

**REPUBLICA DE CHILE**  
MINISTERIO SECRETARIA GENERAL DE LA REPUBLICA  
GABINETE MINISTRO

Santiago of Chile, June 3rd 2015

Ms. Linda Frey  
Executive Director  
Support Unit  
Open Government Partnership  
c/o OpenGovHub 1110  
Vermont Avenue NW, Suite 500  
Washington, DC 20005  
United States

Dear Ms. Frey:

The Government of Chile hereby expresses its intention to run for election to the Open Government Partnership's Steering Committee in 2015.

For Chile, efforts in open government are a part of a permanent policy on transparency, citizen participation, modernization of the state and fight against corruption. In such context, the country has adopted different initiatives with significant impact in improving public management and the relationship between the government and the citizens. In recent years, Chile has implemented, among others, the Law on Access to Public Information, which establishes transparency requirements for state bodies and the right to request and receive information from them; the Law on Associations and Citizen Participation, which provides for mechanisms to be adopted by state bodies and services for allowing citizens to take part in public management; and the Law on Lobbying, which provides for the disclosure of contacts between authorities and persons that try to influence public decision-making.

At present, with the purpose of improving management and building new trust with the citizens through policies for strengthening transparency, citizen participation, accountability and the innovative use of technology, among others; and following the recommendations from the Presidential Advisory Council Against Conflicts of Interest, Influence Peddling and Corruption, formed by President Michelle Bachelet in March 2015, the Government of Chile seeks to strengthen its participation in international agreements that aim at encouraging the interaction between government and civil society.

In the context of its First Action Plan (2012-2013), Chile substantially progressed with commitments such as the implementation of an Open Government platform; the bill of law on Integrity in the Public Function, which improves the system for assets and interests declarations and introduces other mechanisms for preventing

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conflicts of interests; the Transparency Portal, a web platform that centralizes access to information of various state bodies; among others. As a consequence of these actions and as reflected in the Independent Review Mechanism Report, Chile had the highest level of compliance among the examined countries, successfully completing 15 out of 19 commitments. In January 2013, Chile hosted the Americas Regional Summit, demonstrating its strong commitment with the development of opportunities for dialogue and exchange between the countries in the region.

When President Michelle Bachelet took office in March 2014, it was time to prepare a Second Action Plan. Since the Presidential program prioritizes several policies related to open government, the Ministry General Secretariat of the Presidency, along with other public institutions willing to assume commitments on the subject, dedicated considerable effort for building a solid Action Plan, taking into account the recommendations from both the OGP Support Unit and the Independent Review Mechanism Report, as well as the results of a public consultation process that was carried out during 2013. A Working Group was formed with the purpose of consolidating a permanent multi-stakeholder instance for OGP-related work, in which both public entities and civil society organizations actively participate, with roles in open government and/or the fulfilling of commitments adopted by Chile. Actions taken by Chile regarding OGP are decided in agreement with the Working Group. The various institutions and organizations that take part in this Working Group have strongly supported Chile's candidacy to the OGP Steering Committee.

Currently the Second Action Plan (2014-2016) is being executed. It includes commitments such as the implementation of a Management Model on Municipal Transparency (for local governments); a Strategy for Open Data and its re-using; a Model for the Management of Documents and Archives; the creation of a National Council for Citizen Participation, and a dedicated website; a platform for health services; the implementation of the Law on Lobbying; and a leading position in the regional dialogue process on Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration regarding participation and democracy in environmental matters.

Since it became a member of OGP, Chile has participated in its international meetings, including the regional and global summits. Chile has played an important role in the formation of the Open Parliament Working Group, which was created during the Annual OGP Summit in London in 2013. The Working Group is sponsored by the Chilean Congress and the National Democratic Institute. The formation of this Working Group has been received with enthusiasm by parliamentary and civil society representatives from diverse countries. Chile has also joined the Declaration resulting from the Costa Rica Summit in November 2014, in which governments and civil society organizations from the Americas make an open call to the United Nations General Assembly to consider the inclusion of the goals related to transparency, accountability and access to justice in the Post-2015 Development Agenda.

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Chile has strongly maintained or improved its eligibility requirements for entering OGP since it first joined, and has published all required documents in a timely fashion. Following the policy adopted by the Steering Committee on financial contributions for the OGP Support Unit, Chile is willing to provide the Supporting Unit an annual contribution of USD 200,000, starting in 2016.

With this candidacy to the Steering Committee, Chile aims at contributing to the OGP with its experience gained with the implementation of open government laws and mechanisms that have led the country to maintain a remarkable institutional stability and strength, which places it in a leadership position, especially in the Americas region and at OECD level. The Government of Chile is convinced that it will contribute significantly to the progress of OGP and to broaden and consolidate its achievements, helping all OGP countries that also face the challenge of building trust between citizens and government through transparency, participation and modernization.

Yours sincerely,

  
  
**JORGE INSUNZA**  
Minister of the Presidency