Observer of the FiTI International Board. Salimata explained that the Centre was created by the AfDB to boost the capacity of African countries to achieve inclusive and sustained growth from natural resources. She explained that the ANRC has a consultative and strategic role and coordinates all natural-resource initiatives of the Bank. Salimata added that where necessary and especially where requested, the ANRC supports member countries in identifying their natural resources management needs. She pointed out that the AfDB has been engaged with the FiTI International Secretariat since FiTI's inception. She recalled, for example, the support the AfDB provided when the FiTI organised a regional workshop in the Seychelles in July 2017 and emphasised the readiness of her institution to support the FiTI in all interested countries in Africa. She said that the FiTI could be supported by other AfDB departments and independent entities like the African Legal Support Facility (ALSF), a public international institution hosted by the Bank, which provides legal advice and technical assistance to African countries in the negotiation of complex commercial transactions, creditor litigation and other related sovereign transactions, including fisheries agreements.

The Chair gave then the floor to José CARDOSO, representative of São Tomé e Príncipe invited to participate in the Board meeting as a guest. José announced that the Government of São Tomé e Príncipe sent a letter to the FiTI Chair, expressing its commitment to implement the FiTI. He explained that São Tomé e Príncipe is a small country with two islands but a very large sea area. He added that the fisheries activities in São Tomé e Príncipe are not well-known by people in the country and that the FiTI could contribute to a better understanding on this topic and to better awareness of the need to manage fisheries resources sustainably. José emphasised the very good experience of the country with EITI and that this experience will be beneficial to support FiTI implementation, for instance by combining EITI and FiTI Secretariats. José reported that São Tomé e Príncipe has been in contact with the ANRC to support the sign-up steps that the country has to fulfil to become a FiTI Candidate.

Following the different interventions, the Board made the following remarks:

- Beyond national implementation, FiTI implementation could be considered through a regional approach, in particular with regards to shared stocks;

- The possibility of a ranking tool (including indicators from the FiTI Standard) was mentioned as advocacy tools for civil society and others to promote FiTI implementations. However, the Board agreed that while FiTI transparency requirements can be used by organisations to embed them into such tools (e.g. score cards), the FiTI itself is neither a ranking exercise, nor a naming-and-shaming initiative. The FiTI has been created on the principle of progressive improvement, acknowledging that different countries may start their FiTI implementation process on different levels;
- Salimata indicated that the AfDB has a trust fund within the Bank and that she would work with the FiTI International Secretariat to organise meetings with the different departments of the Bank.

### I.3: Report from the Working Group “New FiTI Chair”

The Working Group reemphasised that due to the difficult funding situation of the FiTI 2018, only limited progress was made to find a successor of the current FiTI Chair, Peter Eigen.

After presenting an initial list of potential candidates, the Board brainstormed on additional candidates, which will be consolidated and discussed by the Working Group. Based on the short list that will be made out of the propositions, the Working Group will contact candidates to check their availability. During the discussions, the Board also emphasised that attention must be paid that the new Chair does not have a bias and that the new Chair will need to have enough time to fulfil his/her duties as a Chair.

Sven stated that the current proposed budget for the FiTI International Secretariat for 2019-21 includes a budget item to compensate the new FiTI Chair for his/her time.

The Working Group will propose a selection process for the new Chair by the next meeting of the FiTI International Board, with support from the FiTI International Secretariat.

### II.1: Transition of International Secretariat to Seychelles

The Chair asked Sven BIERMANN to report on the current status of the transition of the FiTI International Secretariat to the Seychelles. Sven recalled that the Vice President of the Seychelles, H.E. Vincent Meriton, committed publicly at the 2018 Our Ocean Conference in Bali/Indonesia to host the FiTI International Secretariat in the Seychelles, starting April 2019.

The Board reached the following decision by consensus:

#### Decision [BM-05\_2018\_D-03]:

**The Board reconfirmed the Seychelles as the future host country of the FiTI International Secretariat, starting April 2019.**

Sven showed that the FiTI International Secretariat elaborated a transition plan, providing a detailed listing of required activities (according to five categories, as shown below), which was discussed with relevant stakeholders, inter alia during the Secretariat's mission to the Seychelles in October 2018.



- **Location and infrastructure**

Sven informed the Board that the FiTI International Secretariat will be located in the same building as the Blue Economy Department (Oliaji Trade Centre, Victoria), where office space and equipment has already been reserved.

- **Funding**

Sven presented the expected growth of the FiTI in terms of countries and personnel. To ensure the ability of the FiTI International Secretariat to fulfil its objectives, he estimated that a team of at least 5 staff would be needed in 2019 (management, regional coordinator, fundraising officer, 2 local staff). This number will grow throughout the years together with the number of countries engaging in the process. It is estimated that by 2020, 20 to 25 countries will have engaged in the initiative.

With regards to the funding of the FiTI International Secretariat, Sven explained that the funding responsibilities of the FiTI International Secretariat would be assumed by the



HUMBOLDT-VIADRINA Governance Platform<sup>7</sup> until June 2019. Afterwards, the responsibility lies with the to-be created entity in the Seychelles. He also emphasised the need to find additional sources to secure funding for two major events, which are not included in the current budget: FiTI Launch event in Seychelles (April 2019); and the next FiTI International Conference.

Afterwards, Sven presented a detailed cost estimate for 2019-2021 (outlining estimated initial set-up costs, personnel costs, operating and governance costs).

	2019	2020	2021
<b>Initial setup costs</b>	28.440 USD		
<b>Personnel costs</b>	342.245 USD	490.295 USD	612.817 USD
<b>Operating costs</b>	268.261 USD	353.209 USD	436.940 USD
<b>Governance costs</b>	104.600 USD	201.100 USD	338.500 USD
<b>Total costs</b>	<b>743.546 USD</b>	<b>1.044.603 USD</b>	<b>1.388.257 USD</b>

- **Initial setup costs:** This includes, inter alia, initial infrastructure costs and legal service fees for establishing an FiTI legal entity as well as relocation costs of international staff.
- **Personnel costs:** This includes, inter alia, salary costs for the management, technical staff and support staff of the FiTI International Secretariat as well as fringe benefits and other compensations.
- **Operating costs:** This includes, inter alia, regular office expenses (e.g. rent, communication, outreach), travel costs for Regional Coordinators and the FiTI Chair, as well as other administrative expenses (e.g. statutory audit, insurance fees).
- **Governance costs:** This includes, inter alia, the costs of validations, compensation for the 2<sup>nd</sup> FiTI Chair, as well as on-site FiTI International Board meetings.

For each major cost category, a detailed budget calculation was presented. Sven stated that the calculations were based on similar initiatives, like the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI), and on the actual costs in the Seychelles.

The Board reached the following decision by consensus:

#### **Decision [BM-05\_2018\_D-04]:**

**The Board approved the estimated budget for the FiTI International Secretariat for 2019-2021 of approx. USD 3,2 million.**

On the provision of funds to secure the budget, Sven outlined that different sources are expected to contribute. Besides the mandatory financial contributions from participating countries (as introduced during the 4<sup>th</sup> FiTI International Board meeting) and financial

<sup>7</sup> The HUMBOLDT-VIADRINA Governance Platform has acted as the FiTI International Secretariat and its fiscal host since the beginning of the initiative.

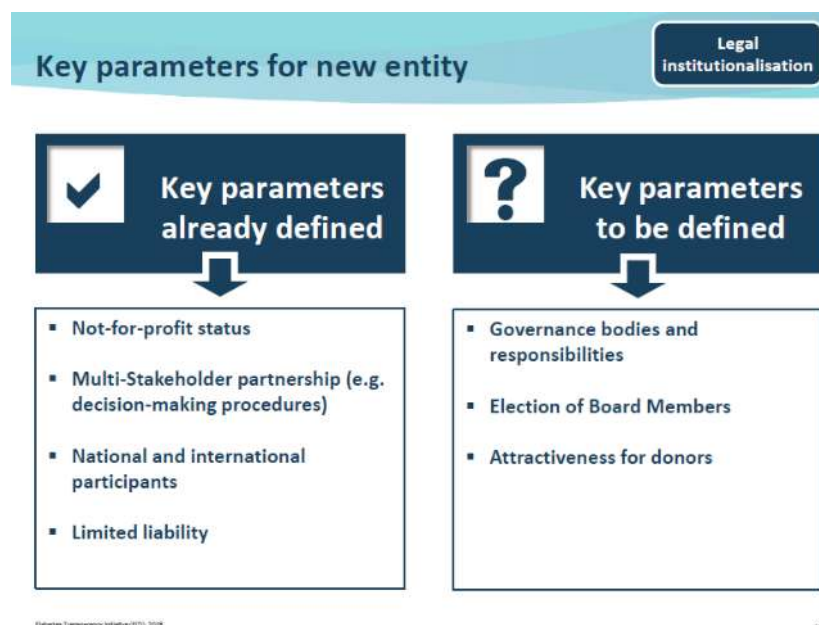
contributions from governmental and non-governmental stakeholders, the multi-donor trust fund PROBLUE, coordinated by the World Bank, is currently expected to be a major source of funding (for national implementations as well as the FiTI International Secretariat based in the Seychelles). However, Sven stated that even if the Partnership Council of PROBLUE agrees to provide funding to the Seychelles-based International Secretariat, such funding cannot be directly disbursed to the new FiTI entity. Other disbursement mechanisms are currently explored between the Seychelles and the World Bank. It is likely that this process will take significant time, with the consequence that any potential funds through PROBLUE will most likely not be available before the end of 2019. Sven stated that this means that approx. 500k USD of the required budget for 2019 are currently not secured.

The Chair therefore emphasised the urgent need to approach the donor community and explore further funding possibilities to secure the 2019 budget.

- **Legal institutionalisation**

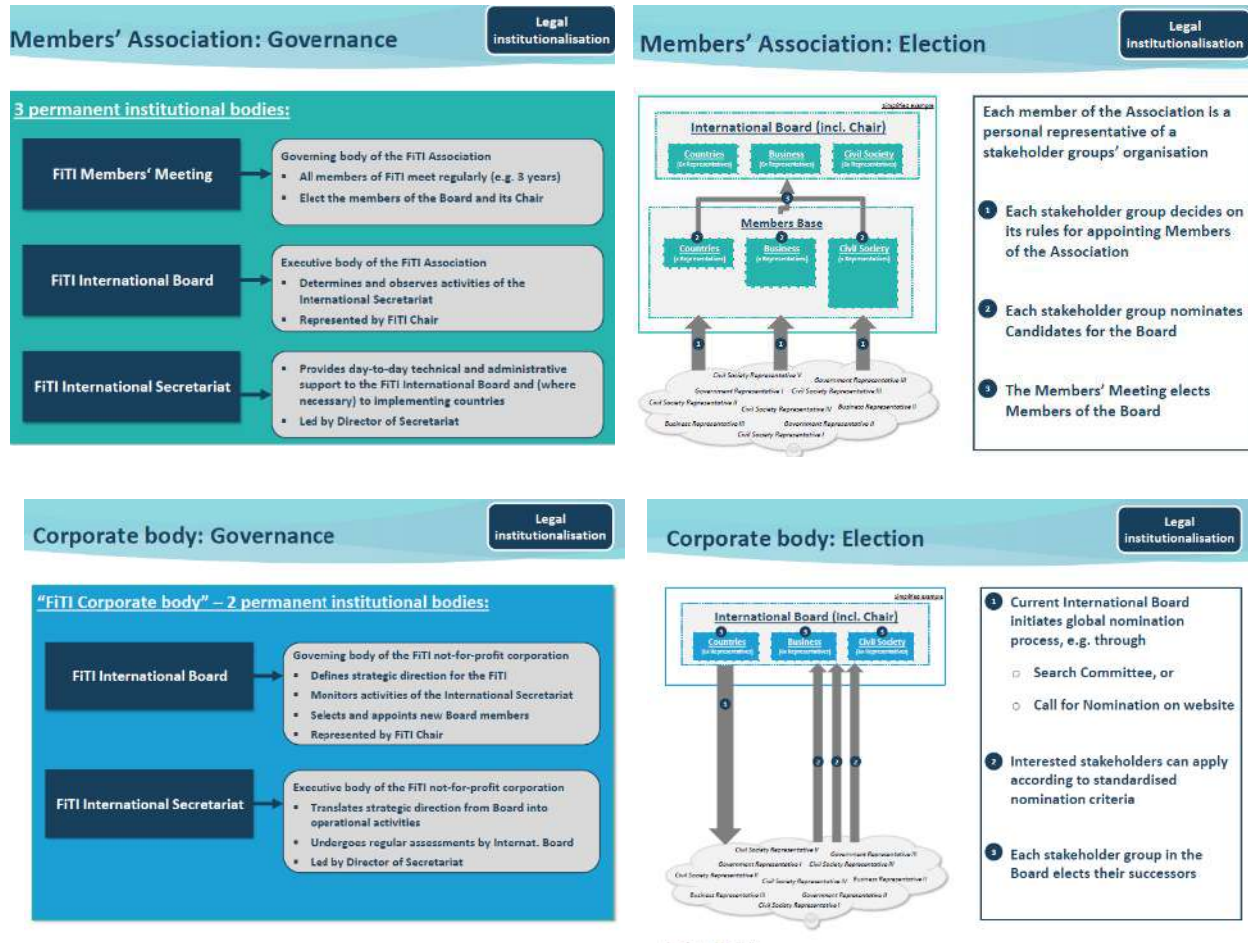
As another key aspect of the transition, Sven explained the importance to create a legal entity for the FiTI to engage in contractual relationships (with donors, staff, service providers) but also to take over risks and liabilities. He also emphasised that a number of donor organisations clearly stated their unwillingness and inability to provide funding to a German-based organisation.

In order to define the legal parameters for a new entity under Seychellois law, Sven outlined the following key parameters:



Sven explained that based on the key parameter that the FiTI must be created as a not-for-profit organisation (to be able to receive funding), basically only two legal vehicles are

available under Seychellois law: a Member's Association or a Corporate Body through its own Act. Both vehicles were presented, followed by a discussion of pros and cons.



Some Board Members argued favourably towards creating a Members' Association for the FiTI, including:

- Establishing an association is quicker and can be achieved in a few months;
- It is important to establish the FiTI on a broad global Members base (demonstrating FiTI's inclusive, pluralistic spirit and allowing for a democratic election process of future FiTI International Boards);
- It should be possible to draft the by-laws of the Association in a way that the Board is only the governing body, not the executive body;
- The avoidance of potential influences by national politics in case of a Corporate body; etc.

Some Members argued favourably towards creating a Corporate body for the FiTI, including:

- The high flexibility in drafting statute and bylaws;
- The fact that a Corporate Act requires Parliament support could give more weight to the FiTI legal entity;

- The ability to establish a clear, efficient and effective 2-layer governance model (separate oversight and execution), etc.

The FiTI International Board agreed that the choice of the legal entity for the FiTI requires legal counselling, in particular on the issues of taxes implied, whether a corporate body can receive donations; and the issue of conflict of interests.

The Board reached the following decision by consensus:

**Decision [BM-05\_2018\_D-05]:**

**The Board approved the commission of a legal opinion for the institutionalisation of the FiTI under Seychelles law, comparing a Members' Association against a Corporate Body.**

- **Personnel**

The Chair highlighted the importance of continuity of the work of the FiTI International Secretariat, in particular as – in addition to the relocation of the Secretariat – the current Chair will also be replaced in 2019. He also mentioned this in light of donor discussions, which seek long-term stability for the initiative. Therefore, the Chair welcomed the willingness of Sven BIERMANN to extend his services as the Director after the move of the Secretariat to the Seychelles. Given the fact that Sven has shown his ability to run and extend the FiTI International Secretariat for the last 3 years, the Chair also stated that such a pragmatic approach, similar to the appointment of the 1<sup>st</sup> International Board, would also be favourable in the current situation, where a global search for candidates would result in financial and operational costs.

Sven emphasised that clear Terms of Reference for this position will be drafted after the decision on the legal entity, as the legal form will influence the scope of responsibilities for the Director.

The Board reached the following decision by consensus:

**Decision [BM-05\_2018\_D-06]:**

**The Board approved the renewed appointment of Mr. Sven Biermann as the Director of the FiTI International Secretariat for the new legal entity in the Seychelles.**

Sven thanked the Board Members for this reappointment and their trust, stated however that due to professional and personal responsibilities, a transition time of up to 6 months would be needed prior to his relocation to the Seychelles. Therefore, in case reliable funding options for 2019-2021 do not become available by the end of March/April 2019, he may not be able to take over this position.

## II.2: Concept for “FiTI Regional Support Hubs”

After recalling the current governance structure of the FiTI, Sven BIERMANN opened discussions on how the governing structure of the initiative can evolve when more countries enter the process. He presented the traditional approach of EITI, which relies on regional coordinators managing up to 6 to 8 countries (not necessarily always based in the region).

He suggested that after consultation with a number of stakeholders over recent months, the FiTI could consider establishing so-called Regional Support Hubs: existing regional organisations related to fisheries, ocean governance or sustainable development would act

- on behalf of the FiTI International Secretariat;
- on behalf of National Secretariats; or
- perform services otherwise conducted by other stakeholders (e.g. consultants).

Sven indicated that such an approach could result in a number of benefits, by e.g. strengthening existing initiatives and by having access to other sources funding, as some donors focus on regional funding approaches.

### Expected benefits



A first high-level analysis of the pros and cons of such an approach indicated a number of potential benefits, while at the same time also identified a number of implementation challenges (e.g. additional administrative layer, fear of information sharing, lack of external perspectives, overlap or non-coverage of countries).



## Initial analysis of activity areas

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- First analysis shows a number of potential of benefits, e.g. quality of service, mobilisation of funding, cost and efficiency gains, regional commitment and coverage:
  - FiTI International Secretariat may eventually rely only on one “Continent Coordinator”, instead of multiple “Regional Coordinators”
  - Regional Hubs may also conduct activities that would otherwise be undertaken by external consultants
  - Regional Hubs are not suited to replace National Secretariats
- Regional Support Hubs can never take over the overall ownership for a national FiTI implementation or substitute key institutional requirements, such as a National Multi-Stakeholder Group

To test the feasibility of such a regional support hub, Sven proposed to identify 1-2 existing regional organisations that could serve as a pilot, e.g. in elaborating detailed Terms of Reference for service delivery, determining mitigation strategies for implementation challenges, and identifying funding support for organisation.

Sven announced to the Board that, shortly before the meeting, the FiTI International Secretariat received a letter from the Pacific Islands Development Forum (PIDF)<sup>8</sup> addressed to the FiTI Chair, expressing the interest of the PIDF to become a pilot for the FiTI Regional Support Hub. As an organisation aiming at supporting countries in the region to implement the Sustainable Development Goals (SGDs), Mr. BIERMANN reported that the PIDF already has National Multi-Stakeholder Groups in the different countries of the region. He outlined that the goal of such hubs would be to get countries interested in the FiTI. He clarified that the idea of this pilot organisation was not to establish a formal relationship but rather to check what criteria are needed to establish a regional support hub.

During the deliberations, the Board welcomed the idea to broaden the outreach level of the FiTI International Secretariat by strengthening existing organisations. At the same time, some Board Members expressed concerns on the fact that the creation of such hubs could lead to a delegation of the responsibilities of the Board to these hubs. It must be made sure that such hubs do not take away the responsibilities of the International Board. Therefore, it should be further clarified what is expected from such regional hubs and what mechanism the Board can use to ensure that those regional hubs follow the interest and guidance set at the international level.

Furthermore, the idea of establishing such a hub, together with its rules and governance characteristics, should be made public so as to open competition to all interested regional

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<sup>8</sup> PIDF is a platform bringing together leaders from the public and private sectors and civil society in Pacific Island countries to address regional development challenges through mutually beneficial innovative partnerships (<http://pacificidf.org/what-is-pidf/>)

organisations. In order not to act on an ad-hoc basis, the FiTI International Secretariat could identify the geographical zones most relevant for the FiTI in order for the Board to strategically choose the pilot of such a regional support hub (e.g. in Latin America).

For the case of the PIDF, some Board Members expressed concerns with regards to the difficulty of a regional approach in the Pacific (due to the large number of small islands).

Some Board members also argued in favour for simply replicating the current strategy of the FiTI International Secretariat: a regional coordinator based in the region and managing a number of countries in this region. However, funding restrictions were noted. Furthermore, it was suggested that the FiTI could benefit from the support of “Friends of FiTI” in the different regions to promote the FiTI on the ground.

Based on the discussions, the Board reached the following two decisions by consensus:

**Decision [BM-05\_2018\_D-07]:**

**The Board decided that the concept and the goals of FiTI Regional Support Hubs must be further defined. The FiTI International Secretariat is tasked with clarifying these aspects and present the concept again to the Board for decision.**

### III: Internal governance

#### (i) Global Code of Conduct

After the 3<sup>rd</sup> FiTI International Board meeting, the Chair tasked the FiTI International Secretariat to review the draft FiTI Global Code of Conduct and to further elaborate the area “Avoid or disclose conflicts of interest”. The proposed changes were distributed to the Board Members prior to this meeting and therefore, not presented in detail.

The Board reached the following decision by consensus:

**Decision [BM-05\_2018\_D-08]:**

**The Board approved the updated FiTI Global Code of Conduct (2<sup>nd</sup> Draft, dated 30 November 2018).**

The Global Code of Conduct (EN/FR) will be finalised by the FiTI International Secretariat in its approved form and be made publicly available on the website of the FiTI International Secretariat by the end of January 2019.

#### (ii) FiTI Global Branding Policy

Sven explained that in order to grow FiTI as a global brand, it was necessary to ensure the consistency in the way the FiTI is displayed. He highlighted the importance of how a well-

defined brand helps to ensure the credibility of the FiTI and support the promotion of the initiative as well as the creation of partnerships with important stakeholders. As an anecdote, Sven shared with the Board the case where a commercial service provider is already using the FiTI logo to promote their business. The FiTI International Secretariat gave therefore priority in drafting a global branding policy. The proposed policy was distributed to the Board Members prior to this meeting and therefore, not presented in detail.

The Board reached the following decision by consensus:

**Decision [BM-05\_2018\_D-09]:**

**The Board approved the presented FiTI Global Branding Policy (dated 30 November 2018).**

The Global Branding Policy (EN/FR) will be finalised by the FiTI International Secretariat in its approved form and be made publicly available on the website of the FiTI International Secretariat by the end of January 2019.

#### IV: Candidate application of Mauritania

The FiTI Chair announced that he received the official FiTI Candidate Application from Mauritania on 12 December 2018. The Chair emphasised that Mauritania became the 1<sup>st</sup> Country to fulfil the sign-up requirements in accordance with the FiTI Standard and to submit an official application to the Board. This is an important milestone for the FiTI, to which Mauritania has shown support from the beginning

The Chair asked Andréa DURIGHELLO, Country manager for Mauritania within the FiTI International Secretariat, to introduce the context of the application and outline the involvement of the FiTI International Secretariat.

The Chair reported the apologies of Maimouna YAHDHIH for not being able to attend the Board meeting. In her absence, the Chair asked then Nedwa Nech, Member of the FiTI International Board (stakeholder group: Civil Society) and Member of Mauritania's National Multi-Stakeholder Group to present the country's application.

Afterwards, the Board discussed the application; in accordance with the FiTI Global Code of Conduct (see above), Nedwa did not participate in this discussion and the resulting decision-making. The Board was pleased with the thoroughness of the Candidate application, which reflects the conscientious and hard work that the FiTI National Multi-Stakeholder Group invested in the FiTI sign-up step process (in accordance with the FiTI Standard, Section A). The Board also recognised the transparency around the sign-up step process, e.g. by making all important documents publicly available on ministerial websites. The Board acknowledged that the completion of these sign-up requirements lays now a strong foundation for Mauritania to embark on the next step of the FiTI process: undergo regular assessments on the accessibility and completeness of information in the public domain for all transparency requirements set forth in the FiTI Standard. Through this, the FiTI will support Mauritania's national authorities to develop and strengthen their own systems for collating and publishing information online in a complete and accessible manner.

However, two important matters were raised during the deliberations of the International Board regarding Mauritania's Candidate application:

- First, the Board raised concerns about the composition of the Business stakeholder group within the FiTI National Multi-Stakeholder Group, which only comprises representatives from the Fédération Nationale des Pêches (FNP). The FiTI Standard (Section A.4. – FiTI National Multi-Stakeholder Group) states that for each stakeholder group represented on the FiTI National Multi-Stakeholder Group *“it is encouraged that the nomination process considers the desirability of pluralistic and diverse representation.”* Whilst the National Multi-Stakeholder Group intended to include all segments of the Mauritanian fisheries sector, it justified its decision to only include representatives from this one federation with the argument that the FNP is the only organisation that is registered within the employers'

organisation in Mauritania (Candidate application, page 10). However, the International Board argued that, based on the Principle of inclusiveness that is at the heart of the FiTI, the nomination process to a National Multi- Stakeholder Group should include all professional organisations, regardless of whether they have received an official accreditation from the country's government.

- Second, the Board was discontent with the late arrival of this Candidate Application, as it was only received on the eve of the meeting. This short period did not allow Board members to review the Candidate Application in detail and obtain additional information from their constituencies. Given the noticeable efforts of Mauritania in fulfilling the sign-up steps and the fact that (except for the composition of the National Multi-Stakeholder Group, as mentioned above) no Board Member had substantial concerns about Mauritania completing the six sign-up steps in accordance with the FiTI Standard, the Board decided not to postpone the decision on Mauritania's Status and to officialise its status of a FiTI Candidate country. However, this should be seen as exceptional circumstances to encourage Mauritania to continue its efforts on its path to becoming FiTI compliant.

The Board reached the following decisions by consensus:

**Decision [BM-05\_2018\_D-010]:**

**The Board approved the Candidate Application of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania and granted it the official status of a FiTI Candidate country in accordance with Section A of the FiTI Standard.**

**However, the Board requested the following two modifications to be implemented by Mauritania<sup>9</sup>:**

- (1) The current composition of the business stakeholder group (as shown in the list of National Multi-Stakeholder Group Members)<sup>10</sup> must be amended and opened to representatives from other professional fisheries organisations in Mauritania. This must be completed within 2019; and**
- (2) For the remaining business representatives that are affiliated to the FNP, their original organisation must be stated in addition (e.g. [Name of organisation], a member of FNP).**

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<sup>9</sup> The official announcement of the FiTI Candidate Status as well as the requests for modification were sent to the Minister for Economy and Finance of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania (Lead Ministry on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2018). The official correspondence is available on the website of the FiTI International Secretariat: <http://fisheriestransparency.org/fiti-international-board>

<sup>10</sup> See "Liste des membres du Groupe National Multipartite » to be found at <http://www.peches.gov.mr/documents-fiti> (last accessed 18 December 2018)



**Decision [BM-05\_2018\_D-011]:**

**The Board decided that for the future, all countries must submit their Candidate Application at least one week before a FiTI International Board meeting. If this deadline is not met, the decision on the application will be postponed to the following Board meeting.**

On behalf of the FiTI International Board, the Chair extended his congratulations to the government of Mauritania and its FiTI National Multi-Stakeholder Group for this significant achievement. The Chair noted further that according to the FiTI Standard, *the National MSG must publish their first FiTI Report within the subsequent year of becoming a FiTI Candidate country (FiTI Standard, Section B.2.2)*. The FiTI International Board is therefore looking forward to continuing working with Mauritania for this next phase of the FiTI and is excited to receive Mauritania's first FiTI Report within 2019 (containing information from 2018).

The Chair instructed the FiTI International Secretariat to make all relevant documents concerning this application publicly available on the FiTI website by mid of January 2019.

**V.1: 2019 Workplan for FiTI International Secretariat**

Sven BIERMANN explained that the objective of this session is to identify priority areas and objectives of the FiTI International Secretariat for 2019. Based on this, the FiTI International Secretariat will then develop a detailed 2019 Workplan, with activities, outputs and expected outcomes.

Sven recalled that despite the expected contributions from participating countries as well as the contribution from the German BMZ, additional funding sources are required to secure the overall budget of approx. 735k USD for 2019 (see above).

Sven proposed five major objective areas for the Workplan of the FiTI International Secretariat, subject to the availability of funding. For four of the five objective areas, first outputs and expected outcomes were indicated and, after discussions, in general agreed by the Board (except for objective area O-4, as shown above).

#### O-1: Supporting implementing countries

Planned (Draft)	
Output	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12x country visits conducted by end of 2019: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6x in pilot countries West Africa (Guinea, Mauritania, Senegal)</li> <li>1x in Indonesia</li> <li>2x recently joined countries (i.e. Nigeria, Sao Tome y Principe)</li> <li>3x other countries (e.g. Ghana, Madagascar)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Template for a FiTI National Workplan provided by end of June 2019</li> <li>Translation of FiTI Standard in 2x additional languages provided by August 2019</li> </ul>
Expected outcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2x additional countries submitted their FiTI Candidate application to the FiTI International Board by the end of 2019</li> <li>1x country published their first FiTI Report by the end of 2019</li> </ul>

#### O-2: Transitioning Int. Secretariat to Seychelles

Planned (Draft)	
Output	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Legal opinion for the FiTI International Board to decide the most appropriate legal vehicle for an FiTI entity obtained by end of February 2019</li> <li>By-laws for FiTI legal entity under Seychellois laws presented to the FiTI International Board for approval by April 2019</li> <li>2x country visits for transition to Seychelles conducted by July 2019</li> <li>3-4x Fundraising proposals (for 2019 and beyond) provided to governmental and non-governmental donors</li> </ul>
Expected outcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New FiTI legal entity registered in the Seychelles by July 2019</li> <li>Funding for International Secretariat in the Seychelles for 2019 of approx. 500k USD obtained by mid of 2019</li> <li>Operations of FiTI International Secretariat in Seychelles started by August 2019</li> </ul>

#### O-4: Initiating FiTI Regional Support Hub pilot

Planned (Draft)	
Output	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detailed Terms of Reference for Regional Support Hub established by June 2019</li> <li>1x workshop with partner organisation (i.e. PIDF) conducted by August 2019 (to refine current Concept Note)</li> <li>2-3x Fundraising proposals for a 2-year Regional Support Hub pilot provided to governmental and non-governmental donors</li> </ul>
Expected outcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Funding for implementing a FiTI Regional Support Hub pilot obtained by end of 2019</li> <li>1x collaboration agreement with Regional Support Hub partner organisation signed by end of 2019</li> </ul>

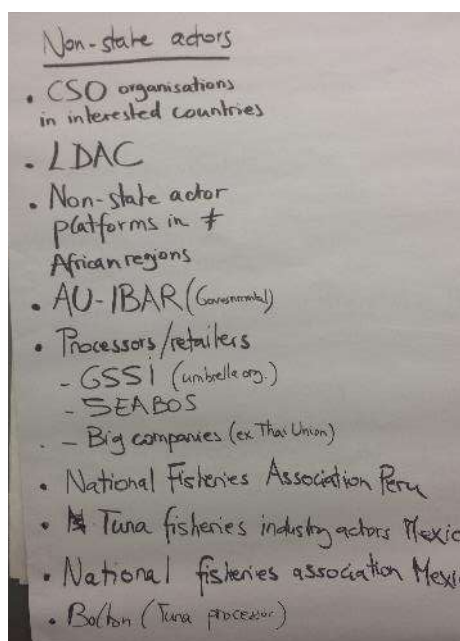
#### O-5: Supporting the FiTI International Board

Planned (Draft)	
Output	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2x on-site and 3x teleconferences of FiTI International Board meetings conducted, including preparatory papers and meeting minutes in two languages by end of 2019</li> <li>FiTI Guidance Note for Validation presented to the Board for approval by end of October 2019</li> </ul>
Expected outcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FiTI Guidance Note for Validation approved by the FiTI International Board by December 2019</li> <li>2nd FiTI Chair appointed by end of July 2019</li> </ul>

For objective area O-3 “Engaging new stakeholders in FiTI”, Board Members indicated that the FiTI International Secretariat should engage with countries outside of the current geographical scope. During this session, the Board proposed therefore a list of countries that the FiTI International Secretariat should start reaching out to.



The Board also made suggestions on non-state actors and donors to target for 2019:



These lists will be analysed, presented to potential donors and then presented to the FiTI International Board as part of the 2019 Workplan of the FiTI International Secretariat.

Furthermore, the Board indicated that in general the FiTI should start developing more comprehensive as well as tailored promotion material, to make sure that targeted stakeholders understand what the FiTI is all about/is not about and what benefits the FiTI can bring to each stakeholder group. The currently used "At a Glance" flyer were noted but should be complemented by other means.

## V.2: Outreach commitments for 2019

In the final session, the Chair recalled that is not only the responsibility of the FiTI International Secretariat, but also of every Member of the International Board to continuously promote a global level playing field of transparency in fisheries and to ensure a sustainable financial foundation for the FiTI.

During this session, each FiTI International Board Member briefly presented what internal or external outreach activity they are planning to conduct in 2019 to promote the FiTI. These commitments are document in Annex II and will be reviewed throughout 2019.

## Closing

The Chair thanked the Members of the Board for their participation in the 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of the FiTI International Board and expressed his satisfaction for the progress achieved during the meeting.

## 5<sup>th</sup> International Board Meeting ended

## APPENDIX I: Action items

ID	Pending actions	Responsibility
BM-03_2018_AI-06	<b>Discuss approaches for engaging with donors regarding a “call for FiTI funding”</b>	Board Members of Civil Society group
BM-04_2018_AI-01	<b>Finalise concept note for future collaboration with Global Sustainable Seafood Initiative (GSSI)</b>	FiTI International Secretariat
BM-05_2018_AI-01	<b>Seek to obtain additional information about the non-attendance of Mas Achmad Santosa</b>	FiTI International Board Members
BM-05_2018_AI-02	<b>Inform Mas Achmad Santosa as well as the Indonesian Government about the possible suspension decision by the FiTI International Board</b>	FiTI Chair
BM-05_2018_AI-03	<b>Inform Maimouna Ahmed Salem YAHDIH as well as Mamadou GOUDIABY of their acceptance as new Board Members</b>	FiTI International Secretariat
BM-05_2018_AI-04	<b>Provide dedicated sub-website to make financial contributions publicly available (per year)</b>	FiTI International Secretariat
BM-05_2018_AI-05	<b>Finalise the Guidance Note for Report Compiler</b>	FiTI International Secretariat
BM-05_2018_AI-06	<b>Contact potential candidates for new FiTI Chair</b>	Working Group “New FiTI Chair”
BM-05_2018_AI-07	<b>Propose a selection process for the new Chair by the next meeting</b>	Working Group “New FiTI Chair”
BM-05_2018_AI-08	<b>Provide a detailed funding requirement document for the FiTI International Secretariat 2019-2021 (to be distributed to potential donors)</b>	FiTI International Secretariat

BM-05_2018_AI-09	<b>Commission a legal opinion for the institutionalisation of the FiTI under Seychelles law, comparing a Members' Association against a Corporate Body</b>	FiTI International Secretariat
BM-05_2018_AI-10	<b>Inform the government of Mauritania about its acceptance as an official FiTI Candidate country</b>	FiTI Chair
BM-05_2018_AI-11	<b>Update the Guidance Note #01 that all countries must submit their Candidate Application at least one week before a FiTI International Board meeting</b>	FiTI International Secretariat
BM-05_2018_AI-12	<b>Provide further elaborations on the concept of a FiTI Regional Support Hubs</b>	FiTI International Secretariat
BM-05_2018_AI-13	<b>Implement outreach commitments</b>	All FiTI International Board Members
BM-05_2018_AI-14	<b>Prepare the 2019 Workplan for the FiTI International Secretariat</b>	FiTI International Secretariat



## APPENDIX II: Outreach commitments for 2019

Board Member	Outreach commitment
<b>Mamadou GOUDIABY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be determined</li> </ul>
<b>Ylva MATTSSON</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote FiTI in regional workshops regarding FAO's voluntary guidelines on the responsible governance of tenure</li> </ul>
<b>Philippe MICHAUD</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Link the FiTI to the blue economy concept and promote at relevant workshops and conferences</li> <li>Promote the idea of a FiTI Regional Support Hub among the Indian Ocean Commission (e.g. in meetings with Ambassadors, etc.)</li> </ul>
<b>Maimouna Ahmed Salem YAHDIH</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be determined</li> </ul>
<b>Alexander BIRYUKOV</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote FiTI amongst West African countries not yet interested in the initiative, in collaboration with the FiTI International Secretariat</li> </ul>
<b>Ricardo BERNALES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue promoting the FiTI among the Government of Peru</li> <li>Post blogs, etc. on the FiTI</li> <li>Promote the FiTI among the Fishers Unions of Peru</li> <li>Promote the FiTI among stakeholders in Ecuador and Chile ("Pledge for transparency"),</li> </ul>
<b>Gaoussou GUEYE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue organising workshops and conferences on transparency with links to FiTI</li> </ul>
<b>Marthin HADIWINATA</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote FiTI among government stakeholders in Indonesia</li> <li>Promote FiTI among the World Forum of Fisher People (WFFP)</li> <li>Conduct assessments on fisheries transparency in Indonesia</li> </ul>
<b>Francisco LEOTTE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be determined</li> </ul>
<b>María José CORNAX</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue promoting FiTI in the LDAC Working Group #5 to reach the EU fishing industry and the EU institutions.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote the FiTI at relevant conferences</li> <li>Embed FiTI in relevant Oceana media activities (e.g. BBC World)</li> <li>Promote FiTI among Oceana's stakeholders in Peru and Chile</li> </ul>
<b>Sebastián LOSADA</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be determined</li> </ul>
<b>Francisco MARI</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote FiTI among small-scale fishing associations linked up to the FAO</li> <li>Promote FiTI among the LDAC and the European Union</li> </ul>
<b>Nedwa NECH</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote the FiTI in various Maghreb platforms, among COMHAFAT stakeholders and within the PRCM</li> <li>Use all potential platforms to raise awareness about FiTI and on what it can bring to the fisheries sector</li> <li>Continue to link up FiTI to all relevant initiatives, such as the FAO initiatives</li> </ul>
<b>Eduardo ROLÓN</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote FiTI in Causa Natura's communication channels</li> <li>Share FiTI promotion material with relevant ministries in Mexico</li> <li>Promote FiTI among other stakeholders and donors (e.g. Oceans5)</li> </ul>
<b>Alfred SCHUMM</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Include FiTI in the Oceans for Transparency Initiative</li> <li>Promote the FiTI at relevant conferences</li> <li>Provide verification data with regards to transparency (for future FiTI Reports)</li> <li>Connect the FiTI International Secretariat with supply chain companies (retailers and processors)</li> <li>Consider co-funding workshop/studies linked to FiTI with focus on the east coast of Africa</li> </ul>
<b>Barthélémy Jean Auguste BATIENO</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct awareness raising workshops among the fishing industry in countries that are already engaged in the FiTI and in Guinea-Bissau</li> <li>Conduct capacity-building workshops on negotiation of fisheries agreements</li> </ul>

- |  |   |
|--|---|
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Support the implementation of FiTI in FiTI implementing countries in the sub-region (including support to Mauritania in publishing and disseminating their first FiTI Report)</li><li>• Conduct a second regional workshop on the FiTI in West Africa</li></ul> |
|--|---|

José CARDOSO volunteered to identify relevant civil society organisations which are currently members of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) and promote the FiTI amongst them. He also offered to reach out to other Portuguese-speaking countries to promote the FiTI amongst them.

## APPENDIX III: List of Participants

### Chair

**Peter EIGEN**

### Stakeholder Group of Countries

**Ylva MATTSSON**

**Philippe MICHAUD**

Excused:

**Maimouna Ahmed Salem YAHDIH**

Not excused:

**Mas Achmad SANTOSA**

### Stakeholder Group of Business

**Alexander BIRYUKOV**

**Ricardo BERNALES**

**Gaoussou GUEYE**

**Marthin HADIWINATA**

Excused:

**Francisco LEOTTE (Proxy given to Philippe MICHAUD)**

### Stakeholder Group of Civil Society

**María José CORNAX**

**Francisco MARI**

**Nedwa NECH**

**Eduardo ROLÓN**

**Alfred SCHUMM**

**Barthélémy Jean Auguste BATIENO (Alternate)**

Excused:

**Sebastián LOSADA (Proxy given to María José CORNAX)**

#### Observers

**Salimata SOUMARE**

#### FiTI International Secretariat

**Sven BIERMANN**

**Andréa DURIGHELLO**

**Milena KULA**

#### Guests

**José CARDOSO**

**Ellen FUNCH**

**Annika MACKENSEN**



## APPENDIX IV: Initial Agenda

**Wednesday, 12 December 2018**

**09:30 – 10:00**    Arrival of participants

		Type <sup>11</sup>
<b>10:00 – 10:10</b>	<b>Welcome and opening remarks</b>	①
	<i>Peter EIGEN, Chair, FiTI International Board</i>  <i>Ellen FUNCH, Senior Policy Officer, German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development</i>	
<b>10:10 – 10:40</b>	<b>Administration</b>	① / ☑
	<i>Peter EIGEN</i>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identification of attendance</li> <li>• Brief introduction of new participants</li> <li>• Determination of a quorum</li> <li>• Adoption of the agenda</li> <li>• Review of participation status of International Board Members</li> <li>• Overview of tasks identified at previous meetings</li> </ul>	
<b>10:40 – 11:45</b>	<b>I.1: Report from the FiTI International Secretariat</b>	①
	<i>Sven BIERMANN, Andréa DURIGHELLO</i>  <i>Country representatives</i>	
<b>11.45 – 12:30</b>	<b>I.2: Update on promoting the FiTI in West Africa</b>	①
	<i>Salimata SOUMARE</i>  <i>Barthélémy Jean-Auguste BATIENO</i>  <i>José CARDOSO</i>	

<sup>11</sup> ① Agenda item is primarily for information; ☑ Agenda item requires decision



## 12:30 – 13:30 Lunch break

13:30 – 14:00	I.3: Report from the Working Group “New FiTI Chair”	①
	<i>Gaoussou GUEYE, Philippe MICHAUD, Alfred SCHUMM</i>	

14:00 – 15:30	II.1: Transition of International Secretariat to Seychelles	① / ☑
	<i>Philippe MICHAUD, Sven BIERMANN</i>	

## 15:30 – 15:45 Coffee &amp; tea break

15:45 – 16:30	II.2: Concept for “FiTI Regional Support Hubs”	① / ☑
	<i>Sven BIERMANN</i>	

16:30 – 17:00	Outlook for Day 2, Closing	①
	<i>Peter EIGEN</i>	

## 18:30 – 21:00 Dinner

## Thursday, 13 December 2018

## 09:00 – 09:30 Arrival of participants

09:30 – 10:15	III: Internal governance	☑
	<i>Andréa DURIGHELLO</i>	

10:15 – 12:00	IV: Candidate application of Mauritania	☑
	<i>All Board Members</i>	



**12:00 – 13:00**    Lunch break

<b>13:00 – 14:30</b>	<b>V.1: 2019 Workplan for the FiTI International Secretariat</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	<i>Sven BIERMANN</i>	

**14:30 – 14:45**    Coffee & tea break

<b>14:45 – 15:45</b>	<b>V.2: Outreach commitments for 2019</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<i>All Board Members</i>	

<b>15:45 – 16:00</b>	<b>Next meetings, Summary &amp; Closing</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> / <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	<i>Peter EIGEN</i>	