

OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP

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4 November 2019

The Honorable Nigel Clarke, MP
Minister
Ministry of Finance and the Public Service
Government of Jamaica

Dear Minister Clarke,

We welcome Jamaica's participation in the Open Government Partnership, which now comprises 79 countries, 20 local participants, and thousands of civil society organizations. Since its founding in 2011, OGP has become the foremost global forum for advancing transparency, accountability, and public participation in government.

I write to you in regard to my previous correspondence dated 15 January 2019, which is attached for your reference. As of November 2019, the Open Government Partnership (OGP) has not received an update on the status of the action plan co-creation process by the Government of Jamaica. The Support Unit reiterates its desire to explore options to support the Government of Jamaica remain an active member of OGP.

As mentioned earlier, the Support Unit has referred the Government of Jamaica to the Criteria and Standards Subcommittee of the OGP Steering Committee as part of its ongoing review of Jamaica's participation in OGP. If the Government of Jamaica fails to submit an action plan by 31 December 2019, the Subcommittee will be forced to recommend to the full Steering Committee that Jamaica be designated as inactive in OGP, in accordance to OGP policy.

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

We look forward to the opportunity to discuss this further.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,



Sanjay Pradhan
Chief Executive Officer
Open Government Partnership

**The Honorable Fayval Williams, MP
Minister of State
Ministry of Finance and the Public Service
Government of Jamaica**

15 January 2019

Dear Minister Williams,

We welcome the Government of Jamaica's participation in the Open Government Partnership (OGP), which now comprises 79 countries and 20 local governments working to implement open government commitments to promote greater transparency, accountability and citizen engagement in policy making.

As you are aware, the OGP Articles of Governance state that all participating governments are expected to co-create an action plan outlining a concrete set of open government reforms, in line with OGP Participation and Co-Creation standards. Governments that are more than four months late in submitting their action plan will be considered to have acted contrary to OGP process for that action plan cycle.

As of 1 January 2019, the Government of Jamaica has not submitted its action plan, four months after the deadline of 31 August 2018. As a result, Jamaica has been shifted from the "even year" to the "odd year" cohort of OGP participants, and considered to have started a new action plan cycle with a deadline of 31 August 2019 to submit its action plan.

In addition, Jamaica has now acted contrary to OGP process for two consecutive action plan cycles. A copy of the letter notifying the previous occurrence is enclosed for your records. In line with OGP procedures, Jamaica will be placed under review by the OGP Criteria & Standards Subcommittee (C&S). This review process involves enhanced support by the C&S, the OGP Support Unit and the OGP Steering Committee in order to try to resolve the issues that have caused the delays in submitting the Action Plan.

We encourage the Government of Jamaica to provide an update on the status of the action plan co-creation process to inform the deliberations of the C&S.

The OGP Support Unit and Steering Committee stand ready to support you in whatever way would be useful. Please do not hesitate to contact the Support Unit if you require any assistance in the finalization of your action plan.

Yours sincerely,



Sanjay Pradhan
Chief Executive Officer
Open Government Partnership



5 December 2017

Fayval Williams
Minister of State
Government of Jamaica

Dear Minister Williams,

We welcome the Government of Jamaica's participation in the Open Government Partnership (OGP), which now has 74 countries and 15 subnational pioneers working to implement open government 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 that are more than four months late in submitting their National Action Plan (NAP) will be considered to have acted contrary to OGP process for that action plan cycle. As of October 31, 2017, the Government of Jamaica had not submitted its new NAP, four months after the deadline of June 30, 2017.

This letter is therefore to inform you that the Government of Jamaica has acted contrary to the OGP process for this action plan development cycle. We recommend that the Government of Jamaica publishes all future NAPs on time in order to avoid review by the Criteria and Standards Subcommittee.

The OGP Support Unit and Steering Committee stand ready to support you in whatever way would be useful to co-create a new action plan. Please do not hesitate to contact the OGP Support Unit if you require any assistance.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sanjay Pradhan". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Sanjay Pradhan
Chief Executive Officer
Open Government Partnership