

November 13, 2016

Dr. Vujica Lazovic Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Information Society and Telecommunications Government of Montenegro

Dear Deputy Prime Minister Lazovic,

We welcome the Government of Montenegro's participation in the Open Government Partnership (OGP), which now has 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: 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 Montenegro has not submitted its new NAP as of October 31, 2016, four months after the deadline of June 30, 2016.

This letter is to inform you that the Government of Montenegro has now acted contrary to the OGP process for three consecutive action plan cycles: 2014, 2015 and 2016 (Copies of the letters where we notified the government of Montenegro are enclosed for your records). Per policy, the Support Unit has referred the Government of Montenegro to the Criteria and Standards Subcommittee of the OGP Steering Committee as part of its ongoing review of Montenegro's participation in OGP. The Criteria and Standards subcommittee has agreed that if a NAP is not submitted by the end of 2016, the subcommittee will immediately recommend to the full Steering Committee that Montenegro be designated as inactive in OGP. The Steering Committee would then consider inactivity at its next inperson meeting in 2017.

We strongly encourage you to publish Montenegro'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 Montenegro with all appropriate technical knowledge, peer exchange opportunities and guidance so that Montenegro can re-engage in the OGP process and finalize the Action Plan.

Yours sincerely,

Sanjay Pradhan

**Chief Executive Officer** 

Open Government Partnership