



COMMUNIQUÉ

African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) and Open Government Partnership (OGP) Collaborative Workshop

25 -26 May 2018, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

1. The African Peer Review Mechanism [APRM], a Specialised Agency of the African Union (AU), was adopted by Member States of the AU primarily as a self-monitoring mechanism designed to promote policies, standards and practices that will lead to political stability, high economic growth, sustainable development and accelerated sub-regional and economic integration in Africa.
2. The Open Government Partnership (OGP) was launched in September 2011 by eight national governments and nine civil society organisations. The founding governments endorsed the Open Government Declaration and announced their country action plans. OGP is a multilateral initiative that brings together reformers from government and civil society to collectively promote transparency, civic participation, responsiveness and accountability to ensure governments truly serve their citizens..
3. The APRM and OGP held a joint workshop from 25 to 26 May 2018 in Grand Bassam, Cote d'Ivoire, which was attended by representatives from both Secretariats, as well as civil society and government from three APRM and OGP Member States: Cote d'Ivoire, Kenya, and South Africa, and a representative from the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), a partner to both initiatives. The goal of the workshop was to define and highlight common areas of interest for collaboration, especially in the implementation of recommendations and action plans. Importantly, this would include, among other objectives, harmonization of activities to strengthen governance in the ten African countries that have membership in both APRM and OGP.
4. The workshop participants agreed on collaboration in four broad areas:
 - I. An APRM-OGP Framework that would highlight possible joint activities including i) joint activities in Cote d'Ivoire, Kenya, and South Africa as discussed in depth by representatives from APRM and OGP structures in the three countries; (ii) regular consultative sessions in Cote d'Ivoire, Kenya, and South Africa; (iii) possible APRM participation in co-creating OGP two-year action plans; and (iv) joint work in communicating the shared goals of strengthening governance in the three countries;
 - II. A Roadmap listing joint activities at the continental and national levels including OGP participation in activities of the African Governance Architecture (AGA) Platform. In line with the AU theme for 2018, the focus would be on joint activities targeting anti-corruption in 2018;

- III. An MOU on collaboration between APRM and OGP to be signed at the January 2019 APR Forum/AU Assembly Summit; and
- IV. Joint meetings between APRM and OGP representatives to maintain momentum and allow for a regular exchange of information.
5. Participants observed that in broadening the partnership to the ten Member States that are members of both APRM and OGP, only States that voluntarily wished to do so would be selected for the collaboration.
6. Participants underlined that, in line with the objectives of both APRM and OGP, the partnership was underpinned by a desire to ensure governance reforms in Africa lead to visible improvement in citizens' lives.

Done in Grand-Bassam, Cote d'Ivoire on 27 May 2018.

AFRICAN PEER REVIEW MECHANISM



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OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP



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