

**Open Government Partnership
Criteria and Standards Subcommittee monthly call**

Tuesday August 9, 2016

10:00 WASHINGTON / 10:00 SANTIAGO / 11:00 BRASILIA / 16:00 ZAGREB / 17:00 CAPE TOWN

Agenda items

1. Updates on received National Action Plans
2. Policy Paper on Legislative Engagement
3. Co-creation guidelines
4. IRM International Expert Panel Nomination Process
5. Countries under review; updates on Azerbaijan, Hungary and Turkey
6. Letter raising a concern under the response policy

Attendants:

- Camila Colares Bezerra: government of Brazil
- Sandra Pernar: government of Croatia
- Camilee Eiss and Corina Zarek: government of the United States
- Mukelani Dimba: Open Democracy Advice Centre (ODAC)
- Nathaniel Heller and Preston Whitt: Results for Development Institute (R4D)
- Suneeta Kaimal: Natural Resource Governance Institute (NRGI)
- Scott Hubli and Gregg Brown: National Democratic Institute (NDI)
- Hille Hinsberg: International Expert Panel (IEP)
- Lesly Baesens Denisse Miranda, Tinatin Ninua: Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM)
- Tim Hughes: OGP consultant
- Paul Maassen, Helen Turek, Alonso Cerdan: Support Unit (SU)

Action Items

1. Updates on received National Action Plans

- The SU has received 22 National Action Plans. We expect 7 more in August, 7 in September and 9 more before the end of October. 1 is expected in December.
- The SU has identified three countries that might be under review starting November 1: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cape Verde and Trinidad and Tobago; and one country that could remain under review: Montenegro. SU will reach out to CS members to explore outreach opportunities.

2. Policy Paper on Legislative Engagement

- Mukelani Dimba, Paul Maassen and the Legislative Openness Working Group representatives presented the paper on Legislative Engagement and requested comments from the subcommittee.
- After discussing the paper, there were three items that will require further work before the paper is approved and presented to the full Steering Committee:
 - The role of the Permanent Dialogue Mechanism
 - Separate Action Plans and Parliamentary Point of Contact.
 - Establish a moment of reflection/ evaluation regarding parliamentary commitments.
- **The Support Unit will work to address the items discussed and will send a near final draft on August 26 to be approved in the September 1st call. This item would then be presented to the full Steering Committee for consideration.**
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3. Co-creation guidelines

- Paul Maaseen and Tim Hughes presented the latest version of the co-creation guidelines.
- We have received comments from several subcommittee members and the rest agreed to send further questions by August 15.
- **The Support Unit will work to address the items discussed and will send a near final draft on August 26 to be approved in the September 1st call. This item would then be presented to the full Steering Committee for consideration.**

4. IRM International Expert Panel Nomination Process

The IRM staff made a short presentation about the selection process. After a short discussion the Subcommittee agreed that:

- Elizabeth McGrath will be removed from the list of IEP candidates as she is now conflicted out per the following article of the conflict of interest policy: "No individual who works in an official capacity or speaks on behalf of a civil society organization represented in the OGP steering committee or has done so in the past year" would be ineligible for nomination to the IEP. The IEP/IRM staff will be looking for a replacement.
- Brendan Halloran, Mary Francoli and Jeff Lovitt were approved to be part of the IEP. Mary in the steering role and Jeff and Brendan in the quality control role. The three candidates' names will be submitted to the full Steering Committee for final approval on a no-objection basis this week.
- The IEP/IRM staff is still looking for two more candidates, one for either Africa/Asia, the other for Latin America. The candidates' names will be submitted to the CS as soon as possible.
- As agreed, the CVs of the four other IEP candidates interviewed are attached for your information.

5. Updates on countries under review: Azerbaijan, Hungary and Turkey.

- **Azerbaijan:**
 - The SU has been in touch with the Azeri government and has tried to provide support in the development of a broader Permanent Dialogue Mechanism.
 - The Azerbaijan taskforce has been established with participation of the governments of France and Georgia, and Veronica Cretu, Nathaniel Heller and Suneeta Kaimal from civil society.
 - The SU is currently discussing the Terms of Reference, activity calendar and possible date for a visit with the taskforce.
- **Hungary:**
 - The SU visited Budapest on July 9 and met with representatives from the government and civil society. SU believes that this visit was useful to clarify the process and nature of recommendations to all actors involved.
 - The Hungarian government informed the SU that they are currently working on the formal response that should be ready at the end of September at the latest.
- **Turkey:**
 - The SU has not received any further communications from the Turkish government and it is unlikely that they will complete their plan by the September 1st deadline.
 - **According to the agreed [resolution](#), this means that “the government of Turkey will automatically become inactive at the September Steering Committee meeting, barring satisfactory compliance of terms as outlined”.**

6. Letter raising a concern under the response policy

- The SU received a letter from a South African NGO called Passop, in support of a letter of concern from an Israeli organization called AIC.
- The SU has prepared a response based on the response policy for the consideration of the subcommittee.
- **The SU recommends that the item is discussed during the September 1st call.**