Open Government Partnership

1100 13th St NW, Suite 800 Washington, DC 20005 United States

Phone: +1 202-609-7859

Email: info@opengovpartnership.org

5 May 2023

Revaz Javelidze Head of Administration Government of Georgia

Dear Mr. Javelidze,

I am writing to inform you that the OGP Support Unit has reviewed the <u>Letter of Concern</u> submitted on 13 April 2023 by Georgian civil society organizations under OGP's <u>Policy on Upholding the Values and Principles of OGP</u> (e.g. Response Policy).

Following the initial review of the concern (as detailed in Section III.A of the Response Policy), the Support Unit has concluded and is notifying the Government of Georgia hereby that the Letter of Concern meets the *eligibility criteria* (see Section III.A.2) to trigger a Response Policy inquiry. Please note that the initial review did not assess the *merits* of the concern itself, or lack thereof. That will be done in the next phase of the process, as described in Section III.B, whereby the Co-Chairs of the Criteria and Standards Subcommittee of OGP's Steering Committee will lead a review concerning the substantive merits of the concern, in coordination with the Support Unit. This review will include the steps outlined in Section III.B.3-5 of the Response Policy guidelines, which includes securing external expert assistance for the review of the concern as well as a formal response from the Government of Georgia to the concerns raised.

In line with the Response Policy protocol and procedures, I hereby invite the Government of Georgia, as the Subject country of the Response Policy Concern under review, to provide a formal response to the issue(s) raised in the Letter of Concern. This will be used as input by the Criteria and Standards Subcommittee to prepare a review report of the concern. We kindly ask that you provide this response to the OGP Support Unit as soon as possible and no later than August 15, 2023.

Please note that under OGP's Disclosure Policy, these, and all other relevant documents related to this Response Policy case, will be uploaded on the OGP website.

Please don't hesitate to contact the Support Unit should any questions regarding this process arise.

Sincerely,

Paul Maassen,

Chief Country Support

