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25.11.2024

H.E. Anura Kumara Dissanayake,
President of Sri Lanka,
Presidential Secretariat,
Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Request to Re-Negotiate and Re-Activate Sri Lanka's Commitment to the Open Government Partnership (OGP)

Your Excellency,

I hope this letter finds you in good health and high spirits. I am writing to you as a concerned citizen and a member of the Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) involved in Sri Lanka's Open Government Partnership (OGP) initiative.

Sri Lanka's participation in the Open Government Partnership was a significant step toward promoting transparency, accountability, and participatory governance. As a platform that fosters collaboration between government and civil society, OGP has immense potential to strengthen public trust in government institutions and ensure citizen-centric policy-making. However, it is concerning that Sri Lanka's engagement with OGP has been dormant in recent years.

As a member of civil society, I urge Your Excellency to prioritize re-negotiating Sri Lanka's membership with the Open Government Partnership Secretariat and to take concrete steps toward reactivating this crucial initiative. A reinvigorated commitment to OGP would demonstrate Sri Lanka's dedication to good governance, inclusivity, and democratic principles.

In particular, re-engagement with OGP can provide the following benefits for our nation:

1. Increased Transparency and Accountability: By adhering to OGP principles, the government can ensure more transparent processes, thereby reducing corruption and enhancing public trust.
2. Citizen Participation: The platform allows for greater engagement of citizens and civil society in decision-making processes, fostering inclusive development.
3. Enhanced International Reputation: Active participation in OGP would signal Sri Lanka's commitment to global best practices in governance, strengthening our relationships with development partners.

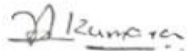
I kindly request Your Excellency to consider taking the following actions:

1. Re-initiate discussions with the OGP Secretariat to renew Sri Lanka's participation.
2. Designate a high-level government official or department to oversee and coordinate OGP activities.
3. Engage CSOs and other stakeholders in drafting a new National Action Plan to fulfill OGP commitments.

As a member of the CSO community, I am committed to supporting the government in this endeavor and look forward to contributing constructively toward its successful implementation.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Under your leadership, Sri Lanka will continue to champion the values of transparency, accountability, and public participation.

Yours sincerely,



Vimukthi Dushantha,
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