

OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP

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Dragan Ćuzulan
Public Administration Reform Coordinator
Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina

7 December 2018

Dear Dr. Ćuzulan,

Thank you for your letter dated 4 December 2018. We applaud the efforts and progress made by the Advisory Council in the past few months since it was officially formed. We further welcome the commitment of the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina to finalize its first Open Government Partnership (OGP) action plan in the next three months.

As you are aware, and communicated by the OGP Support Unit in its [letter](#) dated 28 November 2017 (attached for your reference), the Criteria and Standards subcommittee had recommended to the full OGP Steering Committee to designate Bosnia and Herzegovina as inactive in OGP due to acting contrary to OGP process for three consecutive cycles. This recommendation was in line with the desire to maintain a consistent and fair approach, and uphold all participating countries to the same OGP values and requirements. The Criteria and Standards subcommittee and the Support Unit further encouraged the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina to submit its new action plan to prevent being designated inactive in 2018. This inactivity recommendation was tabled for decision at the recent Steering Committee meeting that took place in Washington D.C. on 5-6 December 2018, in which the Steering Committee reached a decision by consensus to regretfully designate Bosnia and Herzegovina inactive in OGP, effective immediately.

As outlined in the inactivity resolution (attached for your reference), the inactivity status would be immediately lifted upon the submission of an OGP action plan. Nonetheless, while we encourage the swift development of Bosnia and Herzegovina's action plan, we would like to underscore the importance and value of a strong co-creation process that adheres to the necessary time to engage all stakeholders in the process, including extensive consultation with citizens and civil society, and in line with OGP's Participation and Co-Creation Standards.

We reiterate our full support to aid you in the completion and implementation of the OGP action plan, and to regain active status in the Partnership.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,



Sanjay Pradhan
Chief Executive Officer
Open Government Partnership



Resolution of the OGP Steering Committee regarding the status of the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina's participation in OGP

5 December 2018

The OGP Steering Committee appreciates Bosnia and Herzegovina's participation in the Open Government Partnership (OGP) since 2014. The OGP Steering Committee further welcomes the letter dated 4 December 2018 that outlines specific steps the country will be taking to submit an OGP action plan and recognizes the continued efforts demonstrated by both the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina and civil society to remain engaged in OGP.

However, considering that the government of Bosnia and Herzegovina has acted contrary to OGP process by not delivering an action plan for three consecutive cycles, **the OGP Steering Committee hereby resolves that, under provisions set out in the OGP Articles of Governance, the government of Bosnia and Herzegovina should be designated as inactive in OGP.**

This inactivity status will be immediately ended upon the submission of an OGP action plan. The Steering Committee further agrees to offer all necessary support in order to help Bosnia and Herzegovina to remain engaged in the Partnership.

For countries placed in inactive status by decision of the full Steering Committee after acting contrary to OGP process, the inactive status lasts up to a maximum of one year, or:

- Until the country publishes an action plan, developed in line with OGP Participation and Co-Creation Standards, or
- The country works with the Criteria and Standards subcommittee and the Support Unit to set a clear timeline to start a new action plan cycle and re-engage with civil society for producing the new action plan.

If, however, a country remains in inactive status for a year without communicating to the Support Unit that it wants to continue to participate in OGP, the Criteria & Standards subcommittee will recommend that the Steering Committee instructs the Support Unit to remove such country from the list of participating countries.

In addition, the following inactivity conditions apply:

- While inactive, Bosnia and Herzegovina will continue to receive Steering Committee and Support Unit assistance, and the IRM will assess its future action plan.
- While inactive, Bosnia and Herzegovina will not be eligible to vote or run in Steering Committee elections, and may only attend OGP events as observers for learning purposes.
- While inactive, Bosnia and Herzegovina's inactivity will be noted on the OGP website and public information materials, where appropriate (e.g., in a list of participating OGP countries).
- Any country, whether in active or inactive status, may at any time decide itself to withdraw from OGP.





28 November 2017

Minister Josip Grubeša
Minister of Justice
Government of Bosnia-Herzegovina

Dear Minister Grubeša,

We welcome the Government of Bosnia-Herzegovina's participation in the Open Government Partnership (OGP), which now has 74 countries and 15 subnational governments working to implement 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: *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 that specify concrete commitments over a two-year period.*

Countries more than four months late in submitting their National Action Plan (NAP) will be considered acting contrary to the OGP process for that action plan cycle. The Government of Bosnia-Herzegovina has not submitted its new NAP as of October 31, 2017, four months after the deadline of June 30, 2017.

This letter is to inform you that the Government of Bosnia-Herzegovina has now acted contrary to the OGP process for three consecutive action plan cycles: 2015, 2016 and 2017 (Copies of the letters where we notified the government of Bosnia-Herzegovina are enclosed for your records). Per policy, the Support Unit has referred the Government of Bosnia-Herzegovina to the Criteria and Standards Subcommittee of the OGP Steering Committee as part of its ongoing review of Bosnia-Herzegovina's participation in OGP. The Criteria and Standards subcommittee has agreed that if a NAP is not submitted by the end of 2017, the subcommittee will immediately recommend to the full Steering Committee that Bosnia-Herzegovina be designated as inactive in OGP. The Steering Committee would then consider inactivity at its next in-person meeting in 2018.

We strongly encourage you to publish Bosnia-Herzegovina's new NAP as soon as possible in order to avoid inactive status. The OGP Support Unit and Steering Committee stand ready to support the Government of Bosnia-Herzegovina with all appropriate technical knowledge, peer exchange opportunities and guidance so that Bosnia-Herzegovina can re-engage in the OGP process and finalize the Action Plan.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sanjay Pradhan".

Sanjay Pradhan
Chief Executive Officer
Open Government Partnership