



## Official Communication from the Open Government Partnership Support Unit

30 April 2014

Dear Ms. Vashti Guyadeen,

We welcome Trinidad and Tobago'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 Trinidad and Tobago to be acting contrary to OGP process in its last National Action plan cycle.

This was due to the fact that no National Action Plan has been published within 4 months of the due date, which runs counter to the expectation in the Articles of Governance that each country must: *Make concrete commitments, as part of a country action plan, that are ambitious and go beyond a country's current practice.* In order to avoid a future review by the Criteria and Standards subcommittee, we recommend that Trinidad and Tobago publishes its first National Action Plan before the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2014 deadline, implements the commitments in the National Action Plan over the following two-years, and publishes all future self-assessment reports and National Action Plans on time.

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

We thank you for your continued participation in the Open Government Partnership. We look forward to shortly receiving your first National Action Plan, for which the deadline to begin implementation on is 1<sup>st</sup> July 2014. Please do not hesitate to contact the OGP Support Unit if you require any assistance in the finalization of your Action Plan.

Yours sincerely,

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

Linda Frey  
Executive Director, OGP Support Unit