

OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP

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Mr. Muhammad Hammad Azhar
Federal Minister for Economic Affairs Division
Government of Pakistan

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Dear Minister Azhar,

We welcome the Government of Pakistan's participation in the Open Government Partnership (OGP), which now comprises 79 countries and 20 local governments working to implement open government commitments to promote greater transparency, accountability and citizen engagement in policy making. As an OGP member since 2016, the OGP global platform will allow Pakistan to further its governance reform agenda domestically, to promote open governance across all public institutions and to gain global recognition for these reforms.

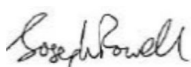
The OGP Articles of Governance state that all participating governments are expected to co-create an action plan outlining a concrete set of open government reforms, in line with OGP Participation and Co-Creation standards. Governments that are more than four months late in submitting their action plan will be considered to have acted contrary to OGP process for that action plan cycle.

As you may be aware, on 15 January 2019, the Government of Pakistan was placed under Procedural Review by the OGP Criteria and Standards Subcommittee for acting contrary to OGP process for two consecutive cycles by not submitting an OGP action plan within the established deadlines. This review process involves enhanced support by the Criteria and Standards Subcommittee, the OGP Support Unit and the OGP Steering Committee in order to try to resolve the issues that have caused the delays in submitting the action plan. This also resulted in Pakistan being shifted to the "odd year" cohort of OGP participants with a new deadline of 31 August 2019 to submit its action plan.

As of the date of this letter, the OGP Support Unit has not yet received an action plan from the Government of Pakistan. In line with the OGP Procedural Review process, if a country fails to address the reasons that lead to the review process, the Criteria and Standards Subcommittee will consider whether to recommend that the country be designated as inactive in OGP. To prevent the possibility of being designated inactive, we strongly encourage the Government of Pakistan to submit its action plan as soon as possible and before 31 December 2019.

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

Yours sincerely,



Joe Powell
Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Open Government Partnership