



Australian Government



Summary Table of Open Government Partnership Working Groups Activities
(Updated 12 August)

Working Group	Co-leads and Members	Meetings	Category	Draft Commitment	Number of Public Comments Received	Notes on Process
A	<p>Dr Kenneth Coghill (Civil society lead, Swinburne University)</p> <p>Damian Carmichael (DISER Secretariat)</p> <p>CIVIL SOCIETY MEMBERS May Miller-Dawkins (Research and Advocate) Mark Zirnsak (Synod of Victoria and Tasmania, Uniting Church in Australia) Name Redacted</p> <p>THIRD PARTY EXPERTS Mel Flanagan (Nook Studios)</p> <p>GOVERNMENT MEMBERS Elizabeth Kelly (DISER)</p>	7 July 29 July 4 August	Public Participating and Public Capability Building	1. Building Community Engagement (three commitments)	15	<p>Working Group A considered three inter-related Concepts and the 15 comments on them submitted to the website.</p> <p>Each Concept was closely related to Open Government Declaration commitments endorsed by each country as a condition of OGP membership.</p> <p>Deliberation to develop the Concepts into Commitments progressed through targeted discussions. The Group was joined by Mel Flanagan (Nook Studios) who provided valuable input. We met by skype on three occasions.</p> <p>The first meeting included a discussion of the general theme and other relevant work such as the APS Review and the Government’s response. From this a concept descriptor was drafted, circulated, and agreed to out of session.</p> <p>The second meeting focussed on identifying concrete actions that would meet the intent of the theme. Draft commitments were developed out of session reflecting the actions discussed in the second meeting. The third meeting of the group discussed and refined the proposed draft commitments.</p> <p>A final set of draft commitments was circulated and agreed to out of session. Indeed, to have rejected any of these Concepts would have been to repudiate the basis of Australia’s membership of OGP.</p> <p>These Commitments represent ambitious and transformative reforms, as recommended by OGP, and will enhance Australia’s standing as a Partner.</p>
B	<p>James Horton (Civil society lead, Datanomics)</p> <p>Phillip Gould (Government lead, First Assistant Secretary, Office of the National Data Commissioner, PM&C)</p> <p>THIRD PARTY EXPERTS Dr Ian Oppermaun (NSW Chief Data Scientist)</p> <p>GOVERNMENT MEMBERS Samira Hassan (A/g Senior Adviser, Office of the National Data Commissioner, PM&C) Leonie McGregor (First Assistant Secretary, Cabinet Division, PM&C)</p>	15 July 23 July 30 July	Public Participating and Public Capability Building	2. Trustworthy Government (two commitments)	7	<p>Working Group B identified three draft concepts to pursue commitments under Trustworthy Government. The data sharing concept was determined to be a desirable, feasible and viable option that supported OGP values of transparency, civic participation, and public accountability. Civic society lead and Government lead co-drafted the concept into a commitment. A draft commitment was circulated within the group for comment and the final was agreed by the co-chairs and then considered by the Open Government Forum.</p> <p>Process notes on the three concepts are below.</p> <p><i>Data Sharing Commitment</i></p> <p>A draft commitment has been submitted noting that milestone details and timeframes associated with the commitment still need to be finalised taking into account COVID-19 factors.</p> <p>The outcomes of this commitment can be adopted beyond the Commonwealth government, delivering a national approach to building trust in government data use.</p> <p><i>Online Portal Commitment</i></p>

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	<p>John Kalokerinos (National Manager, Data Strategy and Governance, Services Australia)</p> <p>Rajesh (Raj) Walton (A/g National Manager, Data and Analytics Engagement, Service Australia)</p> <p>Patrick Drake-Brockman (Digital Transformation Agency – Observer)</p>					<p>Working Group B agreed that this would better be considered as part of the Working Group C Open by Design commitment on the basis that the use of current "verified citizen" portals (ie MyGov) could offer a trusted means for citizens to exercise their Right To Know rights.</p> <p>James Horton (civil society co-lead) has briefed the co-leads of Working Group C.</p> <p><i>Policy-making Commitment</i></p> <p>A commitment has been drafted and is currently being considered.</p>
C	<p>Konrad de Kerloy (Civil society lead, Herbert Smith Freehills)</p> <p>Elizabeth Tydd (Government lead, CEO, Information Commissioner, NSW Information and Privacy Commission)</p> <p>CIVIL SOCIETY MEMBERS</p> <p>Dr Kenneth Coghill (Swinburne University)</p> <p>Mark Zirnsak (Synod of Victoria and Tasmania, Uniting Church in Australia)</p> <p>THIRD PARTY EXPERTS</p> <p>Assoc. Prof. Johan Lidberg (Monash University)</p> <p>Hon. Assoc. Prof. Rick Snell (University of Tasmania)</p> <p>GOVERNMENT MEMBERS</p> <p>Julia Galluccio (Assistant Secretary, Information Law and Intelligence Review Branch, Integrity and Security Division, AGD)</p> <p>Amy Jarvoll (Director, Information Law Unit, AGD)</p> <p>Name Redacted</p>	<p>7 July</p> <p>23 July</p> <p>3 August</p>	Democratic Innovation	4. Open by Design (right to know)	7	<p>Working Group C met three times via videoconference meetings, developing the draft Concept into a draft Commitment through targeted discussions each time.</p> <p>At the second meeting, the Group invited third-party experts and extensively discussed public comments received to-date on the OGPAU website and attempted to reframe the draft Concept.</p> <p>The Working Group agreed the new 3rd party expert, Johan Lidberg, would provide input out-of-session. Elizabeth Hampton circulated a Commitment Template out-of-session based on members' suggestions and collated input from Johan Lidberg and Elizabeth Tydd, in particular.</p> <p>At the third meeting, the Group discussed and edited the Commitment Template further to accommodate all members' suggestion/advice.</p> <p>A final draft Commitment was circulated and agreed to out of session on Friday 7 August 2020.</p> <p>*Note was prepared by the secretariat.</p>

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	<p>Elizabeth Hampton (Deputy Commissioner, Office of the Australian Information Commissioner) Raewyn Harlock (A/g Director, Office of the Australian Information Commissioner) Rocelle Ago (Principal Director, Office of the Australian Information Commissioner) Rachel Jhinku (NSW Information and Privacy Commission)</p>					
D	<p>Dr Kenneth Coghill (Civil society lead, Swinburne University) John Reid (First Assistant Secretary, Government Division, PM&C) and Scott Dilley (First Assistant Secretary, Government Division, Department of Finance) (Government leads)</p> <p>CIVIL SOCIETY MEMBERS Mark Zirnsak (Synod of Victoria and Tasmania, Uniting Church in Australia)</p> <p>THIRD PARTY EXPERTS Prof. Charles Sampford (Griffith University) Sean Innis (Director, Public Policy and Societal Impact Hub, ANU) Alice Drury (Human Rights Law Centre) Colleen Lewis (Monash University) Hon. Prof John Hewson (ANU, Former Leader of the Federal Opposition, Australia)</p> <p>GOVERNMENT MEMBERS Ian Nicholas (Department of Finance) Kristina Hopkins (Department of Finance) Heather Millard (Department of Finance)</p>	<p>8 July 23 July 30 July</p>	<p>Governance Reforms</p>	<p>22. Professional Support for Ministerial Advisers</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>Working Group D was assigned two Concepts: Political Campaign Finance Integrity; and Professional Support for Ministerial Advisers.</p> <p>The Group was joined by Prof. Charles Sampford (Griffith University), Sean Innis (ANU), Alice Drury (Human Rights Law Centre), Colleen Lewis (Monash University), and Hon. Prof John Hewson (ANU, Former Leader of the Federal Opposition, Australia) who provided valuable input. We met by skype on two occasions.</p> <p>Political Campaign Finance Integrity The draft concept proposed a referral to the Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters (JSCEM) for an inquiry into 14 matters related to the integrity of campaign finance, including the effects and desirability of caps on campaign expenditure. The draft concept sought to advance Australia’s Open Government commitment to “Implement the highest standards of professional integrity throughout our administrations”.</p> <p>However, there were different perspectives amongst the working group members and the expert advisors above:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The draft Commitment was not supported by the Department of Finance as JSCEM had recently considered much of the draft concept, including caps on campaign expenditure. • It was noted that caps on expenditure applied in UK, Canada, New Zealand and NSW and that each of the major parties supported them in NSW. • Some members of the Working Group expressed their disappointment that the concept could not be progressed. <p>The Group noted that the concept was unable to progress to a commitment as agreement on the current draft could not be reached between government and civil society.</p> <p>Professional Support for Ministerial Advisers Deliberation to develop the concept into Commitment progressed through targeted discussions.</p> <p>A final draft Commitment was circulated and agreed to out of session.</p> <p>This Commitment represents a worthwhile reform.</p>

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E	<p>Mark Zirnsak (Civil society lead, Synod of Victoria and Tasmania, Uniting Church in Australia)</p> <p>Christine Barron (Government lead for Beneficial Ownership Transparency concept, Division Head, The Treasury)</p> <p>CIVIL SOCIETY MEMBERS Dr Kenneth Coghill (Swinburne University) May Miller-Dawkins (Researcher and Advocate) Serena Lillywhite (CEO, Transparency International Australia)</p> <p>THIRD PARTY EXPERTS Clancy Moore (Publish What you Pay Australia)</p> <p>GOVERNMENT MEMBERS Jodi Keall (Manager, Business Conduct Unit Market Group, The Treasury) David Lawrence (DISER) Kate Boston (DISER) Evan Bitmead (DISER) Name Redacted</p>	15 July 29 July	Integrity	9. Beneficial Ownership Transparency	6	<p>Treasury advises the Government’s priority and focus is on the economic recovery from COVID.</p> <p>The WG recommends the proposed commitment around transparency of beneficial ownership is not pursued in NAP3. There may be better value in pursuing other ideas for the limited number of commitments that can be included in NAP3.</p>
E	<p>Mark Zirnsak (Civil society lead, Synod of Victoria and Tasmania, Uniting Church in Australia)</p> <p>Christine Barron (Government lead for Beneficial Ownership Transparency concept, Division Head, The Treasury)</p> <p>CIVIL SOCIETY MEMBERS Dr Kenneth Coghill (Swinburne University) May Miller-Dawkins (Researcher and Advocate) Serena Lillywhite (CEO, Transparency International Australia)</p> <p>THIRD PARTY EXPERTS</p>	15 July 29 July	Integrity	10. Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI)	8	<p>TIA and PWYP drafted the commitment based on NAP1&2.</p> <p>DISER advises the Government is considering options for improving transparency in the resources sector, and the Department is currently waiting for direction from the Minister regarding EITI implementation in Australia.</p> <p>Until more clarity about the status of Australia’s EITI candidacy is provided by an announcement, the WG is unable to progress the draft EITI commitment.</p> <p>DIESER has met with TIA and PWYP and provided this advice to them.</p>

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	<p>Clancy Moore (Publish What you Pay Australia)</p> <p>GOVERNMENT MEMBERS Jodi Keall (Manager, Business Conduct Unit Market Group, The Treasury) David Lawrence (DISER) Kate Boston (DISER) Evan Bitmead (DISER) Name Redacted</p>					
E	<p>Mark Zirnsak (Civil society lead, Synod of Victoria and Tasmania, Uniting Church in Australia)</p> <p>Christine Barron (Government lead for Beneficial Ownership Transparency concept, Division Head, The Treasury)</p> <p>CIVIL SOCIETY MEMBERS Dr Kenneth Coghill (Swinburne University) May Miller-Dawkins (Researcher and Advocate) Serena Lillywhite (CEO, Transparency International Australia)</p> <p>THIRD PARTY EXPERTS Clancy Moore (Publish What you Pay Australia)</p> <p>GOVERNMENT MEMBERS Jodi Keall (Manager, Business Conduct Unit Market Group, The Treasury) David Lawrence (DISER) Kate Boston (DISER) Evan Bitmead (DISER) Name Redacted</p>	15 July 29 July	Integrity	11. Integrity in Assessing and Reporting Environmental Impact	3	<p>The WG has been unable to progress this draft commitment.</p> <p>The Department of Agriculture, Water and Environment has not responded to requests by civil society members of the WG for an opportunity to discuss this topic.</p>
F	<p>Mark Zirnsak (Civil society lead, Synod of Victoria and Tasmania, Uniting Church in Australia)</p> <p>Joanna Virtue (for Sarah Chidgey, Government lead)</p>	7 July 23 July	Integrity	12. Whistleblower Protections in Practice	8	<p>AGD drafted the Commitment for consideration and discussion by the Working Group. Further refinements were made to the commitment over the course of two meetings, and with feedback from the Treasury and the Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman.</p> <p>Civil society members of the working group were concerned that the final draft lacked sufficient substance in the outcomes to make it worthwhile to proceed with unless further modified by the meetings of the OGF.</p>

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	<p>CIVIL SOCIETY MEMBERS Dr Kenneth Coghill (Swinburne University)</p> <p>THIRD PARTY EXPERTS AJ Brown (Griffith University)</p> <p>GOVERNMENT MEMBERS John Reid (First Assistant Secretary, Government Division, PM&C) Janine Ward (AGD) Paul Pfitzner (A/g Deputy, Ombudsman) Jodi Keall (The Treasury)</p>					
G	<p>May Miller-Dawkins (Civil society lead, Researcher and Advocate) TBD (Government lead)</p> <p>CIVIL SOCIETY MEMBERS James Horton (Datanomics)</p> <p>THIRD PARTY EXPERTS Alice Drury (Human Rights Law Centre)</p> <p>GOVERNMENT MEMBERS Elizabeth Hampton (Deputy Commissioner, Office of the Australian Information Commissioner) Jessica Hartmann (National Indigenous Australians Agency) Rocelle Ago (Principal Director, Office of the Australian Information Commissioner) Kristin Crawford (Director, Human Rights Unit, AGD) Name Redacted Kate Coleman (Department of Social Services) Bernie Peace (Director, COVID-19 Triage and Lessons, National Incident Response Division, Department of Health)</p>	16 July 29 July	Engagement in Future Health Crises	17. Protecting Civil Rights in Crises	2	<p>The Working Group explored potential avenues for work in this area identifying some possibilities which were then investigated further out of session through engagement of specific Departments.</p> <p>The WG had a changing membership as we sought to find appropriate people to join from the range of relevant departments. In the end, we identified one area for potential commitment but did not have time to fully deliberate on the draft. A draft was circulated for comment and a number of departments & agencies responded that they did not have substantive feedback (AGD, DSS, NIAA) however there was no formal process of agreement within the WG to the draft commitment.</p>