Ladies and gentlemen,

I am very happy that Romania was invited to attend the UK Anti-corruption Summit, as this is an international recognition of the significant results Romania has had over the past few years in fighting corruption.

We take this opportunity to announce Romania’s national commitments following the Summit, which will also be part of the OGP National Action Plan 2016-2018 and will also be reflected in our National Anti-corruption Strategy for 2016-2020.

These are the following:

● We will further develop the public disclosure requirements for contacts and interaction between high public officials and interest representatives, in order to promote the transparency of the public decision making process

● We will continue to provide the public and the civil society with transparent and equal access to relevant implementation activities and performance indicators developed and monitored under the national anti-corruption strategy

● We will work towards full implementation of the principles of open contracting data standard focusing on major projects as an early priority

● We commit to return the proceeds of crime back to society through social and public reuse and provide full transparency for the allocation and use of such resources

● We will provide public officials with annual mandatory on-line training on integrity matters
The Romanian government sees the OGP process as a valuable platform for advancing anti-corruption related reforms. This is reflected by the OGP’s embedded civil society consultation process, which ensures meaningful public feedback on new reforms, and the OGP’s Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM), which provides independent reports on implementation progress, which in turn lends credibility to governments’ reform efforts.

We are therefore pleased to announce that Romania has recently joined the new OGP Anti-Corruption Working Group, which is focused on maximizing the potential of the OGP mechanism to bring about ambitious anti-corruption reforms.

The OGP can and should be used as a platform for governments to make innovative and ambitious reforms to tackle corruption. Romania is leading the way by making new anti-corruption commitments in its upcoming OGP action plan, and by working actively within the working group to share ideas and learn from other OGP countries’ experiences.

These initiatives are based upon our National Anti-corruption Strategy, which is a powerful and sophisticated tool at national level aimed at tackling corruption in both the public and the private sector.

Internally, we are in the process of making the New National Agency for the Administration of Seized Assets operational by the end of June this year. This will be a further important step in asset recovery.

At an international level, we will continue to pursue our objective of becoming a fully-fledged member of the OECD and its relevant workgroups, especially the working group on bribery. This shall also include the full endorsement and implementation of the OECD convention on combating bribery of foreign public officials in international business transactions.
We are willing to share expertise in fighting corruption and provide partner countries with lessons learned and solutions developed in countering corruption. This may include expertise of the National Anticorruption Prosecutor’s Office, in charge with fighting high level corruption, the National Integrity Agency, in charge with asset disclosure, conflict of interests and incompatibilities, and the Ministry of Justice, in charge with developing and promoting anticorruption legislation, policy formulation and institutional developments.

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