



January 12, 2017

Honourable Rimbink Pato, OBE, MP
Ministry for Foreign Affairs and Immigration
Government of Papua New Guinea

Dear Minister Pato,

We welcome the Government of Papua New Guinea's participation in the Open Government Partnership, which now has over 70 countries working to implement national commitments to promote greater transparency, accountability, and engagement of citizens in policy making.

As you are aware, the OGP Articles of Governance state that all participating countries are expected to produce a two-year action plan on a continuous biannual calendar. This rule is explained in the OGP Point of Contact (PoC) Manual, which has been distributed to all OGP governments. This document states that "If a country is more than six months late [submitting an action plan], it will be moved to the following year's group and be considered to be starting a new action plan cycle (e.g. from the odd year grouping to the even year grouping)."

In accordance with this policy, this letter is to officially confirm that the OGP Support Unit did not receive an action plan from the Government of Papua New Guinea by December 31, 2016.

As a result, the Government of Papua New Guinea has a new deadline of June 30, 2017 to submit a two-year national action plan ending on June 30, 2019. This means that Papua New Guinea has now been shifted from the "even year" grouping to the "odd year" grouping of OGP countries, who should submit new action plans in 2017, 2019, 2021 and so on. For more information on the deadlines, please consult the PoC Manual. We will shortly make this letter public so that civil society organizations in Papua New Guinea are aware of this change.

The OGP Support Unit and Steering Committee stand ready to support you in whatever way would be useful in creating the new action plan. Please do not hesitate to contact the OGP Support Unit if you require any assistance.

Yours sincerely,

A blue ink signature of Sanjay Pradhan, written in a cursive style.

Sanjay Pradhan
Chief Executive Officer
Open Government Partnership