

City of Mendoza, August 13, 2021

Dear OGP Local 2020 Executive Committee:

In my position as Mayor of the City of Mendoza, Province of Mendoza, Argentine Republic, I assume the commitment to implement the principles and values of the Open Government Declaration of the Alliance for the Open Government (OGP) and I express the honor of the Executive Municipal Department of the City of Mendoza, together with the Civil Society Organizations (CSO) that make up the Open Government ecosystem, to join the OGP as a local government.

On December 10, 2019, we assumed the municipal management with the commitment to govern the City of Mendoza from a triple impact model that integrates economic development, social inclusion and, a "fundamental" axis such as environmental conservation. These three pillars, together with citizen participation, data-based management and transparency, have the sole objective of improving the quality of life of the city's residents and visitors.

The challenge posed by the COVID-19 pandemic at the global level led us to develop resilience in our government based on a more efficient, innovative, responsible and focused on the priorities that reality demanded for citizens. This without neglecting the necessary approach to vulnerable social sectors in order to guarantee the satisfaction of the human rights of the entire population. The pandemic framework required adapting management by implementing new technologies based on data, georeferencing and artificial intelligence.

Thus, the City of Mendoza took the opportunity to incorporate better and greater Open Government practices in order to get closer to citizens and empower neighbors, all in full respect of human dignity and good governance. All these initiatives and good practices of Open Government will remain after the pandemic context is overcome.

The advances during this first year of management are identified with a series of actions in terms of transparency, citizen participation and access to public information that we have been carrying out in recent times. The adhesion by ordinance to the Law on Access to Public Information, the plans for Updating Public Data and Municipal Transparency, the Ordinance on Integrity and Transparency in Public Contracting, the new portals of Open Data, Citizen Participation and Open Government, the creation of the Climate Change Committee and Laboratory, among other measures, are outstanding milestones that show the municipal openness and transparency.

We also point to austerity as a concrete gesture in a complex context of both health and economic crisis. Thus, the mayor, councilors and municipal officials donated part of our salaries as a clear demonstration of a leadership based on integrity values with a responsible vision of management.

All these actions earned us the recognition of prestigious international organizations such as the Open Government Partnership (OGP) who highlighted our track record "in open government reforms and its commitment to local civil society" choosing the City of Mendoza as one of the 56 local governments around the world that make up the select group of OGP cities, along with the likes of Los Angeles (United States), Catalonia (Spain), Buenos Aires (Argentina), Madrid (Spain), Ontario (Canada), Paris (France), Sao Paulo (Brazil), Scotland (United Kingdom) and Seoul (South Korea).

The role of civil society organizations in the consolidation of this "Open Ecosystem" at the municipal level is relevant and allows to continue strengthening the process of openness and transparency in the City of Mendoza. The immense work they carry out with different sectors of society, added to the frequent contributions and initiatives they introduce for a better management of public affairs allow us to engage citizens and expand the spaces for the co-design of local public policies.

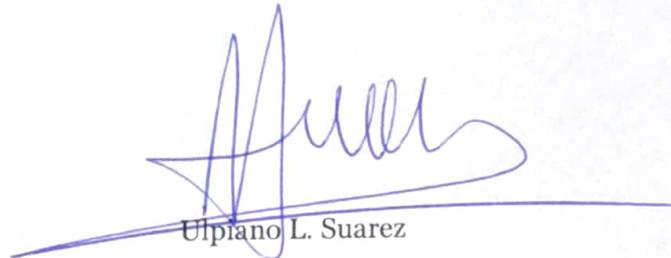
Our commitment for the coming years will continue to be based on the opening of public data, transparency in management, respect for human rights, promotion of good governance, collaboration with private sectors and CSOs, prioritizing the effort to equalize opportunities for vulnerable sectors and encouraging the active participation of citizens in each and every one of the municipal initiatives.

We will continue with the co-design of fairer, more sustainable and inclusive high-impact policies, which will allow us to improve trust in our neighbors and the quality of municipal

services, in addition to encouraging a more active and engaged citizenry.

The Mendoza City Open Government Action Plan will be our roadmap to continue co-designing a closer, sustainable, inclusive and transparent Mendoza City.

Yours faithfully,



Ulpiano L. Suarez

Mayor

City of Mendoza