

## Pledge submitted by the Republic of North Macedonia to the Human Rights 75 Secretariat December 2023

Original language of submission: English Type of pledge: Single (by one state/actor)

Pledging entity: Government of the Republic of North Macedonia

PLEDGE NUMBER 1: Adoption of new Government Transparency Strategy for the period 2024-2026 and Action Plan by December 2023 The Government of the Republic of North Macedonia commits to advance its transparency and openness by adopting a new Transparency Strategy for the period 2024-2026 and Action Plan by December 2023. We will work tirelessly to ensure free access to information, fiscal transparency, transparency of Government's processes and decisions, public sector's open data, and a greater engagement with the public. We will strive to consolidate the public trust and confidence and increase the efficiency by the use of new technologies making the Government services fit for the people. We will monitor our impact by interacting with people and public opinion polls.

Expected deadline within which pledge will be realised: Dec 31, 2023

PLEDGE NUMBER 2: Strengthening inter-institutional cooperation through the Inter-Sectoral Body for coordination of action against corruption and judicial authorities' capacities by December 2025 We pledge to resolutely fight corruption and engage the capacities, knowledge and resources of all competent institutions and stakeholders in these efforts. Acknowledging that anti-corruption efforts are more successful when the corruption is treated as a systemic problem, we are dedicated to enhancing the inter-institutional coordination and exchange among various government institutions, the prosecution, and the judiciary. We will take decisive steps for the Inter-sectoral Body for Coordination of Actions against Corruption to be fully empowered to make and implement comprehensive preventive and repressive policies and measures in line with the international human rights standards by December 2025.

Expected deadline within which pledge will be realised: Dec 31, 2025

PLEDGE NUMBER 3: Strengthening the independence of the judiciary by 2027 Affirming the vital role of the judiciary in protecting human rights and the rule of law, the Government of North Macedonia is committed to achieving significant and sustained reforms that will strengthen the independence and impartiality of the judiciary by 2027. Our relentless efforts will be guided by the internationally recognised Basic Principles on the Independence of the Judiciary embedded in the new Judicial Reform Strategy and plan of action. We aim to scale up the integrity and professionalism of the judiciary, and allocate adequate budgets, human capacities, and resources. We will regularly assess and report on the progress made to the public to ensure transparency and accountability of the justice system.

## Expected deadline within which pledge will be realised: Dec 31, 2026

PLEDGE NUMBER 4: Access to efficient and quality services through digital transformation of the society by December 2027 Recognizing the increasingly interconnected and technologically complex world, North Macedonia is determined to accelerate digital transformation with a view to increase the quality, efficiency, affordability and accessibility of services for all people at both national and local level by December 2027. We pledge all services to be age, gender and disability sensitive. We declare our responsibility to protect personal data of people in a transparent and secure manner, build resilience to cyber threats, and raise cybersecurity awareness. We aim to legislate the use of Artificial Intelligence and emerging technologies to harness their benefits over the risks for the current and future generations.

## Expected deadline within which pledge will be realised: Dec 31, 2027

PLEDGE NUMBER 5: Rights and inclusion of persons with disabilities by 2030 We pledge to make a transformative change in the lives of people with disability by 2030 by putting in place disability inclusive laws, policies, budgets and accessible services for every child, woman, and man with disability to enjoy equal rights, actively participates and live independently in the society. We are determined to adopt a nation-wide Strategy anchored on the rights-based approach to disability and Action Plan by December 2023. We aim to transform all residential institutions into community-based services, improve accessibility of infrastructure, introduce a new employment legislation and accessible information systems, especially for public sector's online services by 2030.

Expected deadline within which pledge will be realised: Dec 31, 2029