

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

September 12, 2011

His Excellency  
Binyamin Netanyahu  
Prime Minister of Israel

Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

It is my pleasure to invite you to the formal launch of the Open Government Partnership on the afternoon of September 20, 2011, in New York.

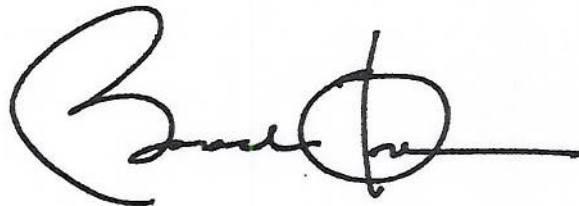
As you know, the Open Government Partnership is a global effort to promote transparency, empower citizens, fight corruption, and harness new technologies to strengthen governance. The Partnership will be a voluntary and nonbinding mechanism designed to help governments take meaningful steps to make government work better for people all around the world.

I am pleased that your government has committed to participate in the Partnership, and I look forward to standing with you in New York as we launch this effort. President Rousseff of Brazil and I will co-host the launch at which the founding members of the Partnership will sign an Open Government Declaration and issue country action plans. We will also formally recognize your commitment – and the commitment of a large number of other governments – to join the Partnership and deliver action plans in Brazil in March 2012.

Our event will also fall on a day in which ministers, civil society groups, and technology and other private sector companies from all our countries gather to share best practices and tour innovative exhibits demonstrating the new approaches and tools that governments, civil society actors, and citizens are using to fight corruption, enhance government accountability, and empower citizens.

I hope that you will be able to join us in New York.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be Barack Obama's signature, written in a cursive style.