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**Dear Open Government Partnership Co-Chairs,
Your Excellences,
dear delegates of the 2021 OGP Global Summit,
ladies and gentlemen,**

Firstly, let me express my gratitude to the Republic of Korea as the lead Government Chair of the Open Government Partnership (OGP) for organising this important OGP Global Summit under present difficult circumstances of Covid-19 pandemics at least in its on-line form. I would like to avail of this opportunity and within the spirit of *Open Government Declaration* reiterate the commitment of the Czech Republic to increase the availability of information about governmental activities, support civic participation, implement the highest standards of professional integrity throughout its administration, increase access to new technologies for openness and accountability, to lead by example and contribute to advancing open government in other countries by sharing best practices and expertise and by undertaking the commitments included in its national action plans. Although the Czech Republic is not one of the OGP founding members, I am glad to say that it is one of the countries that joined OGP already in 2011 and is therefore also celebrating the 10 years of its membership.

I am pleased to remark that the priorities of the Republic of Korea as a co-chair and of this summit are closely aligned with the commitments included in the 5th national action plan of the Czech Republic for 2020-2022. Our present national action plan reflects the priorities of *strengthening civic space and public participation, tackling corruption, and promoting inclusive digital innovation* for example in its commitments *to publish the decisions of lower courts* within the spirit of open justice, *to raise awareness of the issue of whistle-blowers* or *to develop a methodology for the participation of civil society representatives in participatory processes*. Furthermore, I am convinced that all present commitments of the Czech Republic answer the “Co-Chair Global Call-to-Action” from 6th April 2021 that was addressed to all OGP members.

In the future, the Czech Republic will seek new ways to improve its open government processes not only at the domestic level but also at the international level while harnessing the synergy of its membership in the Open Government Partnership and in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (through its membership in Working Party on Open Government). The Czech Republic will also continue with the implementation of the

objectives of the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, in present context mainly the goal “*16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels*”.

With this I would like to wish all OGP Global Summit participants to enjoy fruitful debates and to bring their outcomes back home for further inspiration!

Yours sincerely