



5 December 2017

Mr. Maxie Cuffie
Minister of Public Administration and Communications (MPAC)
Government of Trinidad and Tobago

Dear Minister Cuffie,

We welcome the Government of Trinidad and Tobago's participation in the Open Government Partnership (OGP), which now has 74 countries and 15 subnational pioneers working to implement open government 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 Trinidad and Tobago 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 Trinidad and Tobago 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 Trinidad and Tobago are enclosed for your records. Per policy, the Support Unit has referred the Government of Trinidad and Tobago to the Criteria and Standards Subcommittee of the OGP Steering Committee as part of its ongoing review of Trinidad and Tobago'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 Trinidad and Tobago 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 Trinidad and Tobago'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 Trinidad and Tobago with all appropriate technical knowledge, peer exchange opportunities and guidance so that you 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

Enclosures



March 3, 2017

Minister Maxie Cuffie
Minister of Public Administration and Communication
Government of Trinidad and Tobago

Dear Minister Cuffie,

We welcome the Government of Trinidad and Tobago's participation in the Open Government Partnership, 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 OGP Articles of Governance state that all participating countries are expected to: *publish a midterm self-assessment report at most three months after the end of the first year of action plan implementation.* All OGP participating governments are expected to develop Self-Assessment Reports that assess the government's performance in meeting its OGP commitments as outlined in its National Action Plan. In addition, it states that: *An end of term self-assessment report will be required after two years of action plan implementation.* Furthermore, Articles of Governance outline that a country will be considered to have acted contrary to OGP Process if *"the Self-Assessment Report is not submitted within 4 months of the due date."*

The Government of Trinidad and Tobago did not submit its Self-Assessment Report as of January 31, 2017, four months after the deadline of September 30, 2016 and therefore, is considered to have acted contrary to OGP process in this action plan cycle. Furthermore, please note that Trinidad and Tobago remains under review by the Criteria and Standards subcommittee.

In order to ensure successful engagement in the OGP, we recommend that the Government of Trinidad and Tobago make every effort to meet its upcoming OGP deadlines. Please review your country's [individualized calendar](#) along with the OGP Calendar Guidance section in the [Government Point of Contact Manual](#) for full information on requirements and timelines. Given that Trinidad and Tobago has recently been shifted to the 'odd year' grouping of OGP countries, the next important deadline for your country is the publication of its new National Action Plan by June 30, 2017.

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 handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sanjay Pradhan", is positioned above the printed name.

Sanjay Pradhan

Chief Executive Officer

Open Government Partnership



14 November 2016

Mr. Maxie Cuffie
Minister of Public Administration
Government of Trinidad and Tobago

Dear Minister Cuffie,

We welcome the Government of Trinidad and Tobago'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) are considered acting contrary to the OGP process for that action plan cycle. The Government of Trinidad and Tobago 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, based on OGP policies, the Government of Trinidad and Tobago has now acted contrary to the OGP process for two consecutive action plan cycles (A copy of the previous letter where we notified the government of Trinidad and Tobago is enclosed for your records). As such, the Support Unit has to refer the Government of Trinidad and Tobago to the Criteria and Standards Subcommittee of the OGP Steering Committee, which will review Trinidad and Tobago's participation in OGP. We encourage the Government of Trinidad and Tobago to respond quickly with an update on the latest developments with regards to OGP in the country, so as to inform the Criteria and Standards Subcommittee in their deliberations.

The OGP Support Unit and Steering Committee stand ready to support the Government of Trinidad and Tobago with all appropriate technical knowledge, peer exchange opportunities and guidance so that Trinidad and Tobago 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", is located below the "Yours sincerely," text.

Sanjay Pradhan
Chief Executive Officer
OGP Support Unit



March 21, 2016

Mr. Randall Seth Mitchell
Minister of Public Administration
Government of Trinidad and Tobago

Dear Minister Mitchell,

We welcome the Government of Trinidad and Tobago's participation in the Open Government Partnership, which now has 69 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: *publish an interim self-assessment report approximately three months after the end of the first year of action plan implementation*. All OGP participating governments are expected to develop Self-Assessment Reports that assess the government's performance in meeting its OGP commitments as outlined in its National Action Plan. Furthermore, Articles of Governance outline that a country will be considered to have acted contrary to OGP Process if *"the Self-Assessment Report is not submitted within 4 months of the due date."*

The Government of Trinidad and Tobago did not submit its Self-Assessment Report as of January 31, 2016, four months after the deadline of September 30, 2015 and therefore, is considered to have acted contrary to OGP process in this action plan cycle.

In order to avoid the possibility of a future review by the Criteria and Standards subcommittee, we recommend that the Government of Trinidad and Tobago make every effort to meet its upcoming OGP deadlines. Please review your country's [individualized calendar](#) along with the OGP Calendar Guidance section in the [Government Point of Contact Manual](#) for full information on requirements and timelines. As you will see, the next important deadline for Trinidad and Tobago is the publication of a new National Action Plan, which is due by June 30, 2016.

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 handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Joseph Powell". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned to the left of a vertical line.

Joseph Powell
Acting Executive Director
OGP Support Unit