



November 16, 2016

Mr. Sándor Pintér
Minister of Interior
Ministry of Interior
Government of Hungary

Dear Minister Sándor Pintér,

The Open Government Partnership (OGP) Criteria and Standards Subcommittee acknowledges that the Government of Hungary has submitted its official position regarding the report on September 21st, 2016. The Subcommittee has discussed the position and reached the following conclusions:

The "[Policy on Upholding the Values and Principles of OGP, as articulated in the Open Government Declaration](#)" (henceforth 'Response Policy'), was approved by the Steering Committee on September 25th, 2014 in order to both safeguard the core principles of OGP as embodied in the Open Government Declaration and convey the willingness of the Partnership to provide assistance to countries — if so desired — to overcome difficulties and help re-establish an environment conducive to government and civil society collaboration.

The Subcommittee takes seriously the Government of Hungary's comments regarding the process to date and recognizes the need for continued strengthening of the Response Policy over time, including over the course of the next year as part of OGP's 'strategic refresh.' The comments from the government of Hungary will be taken into account during this review.

The Subcommittee upholds the findings of the report and the recommendations made therein; these recommendations serve to strengthen the environment for continued collaboration between civil society and the Government of Hungary and are expected to be implemented as a condition of maintaining good standing in OGP. The Subcommittee drafted the report after conducting extensive research, interviews with experts and formal communication with the Government of Hungary. The Government of Hungary's response to the Letter of Concern was reviewed and seriously considered during the drafting of the report.



In order to move forward — and in line with stage 1 actions outlined in the Response Policy— the Subcommittee requests a Ministerial level meeting on the margins of the Global Summit in Paris (7-9 December) between the Government of Hungary, members of the Criteria and Standards Subcommittee, and the current Chairs of OGP, the Government of France and Manish Bapna. The objective of this meeting would be to agree on a work plan and timeline that will allow the Government of Hungary to meaningfully address the concerns raised and permit a successful conclusion of the review process.

In line with the Response Policy, the OGP Steering Committee and Support Unit remain ready to engage and provide support in this process to help ensure meaningful participation for the Government of Hungary in OGP. Demonstrated interest in that process and the chance to discuss is vital to a constructive way forward.

A copy of this communication will be forwarded to the full OGP Steering Committee.

Respectfully,

A blue ink signature of Radu Puchiu, written in a cursive style.

Radu Puchiu
State Secretary
Prime Minister's Chancellery
Government of Romania

A blue ink signature of Nathaniel Heller, written in a cursive style.

Nathaniel Heller
Managing Director
Results for Development Institute

OGP's Criteria and Standards Subcommittee Co-Chairs