Buenos Aires, February 25th, 2016

**Open Government Partnership**

To whom it may concern,

I am writing on behalf of Directorio Legislativo Foundation, an NGO based in Argentina, to support Buenos Aires City Government in its application for the Subnational Government Pilot Program, which is currently promoted by the Open Government Partnership.

Subnational governments are vital for strengthening democracies, as they are closer to citizens than no other level of government. That is why we strongly believe that this Program is an excellent opportunity for lots of cities around the world, that are already working together with local CSOs or citizens, or are willing to, to involve in Open Government alliances and institutionalize the co-creation of public policies with organizations.

Buenos Aires City has been working towards transparency, innovation and open data very deeply in the past 4 years, and has developed several programs, activities, initiatives and government’s offices that promote openness and civic participation. Only to mention one of them, Buenos Aires Data Portal is one of the biggest in the country, and an example for other cities in the region; moreover, it contains several datasets, some of them with sensitive information, which is the hardest to open in governments. In addition, they have done several events to engage different communities in the decision-making process of public policies, such as hackathons or open meetings to develop new initiatives.

In this new phase of Buenos Aires City Government, we believe there are lots of initiatives that can be strengthened, such as participation processes, dialogue round-table meetings, and active transparency. As Directorio Legislativo, we aim to work together with the new Government to co-create the public policies towards these issues. Moreover, we will encourage other Branches of government (such as Legislative and Judicial) to involve in the process and start developing commitments such as the ones promoted by the OGP.

Buenos Aires has done a lot in the past years, and it is in the perfect stage to move forward and deepen its openness policies to continue to be leaders in the region.

For all these reasons, we strongly support Buenos Aires City for the Pilot Program, and hope will be selected to work together for more transparency, civic participation and institutional strengthening.

Yours sincerely,



María Baron

Executive Director