

**GL Subcommittee Monthly Call
Wednesday, January 17, 2018**

Meeting Minutes

- 1. Draft 2018 Key SC decisions playbook** - The attached document outlines the the key activities and items that will be tabled for decision by the OGP Steering Committee (SC) in 2018. This list is not meant to be exhaustive, but rather an evolving roadmap which will be adjusted and updated as the year progresses.

Action Item: *GL to review and provide input on additional key decisions to be made in 2018.*

Decision(s):

- *SU is requested to provide additional guidance and timeline for the global open gov week proposed events as soon as possible.*
 - *The SU added the following items to the playbook:*
 - *Virtual working-level Steering Committee meeting on March 20th to review work plan, budget and work of subcommittees.*
 - *Strategic package outlining rationale for subnational program expansion and integration in order to formalize transition from pilot to permanent, for approval by SC at the Georgia SC meeting.*
 - *Pilot new CS SC Rotation model (more details to follow from Mukelani)*
 - *The SU will share the key decisions playbook with the full SC for comment and suggestions (the document will be updated as needed). **GL asked to send any other items before it is shared with full SC by end of day January 26.***
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- 2. SC government elections** - The 2018 SC government elections and co-chair selection will take place during the first half of the year. At least one seat will become vacant with Indonesia rotating out of the SC after serving the maximum allowed two terms. The other three countries (Chile, France, Romania) also end their current terms but are allowed to run for a second term, should they choose to do so and if they meet the eligibility criteria. The enclosed document provides an overview of the process, eligibility criteria, and a proposed timeline for the process.

Action: *Review and approve proposed timeline*

Decision(s):

- *The following timeline has been approved by GL:*
 - January 17 - GL approves elections timeline
 - January 25 - Support Unit publishes timeline and process to run

- March 12 - Deadline for eligible governments to submit letters of intent to run
- March 13-19 - GL reviews and approves list of candidates in accordance to AoG
- March 20 - Support Unit announces candidates and voting periods begin
- April 22 - Voting period ends and results are announced within 24 hours (*by secret ballot*)
- April 23 - New SC members starting October 2018 announced
- June 15 - Deadline for new and current SC members to indicate their interest to run for Co-Chairs by submitting letter of intent outlining their proposed agenda
- July 17/18 - SC votes to elect incoming SC co-chair through secret ballot (at SC meeting during Georgia Global Summit). Incoming co-chairs for 2018-2019 are announced
- October 1 - SC chairs and new members begin term
- *The following resolution on the 2018 elections has been approved by GL regarding the participation of countries in the 2018 elections:*

17 January 2018: Resolution of the Governance and Leadership Subcommittee on the 2018 Steering Committee elections:

The Governance and Leadership Subcommittee (GL) recognizes the vital leadership of the OGP Steering Committee, and the importance of recruiting strong candidates to replace outgoing Steering Committee members. The elections to the Steering Committee are a critical annual process to ensure this takes places.

The Governance and Leadership Subcommittee (GL) further recognizes the importance of the annual required country financial contributions to OGP and the central role that these play for the financial sustainability of the partnership. It also recognizes that the OGP Articles of Governance indicate the following regarding a country's eligibility to run, or vote in the Steering Committee elections:

Governments that for two successive years have not made financial contributions to OGP at or above the minimum amount for their income tier will not be eligible to run for a seat on the OGP Steering Committee or participate in any formal vote of OGP participants, unless there are exceptional circumstances. This exception would be if the Support Unit, in consultation with the Governance and Leadership subcommittee, determines that there are legitimate reasons for a government's failure to contribute that the government is making a concerted effort to overcome.

In accordance with this clause, a total of 36 countries, that would otherwise be eligible to run and vote in the upcoming 2018 Steering Committee elections, would not be able to do so having not made financial contributions to OGP for the past two consecutive years. GL recognizes that upholding this rule would exclude close to half of OGP members from participating in the 2018 Steering Committee elections.*

*In view of the high number of potentially excluded participants, and in the spirit of ensuring a credible democratic elections process, the GL hereby approves that for the 2018 elections**, all participating OGP countries*** are permitted to cast a vote. In the spirit of transparency, as well as fairness to countries that have contributed, the list of countries that have not made contributions but are voting will be made explicit in the 2018 elections memo that is sent to all countries. Furthermore, only those countries that have adhered to the OGP Articles of Governance and Steering Committee eligibility criteria, including on making financial contributions -unless evidence of exceptional circumstances is provided-, will be able to run for a seat in the Steering Committee.*

The GL will request the full OGP Steering Committee to make a decision on a policy for elections from 2019 onwards before the end of 2018.

** Albania; Bosnia and Herzegovina; Cabo Verde; Chile; Colombia; Costa Rica; Côte D'Ivoire; Czech Republic; Dominican Republic; El Salvador; Finland; Ghana; Greece; Guatemala; Honduras; Jordan; Kenya; Latvia; Liberia; Lithuania; Macedonia; Malawi; Moldova; Mongolia; Papua New Guinea; Paraguay; Sierra Leone; Slovak Republic; South Korea; Spain; Sri Lanka; Sweden; Trinidad and Tobago; Tunisia; Ukraine; Uruguay.*

***This one-off resolution only applied to the 2018 elections.*

****Countries that are in inactive or suspended status pursuant to the OGP Response Policy or the Procedural Review are not eligible to vote, nor run in Steering Committee elections.*

- 3. Update on Subnational Program Expansion** - The SC approved the expansion of the OGP Subnational program in its [September 2017 meeting](#). To implement this decision, the Support Unit has prepared a competitive process to kickstart the expansion process by bringing on board 5 additional participants to join the original 15 in 2018, while preparing the ground for a full new cohort of 15-20 subnational members in 2019. The enclosed Call for Expressions of Interest outlines the process and the criteria being employed. To assist in the selection process, the Support Unit has reached out and

secured the participation of subset of Steering Committee members and subnational participants to serve on a selection committee.

Decision(s):

- *GL requested the SU to develop a strategic package outlining plans for the formal integration of the OGP Local program into OGP, and formalize the transition from pilot to permanent, as well as the expansion plans. This package will be tabled for approval by the Steering Committee in the Georgia SC meetings in July.*
- *To ensure the sustainability of the program, the strategy package should include a model for rotation of participants out of the program to provide other local entities the opportunity to join, and alignment to the rules and standards that all OGP participants are held to -including but not limited to- financial contributions, steering committee representation, and accountability mechanisms to safeguard the values and processes of OGP.*

4. Country/subnational Updates

- a. The Support Unit received Portugal's letter of intent to join OGP on January 12, 2018 (see attached). Portugal meets the eligibility criteria and passes the newly established Values Check. Country teams will begin outreach to kickstart the OGP process in the country, and a new country page will be created in the OGP website. A letter welcoming Portugal to OGP will be shared with GL co-chairs for review and signing in the coming days.
- b. In 2018 there will be a record 75+ action plans being co-created (national and subnational). Please see attached for a draft list.
- c. During 2017 we received 18 NAPs out of 32, with 14 countries failing to do so. Two countries withdrew from OGP in 2017 (Turkey and Tanzania), and the remaining 12 were over four months late (December 31), thus shifting cohorts to the 'even year' grouping, and are now expected to deliver action plans in 2018 (Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH); Cabo Verde; Croatia; France; Jamaica; Luxembourg; Malta; Montenegro (currently inactive); Pakistan; Papua New Guinea; Trinidad and Tobago (T&T); USA).
- d. BiH and T&T have now acted contrary to process for a third consecutive action plan cycle, and C&S will recommend that the SC designates them as inactive at its next in-person meeting in 2018. In addition, the following countries are placed under review pursuant to the Procedural Review due to acting contrary to process for two consecutive action plan cycles: Cabo Verde, Croatia and Papua New Guinea.

Decision(s):

- *GL governments are request to leverage their diplomatic channels to do outreach to countries that have shifted cohorts and those that are now under C&S review and at risk of being designated inactive by the SC in 2018.*

- 5. 2018 Events** - The following events have been confirmed for the first half of 2018.
- a. European Open Government Leaders Forum (February 5)
 - b. Virtual working level SC meeting (March 20)
 - c. Bellagio workshop and Ministerial GL (April 23-27)
 - d. Global Open Gov Week (Week of May TBC) - SU to share the Italy program for open gov week; SU to assist connecting countries participating planning global open gov week events.
 - e. Global Summit and OGP Steering Committee meetings (July 17-18, 2018)
 - f. OGP Steering Committee working level meeting (Q3-4 TBC)
 - g. Asia-Pacific Regional Meeting in South Korea (October TBC)
 - h. TBD by GL:
 - i. 2018 UNGA OGP Event

6. AOB

- a. **Upcoming GL Calls:** Please save the date for the next GL call to take place on February 21 at 8:30am ET.