

February 13, 2017

Ms Suzana Pribilović Minister of Public Administration Government of Montenegro

Dear Minister Pribilović:

We welcome the Government of Montenegro's participation in the Open Government Partnership (OGP), which now has 75 countries working to implement national commitments to promote greater transparency, accountability, and engagement of citizens in policy making.

As you are aware, the <u>OGP Articles of Governance</u> state that all participating countries are expected to: *Make concrete commitments, as part of a country action plan, that are ambitious and go beyond a country's current practice*. All OGP participating governments are expected to develop National Action Plans (NAPs) that specify concrete commitments over a two-year period. Countries who do not submit their NAPs within four months of the due date will be considered acting contrary to the OGP process for that action plan cycle. As of November 1, 2016, the Government of Montenegro had not submitted its second NAP, four months after the deadline of July 1, 2016, and thus considered to have acted contrary to OGP process for three consecutive action plan cycles: 2014, 2015, 2016 (copies of the three prior letters of notification to the Government of Montenegro are enclosed for your records).

Further, in a correspondence to the Government of Montenegro dated November 13, 2016, the Support Unit informed that in accordance to OGP policy it had referred the Government of Montenegro to the Criteria and Standards Subcommittee of the OGP Steering Committee as part of the ongoing review of Montenegro's participation in the partnership.

This letter is to inform you that as a result of not receiving Montenegro's action plan by the established deadline, the Criteria and Standards Subcommittee has recommended to the full Steering Committee that Montenegro be designated inactive. In accordance to OGP policies and procedures, the Steering Committee will make this determination at its next in-person meeting in June 2017.

OGP would like to call on the Government of Montenegro and encourage government and civil society to act swiftly in co-creating Montenegro's second NAP at the earliest possibility to remain an active member of OGP and avoid inactive status.



The OGP Support Unit and Steering Committee stand ready to support the Government of Montenegro with all appropriate technical knowledge, peer exchange opportunities and guidance so that Montenegro can re-engage in the OGP process and finalize its action plan.

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

Respectfully,

Radu Puchiu State Secretary General Secretariat of the Government Government of Romania

Nathaniel Heller Managing Director Results for Development Institute

OGP's Criteria and Standards Subcommittee Co-Chairs