

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, 31 October 2013 10:00 AM

To: [REDACTED]

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Sheridan, John; [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Open Government Partnership meeting [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Hi all,

Just a quick update so you are in the loop. Firstly we just wanted to say thank you again for attending the OGP update discussion, especially at such short notice. The discussion was useful and hopefully gave you a reasonable idea of the current status.

In the last two weeks we were able to go from no status, to having an Australian delegation attending the OGP Annual Summit, the Government briefed about OGP, and agreement at least in principle across several departments and Ministerial offices that this is a good thing to pursue. Next steps will be continuing to work through the process to get formal endorsement to pursue OGP membership, formal delegation of responsibility to Finance, more consultation on the approach, and hopefully the ability to launch a consultation in the coming month or so. We need to have our National Action Plan developed by April 2014, so the timeline is tight, but doable.

Given the Minister of Finance has been granted temporary delegation of responsibility for OGP from the Attorney-General, we will continue to work with you all on this, particularly with PM&C, Communications and AGD to determine the most appropriate next steps.

The latest update that you should be aware of is that we went to the Government with a few possible options, including launching the consultation, just endorsing the pursuit of OGP membership, or observer only status at the Summit. The Government decided to go with observer status at the Summit with no further announcements at this stage, and our delegation to the Summit have been advised accordingly.

Attached is the information pack we gave you in hard copy at the meeting for comment. It has had input from 4 Departments thus far, and we would welcome your inputs in preparation. Obviously all the consultation timelines will change, but the approach is based on best practise public consultations, and the end result is a **draft** National Action Plan for the Government to consider, and from which the Government can choose the possible and practical aspects to incorporate into a final National Action Plan. We encourage you to look over the Gov 2.0 Taskforce Report (publicly developed, with the Taskforce helping shape and guide the outcome) <http://gov2.net.au/report/> versus the Government response to the Taskforce <http://www.finance.gov.au/publications/govresponse20report/index.html> which is a useful model.

Thank you to everyone who worked with us to get to this point. We are much further ahead than we were and the ground work has been well laid to progress this issue appropriately. We will be back in

touch early next week with next steps pending further advice and we encourage you to watch the international press and social media coverage of the Summit as it happens.

Cheers,



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