

## The Parliament of Georgia promotes legislative openness and sustainable development

***The Permanent Parliamentary Council on Open Governance and its Consultative Group are discussing the 2018-2019 Open Parliament Action Plan and the Parliament's strategy on SDGs***

### Press Release

### #OpenParliament

LIKANI. 15 March 2019 – **Open Parliament and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were the focus of a three-day discussion on 14-15 March 2019 organised by the Georgia's Permanent Parliamentary Council on Open Governance and its Consultative Group with the assistance from the European Union (EU), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Institute for Development of Freedom of Information (IDFI).**

Chairs of the parliamentary committees, representatives of civil society and international organizations have reviewed the implementation of the 2018-2019 Open Parliament Action Plan and discussed the development of the Georgian Parliament's Strategy on SDGs.

"The Parliament of Georgia has achieved significant progress in 2018 making its operation more open, transparent, inclusive and accountable," – said **Irina Pruidze**, Chairperson of the Permanent Parliamentary Council on Open Governance. "The third Open Parliament Action Plan, which covers 2018 and 2019, is the result of the wide public consultations and is shaping our further commitments – to design the new tools for citizen engagement and increase the Parliament's role in achieving Georgia's national Sustainable Development Goals."

The overview of the Parliament's progress in implementing its Open Parliament Action Plan 2018-2019 was followed by the discussion on the Parliament's SDG strategy and action plan developed with the support from the Government of Sweden and UNDP. The group discussions, facilitated by **Rusudan Tushuri**, SDG Consultant at the UN Resident Coordinator's Office, focused on the key priorities and actions of the Parliament of Georgia aiming to foster the effective implementation of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda in the areas of law-making, oversight, budgetary processes and public outreach.

**Meri Makharashvili**, Communications Manager at IDFI, presented the Communication Strategy & Action Plan of the Parliamentary Council on Open Governance and the Social Media Communication Concept of the Parliament of Georgia, prepared with the support from the European Union and UNDP as part of the Open Parliament Action Plan.

#### **Media Contacts:**

- **Madona Nozadze**, Parliament of Georgia, [mnozadze@parliament.ge](mailto:mnozadze@parliament.ge)
- **Meri Makharashvili**, IDFI, [m.makharashvili@idfi.ge](mailto:m.makharashvili@idfi.ge)
- **Tamar Mikadze**, European Union to Georgia, [tamriko.mikadze@eeas.europa.eu](mailto:tamriko.mikadze@eeas.europa.eu)
- **Sophie Tchitchinadze**, UNDP in Georgia, [sophie.tchitchinadze@undp.org](mailto:sophie.tchitchinadze@undp.org)