

Buenos Aires, May 21st, 2025

Dr. Cielo Magno
President
Bantay Kita-PWYP Philippines

Dear Members of the OGP Civic Society Community,

I am writing to express my desire to apply for a second term as OGP Steering Committee Member representing civil society. As you know, I lead the Open Data Charter, a global initiative of over 200 members, but being latinamerican myself, I have always been and remain very connected to the latinamerican civil society community.

Open government and open data have been a core focus of my professional life, with leadership experience on both sides of the open government equation —government and civil society. My previous work as a public official leading this agenda has given me first hand experience on the front lines of open government reform, including open data, citizen engagement, digital rights, and multistakeholder engagement.

In the last few years we have expanded our work on data governance issues and advocated at the UN level for open data to be included at the Global Digital Compact. As a result of our global advocacy work, I am now part of the UN Working Group on data governance at all levels, led by UNCTAD.

“Digital” is now one of the core areas of work for OGP because of the OGP Challenge. I believe that I can continue to add value to the Steering Committee bringing together my ODC Work on digital policies and Rights, my global advocacy work around this area and my passion for the OGP process. There is an opportunity for OGP members to uphold their international commitments to the Global Digital Compact via the implementation of OGP Commitments, adding the value of co-creation and securing public participation in the implementation of that agreement. I want to be as helpful as possible in moving this and the broader digital agenda forward. Securing that CSOs have a say in the design and implementation of digital governance and policies is more critical than ever, and, as a firm believer in the “OGP methodology” I think now more than ever the work we can together do from OGP is critical.

And, on the other hand, not to sound too repetitive from my last application, my dual experience means I am familiar with the whole OGP co-creation process, including the needs and challenges, governments and CSOs face in collaborating on open government commitments. This is also evidenced in the work of the ODC, where we support multi stakeholder forums in developing data commitments for specific OGP commitments, such as anti-corruption, data governance or climate change.

I have gone through the learning curve of being part of the OGP Steering Committee, which includes learning about the core documents, the ways of working and negotiating with other SC

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members and the OGP SU, and how to be as helpful as possible for the broader community I represent is something that is not a given. This second term will help me be more diligent and practical in the requests I make, questions I ask but also more impactful.

I thank you for your time and consideration.

Best regards,

Natalia Carfi