

## Open Government Partnership

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**1 March 2022**

**The Honourable Robert Abela**  
**Prime Minister**  
**Government of Malta**

Dear Prime Minister Abela,

We welcome the Government of Malta participation in the Open Government Partnership (OGP), which now comprises 78 countries and 76 local governments working to implement open government commitments to promote greater transparency, accountability and citizen engagement in policy-making.

As outlined in my letter dated February 7 2020, Malta has been placed under Procedural Review by the Criteria & Standards Subcommittee due to acting contrary to OGP process for two consecutive cycles (failing to deliver its 2017 action plan by the established deadline, and not meeting the minimum participation and co-creation requirements during the development of the 2018 action plan (a copy of previous correspondence is attached for your reference). Due to the onset of the covid-19 pandemic in 2020, there were no further implications for not delivering an action plan that year. However, Malta was required to deliver a new action plan by December 31, 2021 in order to avoid a new instance of acting contrary to process and thus risking being designated as "Inactive" in OGP.

Unfortunately, the OGP Support Unit has not received the new action plan and Malta is therefore now being recommended for inactivity by the Criteria & Standards Subcommittee. The OGP Steering Committee will review this recommendation and make a final determination on Malta's participation status at its next meeting on March 24, 2022.

Countries designated as inactive continue to receive OGP assistance towards regaining active status. However, inactive members are not eligible to vote or run in Steering Committee elections, and may only attend OGP events as observers for learning purposes. Inactivity will also be noted on the OGP website and public information materials, where appropriate. The specific terms of the resolution will be agreed by the Steering Committee and shared with you once its deliberations are finalized.

The OGP Support Unit and Steering Committee stand ready to support the Government of Malta in whatever way possible to remain an active member of the Partnership. We would welcome a call with a member of your staff to discuss next steps.

Best regards,



Sanjay Pradhan  
Chief Executive Officer

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**Edward Zammit Lewis**  
**Minister for European Affairs and Equality**  
**Government of Malta**

7 February 2020

Dear Minister Zammit Lewis,

We welcome the Government of Malta'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, 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.

In its 2018-2020 action plan, the Government of Malta did not meet the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) "Involve" requirement during the development of the Action Plan, as determined by the Independent Reporting Mechanism ("IRM").

In addition, Malta has now acted contrary to OGP process for two consecutive action plan cycles. A copy of the letter notifying the previous occurrence is enclosed for your records. In line with OGP procedures, Malta will be placed under review by the OGP Criteria & Standards Subcommittee (C&S). This review process involves enhanced support by the C&S, the OGP Support Unit and the OGP Steering Committee in order to try to resolve the issues that did not allow the government to meet the IAP2 "Involve" requirement during the development of the Action Plan.

We encourage the Government of Malta to provide an update on the status of the 2020-2022 action plan co-creation process to inform the deliberations of the C&S.

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,



Sanjay Pradhan  
Chief Executive Officer  
Open Government Partnership



January 18, 2018

The Honorable Aaron Farrugia  
Parliamentary Secretary for EU Funds and Social Dialogue  
Ministry for European Affairs and Equality  
Government of Malta

Dear Minister Farrugia,

We welcome the Government of Malta's participation in the Open Government Partnership, which now has over 75 countries working to implement national commitments to promote greater transparency, accountability, and engagement of citizens in policy making.

As you are aware, the OGP Articles of Governance state that all participating countries are expected to co-create a two-year National Action Plan (NAP) on a continuous biannual calendar. This rule is explained in the [OGP Point of Contact \(PoC\) Manual](#), which has been distributed to all OGP governments. This document states that "If a country is more than six months late, it will be moved to the following year's group and will start a new action plan cycle (e.g., from the odd year grouping to the even year grouping)".

In accordance with this policy, this letter is to officially inform that the OGP Support Unit did not receive a NAP from the Government of Malta by December 31, 2017.

As a result, the Government of Malta has a new deadline of August 31, 2018 to submit a two-year national action plan ending on June 30, 2020. This means that Malta has now been shifted from the "odd year" grouping to the "even year" grouping of OGP countries, who should submit new action plans in 2018, 2020, 2022 and so on. For more information on the deadlines, please consult the OGP Point of Contact Manual. This letter will also be published in the OGP website so that civil society organizations in Malta are aware of this change.

The OGP Support Unit and the Steering Committee stand ready to support you in whatever way would be useful to co-create the new NAP. Please do not hesitate to contact the OGP Support Unit if you require any assistance.

Yours sincerely,

A blue ink signature of Sanjay Pradhan.

Sanjay Pradhan  
Chief Executive Officer  
Open Government Partnership