

## Open Government Partnership Independent Reporting Mechanism

# Action Plan Review: Republic of Korea 2023-2027 Comments Received

#### Comments Received from Ministry of Interior and Safety (18 and 22 April 2024)

#### Comments on Section I

The Open Government Committee Korea is represented by academics, civil society advocates and experts in the areas of digital, anti-corruption and citizen participation including Secretary General of the Voice for Consumers.

The Ministry of the Interior and Safety is a lead ministry of Korea's open government activities and co-creation of action plans. As a lead ministry, we had played a coordination role by communicating with civil society and government agencies relevant to proposals and prospective commitments and circulating proposals for review for eight months. One of common ways for government agencies to collaborate is via government platforms where official documents and intranet emails are shared back and forth. Therefore, relevant agencies have been involved in the co-creation process beyond discussion in meetings.

It is four out of which (1, 3, 7 and 8). Protecting whistle-blower commitment was proposed by both civil society and government.

Social inclusion can lead a way to increase citizen participation in the policymaking process - perhaps in the long run. For instance, commitment 5. Create safe and inclusive digital society is one that provides digital education to the "have-nots", which can help them make use of digital skills to be part of virtual discussions in making policies.

### **Comments on Section II: Commitment 1**

The figures needs to be updated as indicated in a comment from the Anti-Corruption and Civil Rights Commission. It is 6 in 2011, 53 in 2018 and 229 in 2023.

The reference of this report is outdated which needs to be replaced with figures in a report that the Anti-Corruption and Civil Rights Commission had provided IRM with. Furthermore, there are no official, reliable figures on whistle-blowers receiving rewards.

The reference of this report is outdated which needs to be replaced with figures in a report that the Anti-Corruption and Civil Rights Commission provided.

There are no official, reliable figures on withdrawal rates of whistle-blowers.

The figures needs to be updated as indicated in a comment from the Anti-Corruption and Civil Rights Commission.

It is 237 days in 2019, 252 days in 2021, more than 358 days in 2023.

The figures needs to be updated as indicated in a comment from the Anti-Corruption and Civil Rights Commission.

It is 147-189 for 2019-2023.

Additional comments from the Anti-Corruption and Civil Rights Commission:

철회율은 관리하지 않는 통계로서 삭제 필요 통계 수치 수정 필요 한편 공익신고자 보호 신청 처리 기간과 철 회율이 늘고 있고 (2019년 237일, 2021 년 252일, 2023년 358 일 이상) 보호 신청 건수는 일 정 수준(2019~2023년 대략 147~189건)으로 유지되고 있다.

### **Comments on Section II: Commitment 2**

The Anti-Corruption and Civil Rights Commission makes use of social media platforms including YouTube to raise awareness about the process and system. Please check out the channel at www.youtube.com/@acrc

The result of the administrative appeals process is similar to a judicial ruling which means the process falls under the jurisdiction of judiciary procedures in which civil society cannot be part.

### **Comment on Section II: Commitment 3**

The list of national core data to be released is reported to the Open Data Strategy Council and open to the public annually.

### **Comments on Section II: Other Commitments**

Commitments 5 and 10 on inclusive digital society and media access for marginalized groups respectively are designed to enhance social inclusion as a means to increasing participation and commitment 9 on accessible tourism has a component of citizen engagement in policy design.

For instance, on commitment 5, the Ministry of Science and ICT provides citizens including the digitally marginalized groups with training programs through which citizens can learn how to use digital administrative services so that they can give opinions to the government on policies or services. On commitment 10, with more access to information on media, disabled citizens can have more resources to participate in policymaking. Lastly, on commitment 9, citizens with disabilities are part of prioritizing and selecting tourist attractions for projects.

Commitment 7 on preventing hate speech is rated as relevant to open government values which needs to omit this in the sentence.

The National Human Rights Commission has quarterly meetings to respond hate speech and involves citizens in the process of monitoring and revising a hate speech response plan.

Citizens with disabilities are involved in prioritizing and selecting tourist attractions for projects. The Korea Communications Commission organized a committee including Korea Blind Union and relevant associations to facilitate public discourse and consultation on how to make media more accessible to marginalized groups.

### **Comments on Annex II**

A detailed co-creation timeline which was shared publicly in advance can be found on Korea's OGP webpage. The timeline is presented in the following documents:

- 1. Call for the 6th Action Plan on September 27, 2022 at https://www.innovation.go.kr/ucms/bbs/B0000001/view.do?nttld=9826&menuNo=300115&pag elndex=1
- 2. Call for the 6th Action Plan on October 7, 2022 at https://www.innovation.go.kr/ucms/bbs/B0000001/view.do?nttld=9857&menuNo=300115&pag elndex=1
- 3. Agenda of the 6th Open Government Committee Korea meeting on October 5, 2022 at https://www.innovation.go.kr/ucms/bbs/B0000034/view.do?nttld=10807&sort=01&menuNo=30

0193&searchCnd=&searchType=5&searchWrd=&requestURI=%2Fucms%2FpcyDta%2FpcyDta%2FpcyDta%2Fsearch.do&groupId=pcyDta&lcnt=10&searchKeyword=&pageIndex=2

- 4. Agenda of the 7th Open Government Committee Korea meeting on January 11, 2023 at https://www.innovation.go.kr/ucms/bbs/B0000034/view.do?nttld=10833&sort=01&menuNo=30 0193&searchCnd=&searchType=5&searchWrd=&requestURI=%2Fucms%2FpcyDta%2FpcyDta%2Fsearch.do&groupId=pcyDta&lcnt=10&searchKeyword=&pageIndex=1
- 5. Draft of the 6th Action Plan for public comment from June 26 to July 9, 2023 at https://www.innovation.go.kr/ucms/bbs/B0000034/view.do?nttld=11734&sort=01&menuNo=300 193&searchCnd=&searchType=5&searchWrd=&requestURI=%2Fucms%2FpcyDta%2Fsearch.do&groupId=pcyDta&lcnt=10&searchKeyword=&pageIndex=1
- 6. Agenda of the 8th Open Government Committee Korea meeting on July 14, 2023 at https://www.innovation.go.kr/ucms/bbs/B0000034/view.do?nttld=13442&sort=01&menuNo=30 0193&searchCnd=&searchType=5&searchWrd=&requestURI=%2Fucms%2FpcyDta%2FpcyDta%2Fsearch.do&groupId=pcyDta&lcnt=10&searchKeyword=&pageIndex=1

Public outreach and citizen engagement are key to co-creation of action plan. When designing the 6th Action Plan, Korea had involved stakeholders in the process by uploading co-creation processes and public participation opportunities online in advance, and in the refresh period in 2025, the procedure will stay prioritized.