

Te Kawa Mataaho Report



Te Kawa Mataaho
Public Service Commission

OGP Global Summit 2021

Date: 10 November 2021

Security Level: IN CONFIDENCE

Report No: 2021/0336

Contact: Catherine Williams, Deputy Commissioner Integrity, Ethics and Standards

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	Actions Sought	Due Date
Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister for the Public Service	Agree to submit a statement to the Open Government Partnership Global Summit	17 November 2021

Enclosure: No

Minister's Office Comments

Comments:	
Date returned to Te Kawa Mataaho:	

IN CONFIDENCE

Executive Summary

- 1 The Open Government Partnership (OGP) Global Summit is being held (virtually) in Seoul, South Korea, from 15-17 December 2021. The Summit will mark the 10th anniversary of the founding of the Partnership. Both you and the Prime Minister have been invited to participate by way of a short video (or in your case, alternatively, a short, written statement).
- 2 The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT) 6(a) prejudice security or defence
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] considers that your participation in the OGP Global Summit would demonstrate our support for the OGP initiative and would be positive for our bilateral relationship with the Republic of Korea.
- 3 We recommend that you submit a short, written statement for publication on the OGP website (see Appendix 1).
- 4 Officials will attend online Summit sessions as appropriate.

Recommended Action

We recommend that you:

- a) **note** that the Prime Minister has been invited to provide a video message for the Summit, and that separate advice is going to the Prime Minister 6(a) prejudice security or [REDACTED]
- b) **agree** to provide a short, written statement to the OGP for publication on the OGP website
Agree/Disagree
- c) **note** that we will make arrangements for officials to participate in the Summit as appropriate
- d) **agree** that Te Kawa Mataaho release this briefing once it has been considered by you, after consultation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade on information relating to New Zealand's international relations.

Agree/Disagree

Hon Chris Hipkins
Minister for the Public Service

Te Kawa Mataaho Report: OGP Global Summit 2021

Purpose of Report

- 5 This Report provides advice on your participation in the OGP Global Summit to be held in Seoul, Republic of Korea from 15-17 December 2021.

Background

- 6 The OGP Global Summit (the Summit) will be hosted by the current Government Co-chair of the OGP Steering Committee - South Korea. The Summit will be held (virtually) from 15–17 December 2021.
- 7 The themes for the Summit will be:
- Strengthening civil space and participation
 - Tackling corruption
 - Promoting inclusive digital innovation.
- 8 The Summit will also serve as an opportunity to discuss the roles of open government and civil society in achieving sustainable recovery in the post-Covid-19 era. The Summit will convene a global coalition for this purpose. We have not yet been advised of what this will involve.
- 9 New Zealand has received two invitations in relation to the Summit:
- the Prime Minister has been invited by the President of the Republic of Korea to participate in the Summit opening plenary through a pre-recorded video statement; and
 - you have been invited to submit a two-minute video or a short, written statement for publication on the OGP website.
- 10 6(a) prejudice security or defence
- 11 However, the Republic of Korea is an important partner for New Zealand. Representation by you will reinforce the significance of that relationship and New Zealand's support for the OGP.
- 12 We suggest that a short, written statement from you would be an appropriate way for New Zealand to contribute to the Summit at a Ministerial level. We have drafted a written statement for your consideration (see Appendix 1).

Considerations

Ministerial Involvement

- 13 As the Summit will be held mainly online, ministerial-level participation will consist of short, pre-recorded video (two minutes) or written statements that will be hosted on an OGP website repository.
- 14 OGP have suggested that the message includes the following content:
- Reassure commitment to the Open Government Partnership
 - Share a highlight from the most recent action plan, including on one of the three themes of the summit (civic space, anti-corruption, digital governance)
 - Forward looking plans/commitments to advance open government in your country.

- 15 A short draft written statement is attached for your consideration, should you wish to take up this invitation. We are hoping to submit the statement by 17 November 2021.

Next Steps

- 16 Once we receive the final agenda and protocols for the Summit, we will make arrangements for officials to participate as appropriate.
- 17 If you agree, we will forward your written statement to the OGP for publication on the OGP website repository by 17 November 2021.

Appendix 1: Draft Written Ministerial Statement for OGP Global Summit Seoul December 2021

Kia ora koutou katoa

I send my greetings and warm wishes to our Korean hosts at this OGP Global Summit and my congratulations to all participants on the 10th anniversary of the OGP.

Aotearoa New Zealand has been a member of the Partnership since 2013 and we have just completed our third National Action Plan and commenced the development of our fourth.

Through successive Plans, governments have followed a process of continuous improvement in terms of both engagement with Civil Society and the ambition of our Commitments. Our third National Action Plan (2018-2021) had a balance of Commitments that covered three broad themes:

- Supporting people to improve their understanding of and be active in the workings of our democracy – with a focus on young people in particular
- Improving the responsiveness of government to the lived experience and aspirations of people when policy is being developed and services designed
- Increasing transparency of government and of people to hold government accountable.

The Covid-19 pandemic has disrupted all our plans, but it has also provided the impetus to unleash new ways of working together as societies to respond to this global threat. Things have not always gone as we would have wished, but when they have gone really well, we have seen government and civil society organisations co-operating and innovating to make things happen for communities, building on their respective strengths. We need this type of cooperation to continue when we're doing business as usual.

I recently met with officials, our Expert Advisory Panel and representatives of Civil Society Organisations to discuss progress with the development of our fourth National Action Plan.

A round of engagement with people online and at workshops throughout the motu (country) asked people for their ideas for improvements to the way they experience government.

The things that we'll be focusing on are about:

- Enabling and supporting participation in our democratic processes by individuals and groups
- Access to and usability of public information
- Government use of data and personal information
- Information to support financial accountability.

I am encouraging the team working on the development of the Plan to identify one or two ambitious Commitments that will make a real difference to the things that matter to the people who have engaged in the process, and that will build on the lessons we have learnt through our ongoing response to the pandemic.

I hope that the sharing of experiences at this Global Summit will provide insights that support us all to make real changes for our people.

Nāu te rourou, nāku te rourou, ka ora ai te iwi
With your food basket and my food basket the people will thrive