



Official Communication from the Open Government Partnership Support Unit

30 April 2014

Dear Mr. Vusal Huseynov,

We welcome Azerbaijan's participation in the Open Government Partnership, which now has 64 countries working on national commitments to advance transparency, empower citizens, fight corruption and utilize technology to improve governance.

As you are aware the OGP's Independent Reporting Mechanism publishes regular progress reports on each participating country. The OGP Articles of Governance state:

"Should the IRM process find that a participating government repeatedly (for two consecutive action plan cycles) acts contrary to OGP process or its Action Plan commitments (addenda B and C), and fails to adequately address issues raised by the IRM, the SC may upon recommendation of the Criteria and Standards (C/S) sub-committee review the participation of said government in OGP."

On recommendation of the Criteria and Standards subcommittee of OGP, this letter is to inform you that the 2014 IRM report found Azerbaijan to be acting contrary to OGP process in its last National Action plan cycle.

This was due to the finding by the IRM that Azerbaijan did not submit a self-assessment report within 4 months of the due date, which runs counter to the expectation in the Articles of Governance that each country must: *Commit to a self-assessment and independent reporting on the country's progress*. In order to avoid a future review by the Criteria and Standards subcommittee we recommend that the Azerbaijan self-assessment report due in September 2013 be published as soon as possible, and all future self-assessment reports be published on time.

The OGP Support Unit and Steering Committee stand ready to support Azerbaijan with all appropriate technical knowledge, peer exchange opportunities and guidance.

We thank you for your continued participation in the Open Government Partnership. Please do not hesitate to contact the OGP Support Unit if you require any assistance.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Linda Frey".

Linda Frey
Executive Director, OGP Support Unit