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Azerbaijan downgraded to candidate country

Wednesday, 15 April 2015 - 11:18am



First country to be validated against the 2013 EITI Standard.

Tuesday, 14 April – Azerbaijan’s EITI status was today downgraded from ‘compliant’ to ‘candidate’. The international EITI Board reached this decision at its meeting in Brazzaville, Congo following the recently published EITI [Validation report](#). Validation is the EITI’s independent evaluation mechanism and Azerbaijan is the first country to be validated against the 2013 [EITI Standard](#)?

The Board had [called for an early validation](#) following [deep concern](#) for the ability of civil society to engage critically in the EITI process in Azerbaijan.

Clare Short, Chair of the EITI, said:

“There has been some progress in addressing our concerns, but further work is needed to ensure that civil society in Azerbaijan can participate in the EITI in a meaningful way. We look forward to continuing to work together.”

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This EITI validation does not assess the 2013 [EITI report?](#), which is due to be published in May 2015. Azerbaijan had previously been found compliant in 2009 against the old [EITI Rules?](#) Azerbaijan is still counted as EITI member. It can regain compliant status if it implements corrective actions within 12 months, or face suspension.

Addendum 11 September 2015: The list of corrective actions can be found in Annex A (p. 27) of the [minutes of the 29th Board Meeting](#).

Notes

- The EITI is a coalition of governments, companies, civil society groups, investors and international organisations. Learn more at www.eiti.org.
- EITI is chaired by the Rt. Hon. Clare Short. Ms Short was the UK Secretary of State for International Development (1997-2003).
- 48 countries are now implementing the EITI Standard, and recognised as either [EITI compliant](#) or [EITI candidate?](#) See the list of countries at www.eiti.org/countries.

For further information about the EITI Azerbaijan, please [visit the country page on the EITI website](#) and the [national EITI website](#).

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Ruseløkkveien 26, 0251 Oslo, Norway

+47 222 00 800

secretariat@eiti.org