**Open Government Partnership** 

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## Arayik Harutyunyan Chief of Staff to the Prime Minister Office of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia

Dear Mr. Harutyunyan,

We welcome the Government of Armenia's continued participation in the Open Government Partnership (OGP), which now comprises 76 countries and 106 local governments 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 follow the <u>OGP Participation</u> and <u>Co-Creation Standards</u> when co-creating an Action Plan of open government reforms. These standards have been recently updated by the OGP Steering Committee and came into effect in January 2022.

The Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) assesses all countries that submitted action plans from 2022 onward under the updated standards. However, as the new Standards were recently introduced, OGP instituted a 24-month grace period to ensure a fair and transparent transition to the updated standards. Therefore, although the Government of Armenia did not meet minimum requirements for its 2022-2024 action plan, as assessed by the IRM in their <u>Action Plan Review</u>, in this particular instance the Government of Armenia did not act contrary to process, and will not be subjected to Procedural Review.

No further action is required at this time but 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 Armenia makes every effort to meet the minimum requirements set forth in the Standards during the development and implementation of its next action plan. Please see IRM's <u>Action Plan Review</u> for Armenia's 2022-2024 action plan for more details on which standards are still to be met. Guidance on how to meet the new minimum participation and co-creation requirements can be found in the <u>OGP National Handbook</u>; guidelines for their assessment by the IRM can be found <u>here</u>.

The OGP Support Unit and Steering Committee stand ready to support you during the implementation of your current action plan and the development of your next one to make sure all requirements are met.

Yours sincerely,

Sanjay Pradhan Chief Executive Officer

