



November 13, 2016

Dr. Steven Kennedy  
Deputy Secretary, Innovation and Transformation  
Government of Australia

Dear Dr. Kennedy,

We welcome the Government of Australia's participation in the Open Government Partnership (OGP), which now has 70 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: *Make concrete commitments, as part of a country action plan, that are ambitious and go beyond a country's current practice. All OGP participating governments are expected to develop National Action Plans that specify concrete commitments over a two-year period.*

Countries more than four months late in submitting their National Action Plan (NAP) will be considered acting contrary to the OGP process for that action plan cycle. The Government of Australia has not submitted its first NAP as of October 31, 2016, four months after the deadline of June 30, 2016.

This letter is to inform you that, the Government of Australia has now acted contrary to the OGP process for three consecutive action plan cycles (2014, 2015 and 2016). Per policy, the Support Unit has referred the Government of Australia to the Criteria and Standards Subcommittee of the OGP Steering Committee as part of its ongoing review of Australia's participation in OGP. The Criteria and Standards subcommittee has agreed that if a NAP is not submitted to the Support Unit by the end of 2016, the subcommittee will immediately recommend to the full Steering Committee that Australia be designated as inactive in OGP. The Steering Committee would then consider inactivity at its next in-person meeting in 2017.

We acknowledge your letters from November 2015, June 2016 and October 2016 notifying us of new progress on the NAP, and also welcome the publication of a draft NAP. We strongly

encourage you to publish Australia's first NAP as soon as possible. Once it is published, the review process will conclude.

The OGP Support Unit and Steering Committee stand ready to support the Government of Australia with all appropriate technical knowledge, peer exchange opportunities and guidance so that Australia can engage in the OGP process and finalize the Action Plan.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sanjay Pradhan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter 'S' being particularly large and stylized.

Sanjay Pradhan  
Chief Executive Officer  
Open Government Partnership