Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to apply for Australia's first open government forum. I believe I would be an ideal community representative for the following key reasons;

- **demonstrated support of OGP's vision and the Open Government Declaration**

I believe in all of the key tenets of the OGP as shown by previous pursuits. For example two years ago I created a map visualization using government open data to examine the amount that politicians spent on entitlement expenses as well as how they voted on matters which were important to voters (eg. Same-sex marriage) which won the ESRI Prize at the Open Data Institute of Qld's 2015 Data As Art Exhibition. I have also taken part in GovHack both as a mentor and competitor and have won multiple prizes for using open data from organizations such as NASA, AIHW, Data61, Advance Qld, Brisbane City Council, DSITI, Hitachi and Barayamal.

- **expertise relevant to the Open Government Partnership, including existing or probable future Australian Open Government commitments**

I believe I have the expertise to assist with Open Government Partnership. For example I organized a GovHack showcase at ABC Brisbane Headquarters last year and also showcased my GovHack's team project at the DSITI. I have helped out both as a mentor and competitor at Australia's first hackathon to help people experiencing homelessness (Homelessness Hack 2017), a group helping refugees (Techfugees BNE 2017), and group teaching indigenous students how to code (Barayamal). I have also been nominated (awaiting outcome) by Marist180 to be an Advance Queensland Digital Community Champion.

- **ability to engage broad and diverse community networks**

I have the ability to engage with broad and diverse community networks as shown by my past experience including mentoring at Australia's first ever hackathon to help people experiencing homelessness (Homelessness Hack 2017), teaching indigenous students how to code (Barayamal), teaching girls about Design Thinking (Tech Girls Are Superheroes), helping indigenous charities (Give Backathon), mentoring refugees (Techfugees BNE 2017), and presenting workshops to the tech community (eg.River City Labs).

- **previous experience working with and influencing government**

I have previous experience working with government. For example some of my open data projects have been showcased on the Qld Open Data website and the ODIQ and I have showcased some of my work using open data at the DSITI.

- **desirability of maintaining some continuity between successive Forums, balanced with the desirability of reaching new communities and reflecting emerging open government priorities**

I intend to continue taking part in opportunities to help promote the OGP's vision outside of the forum.

Yours sincerely,

Randall Fernando