



**Millennium Challenge Coordinating Unit
Office of the Chief of Staff, State House, Freetown**

MCCU BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS OF 11th DECEMBER, 2017

As part of their oversight responsibilities in the implementation of the Threshold program financed by the United States Government through the Millennium Challenge Cooperation (MCC), the Board of the independent Accountable entity (Millennium Challenge Coordination Unit- MCCU) met on the 11th December 2017. Six of the seven Board members were either present in person or represented.

The key issues discussed and the decisions made are summarized as follows:

No	Issue/Matter discussed	Decision/Recommendation
ELECTRICITY REFORM PROJECT		
1	Implementing one of the key recommendations of the Exit workshop for the EGTC Assessment and Business Plan Activity- undertake a roadshow with the aim of attracting finance to support the implementation of the Business Plan	MCCU should work with EGTC and the Ministry of Energy to hold this roadshow/Donor conference soonest so that the Business plan does not become another document that gathers dust on the shelf or the plan's recommendations are overtaken by events.
REGULATORY STRENGTHENING PROJECT		
2	Concerns were expressed that despite several attempts by MCCU to bridge EWRC's expectations and the contract terms, the EWRC regulatory strengthening contract continues to experience implementation challenges.	Whilst the Board acknowledges MCCU's efforts in addressing the problem including the proposals made to MCC, for which they await No Objection, one more meeting should be convened immediately with EWRC. The goal of the meeting would be to fully understanding and concretizing their expectations of the regulatory strengthening contract. These expectations should form part of any future arrangement that would be put in place to strengthen EWRC's capacity to carry out their core functions.
OTHER PROGRAM RELATED ACTIVITIES		
3	Doing Business with MCCU- The Board expressed satisfaction that its recommendation to engage particularly	MCCU was requested to hold further consultations with MCC and

	local firms to actively participate in the implementation of the threshold program was carried out by MCCU with support from MCC. It however was not only looking at a situation where information on outstanding MCCU procurement activities, MCC procurement rules and procedures and possible networking between local and international firms can be achieved but also the training of local firms on how to prepare and submit a successful bid and upgrade their skills for participation in international bidding processes.	explore the possibility of undertaking such trainings.
4	Delays in Approval Processes- Concerns were raised on the delay to review and approve contract deliverables, which has an overall impact on the implementation timeline of the program.	The Board strongly recommends MCCU adopts a face to face review with consultants on their work and avoid email communications.
5	Board Approvals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Three months Maternity Paid Leave for MCCU CEO and a request to include the same in the HR policy to cover all MCCU female staff - Procurement Plan 4.1; Detailed Financing Plan and Disbursement request Q8; Conditions Precedent report Q8 and Indicator Tracking Table Q7 	