

**Open Government Partnership
Working level Criteria and Standards Subcommittee Meeting**

Tuesday 20 September

9-11:30 am

Brazilian Consulate-General is 220 East 42nd Street, 26th floor, New York, NY, 10017

Chaired by the Support Unit

Participants:

- Mr. Otavio Neves - Government of Brazil
- Ms. Petra Mijic - Government of Croatia
- Ms. Corinna Zarek and Ms. Camille Eiss - Government of the United States
- Mr. Mukelani Dimba (Open Democracy Advice Centre)
- Mr. Nathaniel Heller (Results for Development)
- Ms. Suneeta Kaimal (Natural Resource Governance Institute)
- Mr. Warren Krafchik (International Budget Partnership)
- Ms. Maria Baron (incoming Directorio Legislativo)
- Ms. Helen Darbishire (incoming Access Info)
- Ms. Sophie Smyth and Mr. Patrick Meagher Mid Term Review Team
- Ms. Tinatin Ninua: Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) and Mr. Paul Maassen, Ms. Tonu Basu, Mr. Alonso Cerdan: Support Unit (SU)

Agenda items

1. Letters submitted to trigger Response Policy: Australia, Israel and Turkey
2. Updates and preparation work on Turkey, Azerbaijan and Hungary
3. Brief updates on countries under review: South Korea, Montenegro, Australia.
4. Co-creation Guidelines and Parliament Policy Paper
5. Conversation with Mid Term Review team about Response Policy and Review Process.

Action items

1. Letters submitted to trigger Response Policy: Australia and Israel

Australia – The response policy has been triggered and a review team will be formed once the shift within the Criteria and Standards Subcommittee is finalized.

Israel – The letter to PASSOP that outlines the reasons why the response policy cannot be triggered was approved (the letter has been delivered and uploaded here).

Turkey – A complaint letter was submitted. The policy cannot be triggered because they are inactive and there is no OGP process going on. **The SU will draft a response proposal outlining this fact and the inactivity decision for CS approval. (Letter of complaint is attached)**

2. Updates on Azerbaijan, Hungary and Turkey

Azerbaijan. Since being placed in inactive status, the Support Unit (SU) has maintained regular communication with the Government of Azerbaijan. The SU has provided continuous support in order to help them develop a strong permanent dialogue mechanism. The subcommittee agreed to request a chair for the Azerbaijan taskforce and and outline of the objectives and conditions for a visit.

Hungary. The Hungarian government was due to submit a response by the end of the month. We received that response on September 21 it is attached.

Turkey. The May 4th resolution was upheld by the full Steering Committee and they have been placed in inactive status.

3. Brief updates on countries under review: Australia, Montenegro and South Korea.

Australia. Australia has not delivered a National Action Plan since they sent their letter of intent in May 2013. On November 24, the Support Unit received a letter from Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull, that announced the government's intention to finalize Australia's participation in OGP by developing a National Action Plan to be delivered by July 1. However, the government called an early election in April which stalled the process. A new government was formed after the July 2 elections and they have resumed the process of developing an NAP. The Plan is still expected by the October 31st.

Montenegro. The OGP Support Unit has informed the government of Montenegro that it acted contrary to OGP process through emails as well as through official letters in November 2014, November 2015 and January 2016. The government has continued to actively participate in OGP conferences over this time (including the European point of contact conference, Western Balkans regional meeting, and Mexico Global Summit). However, the plan was not submitted before June 30, 2016 and the Support Unit once again sent a letter in early August to the Minister responsible for OGP, urging the government to finalize the plan.

The subcommittee agreed to ask the full Steering Committee, to see if another country or civil society organization is better positioned to do diplomatic/international outreach.

South Korea. South Korea failed to conduct OGP-specific consultations on the development of their first and second National Action Plans, which is acting contrary to OGP processes. As a result, they are now under review. The Support Unit sent South Korea a letter informing them of this development. The Support Unit informed the subcommittee that a consultation is taking place for the development of the third Action Plan which is expected soon.

4. Co-creation Guidelines and Parliament Policy Paper

Co-creation guidelines. The chair of the Criteria and Standards Subcommittee presented Subcommittee approved co-creation guidelines to the Steering Committee. They agreed the need for OGP to update guidance on this and that the guidelines should be published for public consultation in October.

Parliament Policy Paper. Mukelani Dimba presented this CS approved proposal on legislative engagement with OGP. There was wide support for the proposal, particularly from members who have been trying to encourage more legislative engagement in their OGP efforts, and it was approved by the Steering Committee.

5. Conversation with Mid-Term Review team about Response Policy and Review Process.

The Subcommittee discussed their role with the Mid-Term Review team. The Subcommittee agreed to work on a separate short document on Lessons from the Response Policy.