**Open Government Partnership** 

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The Honorable Mohamed Benchaaboun Minister of Economy, Finance and Administration Reform Government of Morocco

Dear Minister Benchaaboun,

It was a pleasure to meet with you in March 2019 when I visited Morocco to participate with the former World Bank Country Director Marie Francoise Marie-Nelly to discuss Open Government Reforms during a Cabinet Workshop. We welcome the Government of Morocco's participation in the Open Government Partnership (OGP), which now comprises 78 countries working to implement open government commitments to promote greater transparency, accountability and citizen engagement in policy making.

As you are aware, all OGP 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.

For its 2018-2020 action plan, the Government of Morocco did not meet the OGP minimum requirement for public influence during co-creation - known as "Involve" - as assessed by the Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) in their <u>report</u>. Therefore, Morocco has acted contrary to the OGP process for the 2018-2020 cycle.

In line with <u>OGP policy</u>, in order to avoid the possibility of future review by the Criteria and Standards Subcommittee of the OGP Steering Committee, we recommend that the Government of Morocco makes every effort to meet the minimum requirements set forth in the OGP Participation and Co-Creation standards during the development and implementation of its next action plan. I commend you on the efforts that the Moroccan government has already made in this regard since the publication of the 2018-2020 plan, such as the establishment of a new national Steering Committee, the development of a more participatory co-creation process, and the recent approval and publication of your <u>2021-2023 action plan</u>.

The OGP Support Unit and Steering Committee stand ready to support you in whatever way would be useful.

Yours sincerely,

Sanjay Pradhan Chief Executive Officer

