



RESOLUTION NO. 3, s. 2025

RESOLUTION DECLARING TRANSPARENCY AND CIVIC PARTICIPATION AS A WHOLE-OF-NATION DUTY AND CALLING FOR SYSTEMIC REFORMS TO ENSURE OPEN, ACCOUNTABLE, AND PARTICIPATORY GOVERNANCE THROUGH THE PHILIPPINE OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP

WHEREAS, the Philippines co-founded Open Government Partnership (OGP) in September 2011, alongside Brazil, Indonesia, Mexico, Norway, South Africa, the United Kingdom, and the United States, thereby affirming its commitment to transparency, accountability, citizen empowerment, and the use of technology for openness;

WHEREAS, based on Independent Reporting Mechanism or IRM, OGP's independent accountability and learning hub, the Philippines, compared to its regional peers, has introduced some of the most ambitious open government commitments, delivering exceptionally strong early results. Likewise, in past action plans where we have already implemented seventy-five (75) commitments, more than half of the it have been ambitious and three-quarters have been fully or substantially completed. One-third of commitments have produced early results in opening government, particularly regarding fiscal openness and the right to information;

WHEREAS, our active role in OGP—both globally and regionally—has reinforced the Philippines' reputation as a consistent reform leader. Among the areas where this leadership is most recognized is fiscal openness, a cornerstone of our open government journey.

WHEREAS, this progress has been shaped by strong political will, alignment with global standards, forward-looking transparency reforms, and concrete steps to strengthen public oversight. Fiscal openness has also been the most frequently featured theme in our national action plans—spanning initiatives such as participatory budgeting and the revival of citizen participatory audits.

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 31, s. 2023 created the PH-OGP Steering Committee as a multi-stakeholder forum responsible to drive synergy and collaboration between government and civil society, and to serve as a mechanism for delivering effective and sustainable actions to address pressing social concerns through open government reforms;

WHEREAS, the PH-OGP asserts that transparency and civic participation are not merely aspirational but a democratic guarantee that must be embedded in law, policy, and practice and are key to address recurring controversies over corruption, anomalous infrastructure projects, and opaque budgetary decisions which threaten to erode public trust in institutions;

WHEREAS, the PH-OGP Steering Committee commits to creating more spaces for collaboration ensuring citizens, communities, and civil society organizations have direct and meaningful participation in co-creating solutions to governance challenges;

WHEREAS, the PH-OGP Steering Committee urges the conduct of a full, transparent, and independent investigation into infrastructure-related controversies and other issues that compromise public trust, governance integrity, and community safety;

WHEREAS, the PH-OGP Steering Committee shall ensure the fast-tracked implementation of Republic Act No. 12009 or the New Government Procurement Act (NGPA), which enshrines the principles of open contracting, public monitoring, and accountability consistent with global best practices and the disclosure of beneficial ownership, with the Government Procurement Policy Board (GPPB) developing an online registry as mandated under NGPA Section 82;

WHEREAS, the PH-OGP Steering Committee shall reinforce civil society oversight on state-funded projects through mechanisms such as the Third-Party Monitoring (TPM) program of the Department of the Interior and Local Government, Digital Information for Monitoring and Evaluation (DIME) of the Department of Budget and Management, and the Citizen Participatory Audit (CPA) of the Commission on Audit and shall ensure that these projects are resourced adequately and will expand to cover high-value infrastructure projects, climate resilience initiatives, and other priority programs, and embedded across agencies and local governments;

WHEREAS, the PH-OGP Steering Committee shall continue to safeguard and expand civic space recognizing that government cannot achieve openness without the free participation of civil society, communities, and the public in democratic dialogue;

WHEREAS, the PH-OGP Steering Committee strongly calls our legislators to pass the Right to Information (RTI) Bill, to build a stronger foundation for meaningful participation and accountability thereby institutionalizing the principles being upheld by the Partnership and providing a permanent guarantee of access to information under Article III, Section 7 of the 1987 Constitution;

WHEREAS, the PH-OGP Steering Committee also affirms that good governance must take root at the local level, and thus supports the OGP Local Program of the DILG as well as localization efforts such as OGPinas! and Local Action Plans, which empower

provinces, cities, and municipalities to design reforms that respond to local realities while aligning with national priorities;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Committee **RESOLVED,** as it hereby **RESOLVES** that the PH-OGP Steering Committee declares transparency and civic participation to be a whole-of-nation duty and commits to advance systemic reforms to ensure open, accountable, and participatory governance at all levels of government;

RESOLVED FURTHER, that that the PH-OGP Steering Committee shall mobilize its members and partners to pursue whole-of-nation reforms in transparency, including but not limited to: actively advocate for the passage of the RTI bill; ensure full and timely implementation of the NGPA and modernization of PS-PhilGEPS; scale up TPM, DIME, and CPA mechanisms across government; and protect and expand civic space;

RESOLVED FINALLY, that copies of this Resolution be transmitted to relevant government agencies, civil society partners, and OGP international counterparts to reaffirm the Philippines' leadership and continuing commitment to transparency, accountability, and people-centered governance.

Reservation Clause

The Committee reserves the right to amend, repeal, and modify the provisions stated in this Resolution.

Adopted this 9th day of September 2025 during the 3rd Quarter Steering Committee Meeting, as reflected in the minutes of the meeting, held at the DBM Central Office.



AMENAH F. PANGANDAMAN

Secretary, Department of Budget and
Management
Chairperson, PH-OGP Steering Committee



AURORA R. CHAVEZ

Executive Director, Malayang Lapihan ng mga
Kababaihan, Inc.
Co-Chairperson, PH-OGP Steering Committee