

COUNTRY PROFILE

**TAKING OF EVIDENCE BY VIDEO-LINK UNDER THE
HAGUE CONVENTION OF 18 MARCH 1970 ON THE TAKING OF
EVIDENCE ABROAD IN CIVIL OR COMMERCIAL MATTERS**

STATE NAME: [Belarus](#)

PROFILE UPDATED ON (DATE): [23/06/2017](#)

PART I: STATE

1. Contact details	
<i>The contact details provided in this section <u>will be published</u> on the Hague Conference website</i>	
CHAPTER I (LETTERS OF REQUEST)	
<i>As with any other Letter of Request under Chapter I of the Evidence Convention, the requesting authority should contact the Central Authority(ies) of the requested State when seeking to obtain evidence by means of a Letter of Request, whether using video-link or not.</i>	
a) Are the contact details of the Central Authority(ies) designated by YOUR STATE up-to-date on the Evidence Section of the Hague Conference website?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. <input type="checkbox"/> No. Please provide the contact details on a separate Word or PDF document for uploading on the Evidence Section of the Hague Conference website.
b) Would YOUR STATE be in favour of specifying a person or department within the Central Authority(ies) who would assist in processing Letters of Request where the use of video-links has expressly been requested (e.g., to arrange the video-link or provide technical assistance)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. If YOUR STATE has already done so, please specify the contact details: Division of Execution of International Treaties International Cooperation Department Ministry of Justice E-mail: 403@minjust.by Fax: +375 017 211 01 85 <input type="checkbox"/> No. Please explain why: <i>Comments:</i> Division of Execution of International Treaties of the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Belarus receives Letters of Request and transmits them to the Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus . The Supreme Court arranges the execution of requests.
c) What arrangements are there for ensuring	

<p>that there is a contact person with whom the requesting authority can liaise and who is available on the day of the hearing to operate the video-link facilities (e.g. is there a booking system)?</p>	
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CHAPTER II (TAKING OF EVIDENCE BY DIPLOMATIC OFFICERS, CONSULAR AGENTS AND COMMISSIONERS)

Permission by a designated authority may be required to apply certain provisions under Chapter II. To know if such a permission is required for a particular State, see the practical information chart (accessible from the [Authorities](#) page) AND / OR the declarations (accessible from the [Status Table](#) page) of the relevant State available on the [Evidence Section](#) of the Hague Conference website.

If permission is not required, applicants should contact the diplomatic and consular mission (Arts 15/16) or the commissioner (Art. 17) to explore whether or not evidence may be obtained by video-link under this Chapter.

If permission is required, applicants should contact the authority that was designated to grant permission AND the relevant diplomatic and consular mission or commissioner, to explore, where necessary, whether or not evidence may be obtained by video-link under this Chapter.

<p>d) Would YOUR STATE be in favour of specifying an entity or authority, in addition to the relevant authority / diplomatic or consular agent / commissioner, that would assist in processing applications where the use of video-links has expressly been requested (e.g., to arrange the video-link or provide technical assistance)?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. If YOUR STATE has already done so, please specify the contact details:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No. Please explain why:</p> <p>Comments:</p>
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<p>e) What arrangements are there for ensuring that there is a contact person with whom the Court of Origin can liaise and who is available on the day of the hearing to operate the video-link facilities (e.g. is there a booking system)?</p>	
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PART II: RELEVANT LEGISLATION AND COURT SYSTEM

Legal basis	
<p>a) Does YOUR STATE, in the application of Article 27 (<i>i.e.</i> internal law or practice), allow for a foreign Court to directly take evidence by video-link?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No. Please specify:</p> <p><i>Comments:</i></p>
<p>b) Please indicate the legal basis or applicable protocols (<i>i.e.</i>, relevant laws, regulations, practice, etc.) for the use of video-links in the taking of evidence in YOUR STATE, either under the Convention or independent of the Convention (see, <i>e.g.</i> Art. 27 (b) and (c)):</p> <p><i>Please also attach a copy of, or provide a link to, the relevant provisions, where possible in English or French.</i></p>	<p>The Chapter 22 of the Civil Procedural Code of the Republic of Belarus (hereinafter "CPC"), in particular the Article 185-1.</p> <p>The Chapters 8 and 20 of the Code of Commercial Procedure of the Republic of Belarus (hereinafter "CCP"), in particular the Article 176-1.</p> <p>http://pravo.by/pravovaya-informatsiya/normativnye-dokumenty/kodeksy-respubliki-belarus/</p>
<p>c) Does YOUR STATE have any agreements with other Contracting States that derogate from the Convention when taking evidence by video-link (see Art. 28 and Art. 32)?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please attach a copy of, or provide a link to, the relevant provisions, where possible in English or French:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p><i>Comments:</i></p>
Court system	
<p>d) Please indicate which courts permit, or have the facilities for, the taking of evidence by video-link. If possible, indicate where relevant information on videoconferencing facilities in courts can be found online:</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> All courts.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All courts of a specific type / level. Please specify: The Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus, regional courts (Minsk Municipal Court), economic regional courts (the same of the city of Minsk).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Only specific courts. Please specify which courts, or provide a link to/attach a full list:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> None.</p> <p><i>Comments:</i> All Courts of General Jurisdiction of the Republic of Belarus have juridical opportunity to obtain evidence via video conferencing. Currently this technical capability is available for Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus, regional courts (Minsk City Court), economic regional courts (of the city of Minsk)</p>

PART III: TECHNICAL AND SECURITY ASPECTS (APPLICABLE TO BOTH CHAPTERS)

<p>a) Does YOUR STATE use licensed software (which ensures support for technical and security matters) for the taking of evidence by video-link?</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify: LifeSize</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p><i>Comments:</i></p>
<p>b) What are the specifications of the video-link technology in use in YOUR STATE, including, if any, the minimum standards or mechanisms used to secure the communications and any recordings made?</p> <p><i>States are encouraged to provide as much information as possible when responding to this question. As such, it may be useful to consider liaising with the relevant IT experts.</i></p>	<p>Codec (<i>i.e.</i>, manufacturer, model, transmission speed, bandwidth): LifeSize (the Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus, regional courts (Minsk Municipal Court), Tanberg (economic regional courts (the same of the city of Minsk); bandwidth is up to 2 Mbps.</p> <p>Video and audio standards (<i>e.g.</i> Standard Definition, High Definition, etc.): Standard Definition</p> <p>Type of network (<i>e.g.</i>, ISDN, IP, etc.): IP.</p> <p>Type of encryption for signals in secure transmissions: AEC Encryption.</p> <p>Split screen capability: Available.</p> <p>Document cameras: no.</p> <p>Multipoint connections: available.</p> <p>Additional specifications or capabilities: no.</p> <p>Protocols or other practices: Protocols H/323 (IP).</p> <p><i>Comments:</i></p>
<p>c) Can evidence be taken via commercial providers (<i>e.g.</i>, Skype™)?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p><i>Comments:</i> According to the CPC and the CCP evidence can only be taken via video conferencing</p>
<p>d) Does YOUR STATE have a procedure for testing connections and the quality of transmissions before the hearing?</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify: The preliminary connection and transmission quality testing is available on request before hearings open</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p><i>Comments:</i></p>
<p>e) Does YOUR STATE have any requirements as to the hearing room, <i>e.g.</i>, should be located in a court, should have a camera view of the whole room or a view of all the parties, etc.?</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p><i>Comments:</i> the CPC Article 268, the CCP Articles 170 and 176</p>

PART IV: USE OF VIDEO-LINKS UNDER BOTH CHAPTERS – LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

Restrictions	
a) Must a court order directing the use of video-links first be obtained from the requesting State (Chapter I) / State of Origin (Chapter II)?	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Comments:</i> The state of origin should file a letter of request with the demand of the taking of evidence or other procedural actions by using video conferencing.</p>
b) Are there any restrictions on what type/s of evidence can be taken by video-link or how it is to be taken?	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p><i>Comments:</i> The CPC Articles 178, 185-1, the CCP Articles 83 and 176-1</p>
c) Are there any specific restrictions on how evidence gathered via video-link can be handled and distributed, or do the usual rules for evidence obtained in person apply?	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, there are specific restrictions. Please specify:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No, the normal rules for evidence apply.</p> <p><i>Comments:</i> The CPC Article 185-1, the CCP Article 176-1</p>
d) Are there any restrictions on the type of person who may be examined by video-link?	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p><i>Comments:</i> The CCP Chapters 6 and 7</p>
e) Is it necessary to seek the consent of the parties to use video-link to take evidence?	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify the conditions under which parties may refuse the use of video-link:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p><i>Comments:</i> the matter is not regulated by the national law</p>
f) Are there any restrictions on the location where the person should be examined (e.g. in a courtroom, on the premises of an Embassy or diplomatic mission)?	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify: The CPC Article 268, the CCP Article 170 and 176</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p><i>Comments:</i></p>
g) Can a witness / expert be compelled to use video-links to give evidence?	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. If so, please specify what coercive measures may be used:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No. Please explain:</p> <p><i>Comments:</i> The CPC Articles 93, 94, 98, 196 and the CCP Articles 72, 179</p>
h) Please briefly outline the procedure/s, under	Chapter I: Witnesses and experts are sent

PART IV - LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS (BOTH CHAPTERS)

<p>Chapter I and Chapter II, for actually notifying or summoning the witness / expert to give evidence by video-link, including any references to relevant laws, regulations or practice.</p> <p><i>Please also include, where applicable, the differences between notifying or summoning a willing witness / expert and notifying or summoning a witness / expert that is to be compelled.</i></p>	<p>summons/notices to appear before court. Notices are sent by means of registered mail with return receipt, telephone message or telegram, SMS, by facsimile, Internet including e-mail, and other communication means that enable summons or notices registering.</p> <p>If a witness failed to appear in court he may be forced to do it except for some categories (minors, pregnant women, temporarily disabled).</p> <p>Chapter II: <i>Comments:</i></p>
<p>i) The law of which State governs the use of privileges?</p> <p><i>Please tick all that apply.</i></p> <p><i>See Articles 11 and 21(e) of the Convention</i></p>	<p>Chapter I:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The law of the Requesting State. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The law of the Requested State. <input type="checkbox"/> The law of another State. Please specify:</p> <p>Chapter II:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The law of the State of Origin. <input type="checkbox"/> The law of the State of Execution. <input type="checkbox"/> The law of another State. Please specify:</p> <p><i>Comments:</i></p>

PART V - LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS (CHAPTER I)

PART V: USE OF VIDEO-LINKS UNDER CHAPTER I (LETTERS OF REQUEST) – LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

Legal obstacles	
<p>a) Does YOUR STATE consider that there are legal obstacles to using video-link to assist in the taking of evidence under Chapter I of the Convention?</p> <p><i>The Special Commission has noted that the use of video-link and similar technologies is consistent with the current framework of the Convention (see C&R No 55 of the 2009 SC and C&R No 20 of the 2014 SC).</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p>Comments:</p>
Direct and indirect taking of evidence	
<p>b) Under Chapter I of the Convention, does YOUR STATE allow for the direct taking of evidence by judicial personnel of the requesting State (i.e., the State in which the proceedings are pending)?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p>Comments:</p>
<p>c) Under which provisions of Chapter I of the Convention is indirect taking of evidence by video-link possible in YOUR STATE?</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Art. 9(1) – The judicial authority of the requested State obtains evidence (e.g., a witness / expert examination) which is located in a (distant) location within its own State.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Art. 9(2) - As a special method or procedure. Please also outline whether any specific conditions must be satisfied:</p> <p><i>See also questions on presence.</i></p> <p>Comments:</p>
Legal safeguards for witness / expert	
<p>d) What are the legal safeguards in place for witnesses / experts in YOUR STATE when evidence is taken by video-link under Chapter I (e.g. protective measures for the witness / expert, provision of interpretation, right to legal counsel, etc.)?</p>	<p>The CPC Articles 14, 95 and 189, the CCP Articles 20, 96-2</p>
Presence	
<p>e) Are the rules for the presence of the parties and their representatives when physically in a single location the same for when evidence is taken via video-link?</p> <p><i>See Article 7 of the Convention</i></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. If so, please specify if they are allowed to actively participate: The CPC Article 269, the CCP Article 100</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p>Comments:</p>
<p>f) Under Chapter I of the Convention, does YOUR STATE allow for the cross-examination of a witness / expert by video-link by the representatives located in the requesting State (i.e., the State in which the proceedings are pending)?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p>Comments: the matter is not regulated by the national law</p>

PART V - LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS (CHAPTER I)

<p>g) Does YOUR STATE allow for the presence of the judicial personnel of the requesting State via video-link?</p> <p><i>See Article 8 of the Convention</i></p> <p><i>Please note that a declaration may be made under this provision.</i></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes.</p> <p>If so, please specify if they are allowed to actively participate: pursuant to the declaration of the Republic of Belarus, in accordance with the Convention Article 8 the Officers of justice of another contracting state can be present at the execution of the letter of request concerning civil or commercial affairs with consent of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p><i>Comments:</i></p>
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PART VI: USE OF VIDEO-LINKS UNDER CHAPTER II (BY DIPLOMATIC OFFICERS, CONSULAR AGENTS AND COMMISSIONERS) – LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

The questions in this Part are only for States that have not wholly excluded the application of Chapter II

Please note that Chapter II may be subject to a reservation in whole or in part under Article 33. Check the reservations that YOUR STATE has made under this Chapter in the status table, available on the [Evidence Section](#) of the Hague Conference website.

Legal obstacles and legal framework	
<p>a) Does YOUR STATE consider there to be any legal obstacles to the taking of evidence by video-link under Chapter II of the Convention?</p> <p><i>The Special Commission has noted that the use of video-link and similar technologies is consistent with the current framework of the Convention (C&R No 55 of the 2009 SC and C&R No 20 of the 2014 SC).</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p>Comments:</p>
<p>b) Under which provisions of Chapter II of the Convention is taking of evidence by video-link possible in YOUR STATE?</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Art. 15 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Art. 16 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Art. 17</p> <p>Comments: according to the Articles 16 and 17 of the Convention the Republic of Belarus declared that the agents of diplomatic missions or consulates as well as authorized persons can take evidence concerning civil or commercial affairs within the Republic of Belarus without enforcement and with the authorization of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus and pursuant to specified terms</p>
<p>c) Is prior permission from YOUR STATE required when taking evidence under Chapter II of the Convention on the territory of YOUR STATE?</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please outline the procedure for seeking such permission, including any specific conditions that must be satisfied: the preliminary authorization is requested from the Supreme Court of the Republic of Belarus in written manner</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p>Comments:</p>
<p>d) Please indicate who administers the oath or affirmation and how perjury and contempt are dealt with when evidence is taken under Chapter II of the Convention on the territory of YOUR STATE.</p>	<p>Administration of the oath or affirmation:</p> <p>Dealing with perjury and contempt:</p>
Direct and indirect taking of evidence	
<p>e) Diplomatic and consular agents are usually located in the State where the witness / expert resides. It may be, however, that a witness / expert is located in a neighbouring country or in a place distant from the Embassy or Consulate. In these</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p>Comments:</p>

PART VI - LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS (CHAPTER II)

circumstances, does YOUR STATE consider it possible to use video-link to obtain evidence under Chapter II of the Convention?	
Legal safeguards for witness / expert	
f) What are the legal safeguards in place for witnesses / experts in YOUR STATE when evidence is taken by video-link under Chapter II (e.g. protective measures for the witness / expert, provision of interpretation, right to legal counsel, etc.)?	
Presence	
g) Under the law of YOUR STATE, who may be present via video-link when evidence is taken by diplomatic and consular agents ? <i>Please tick all that apply.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> The parties. <input type="checkbox"/> The parties' representatives. <input type="checkbox"/> Judicial personnel. <input type="checkbox"/> Someone else. Please specify: <i>Comments:</i>
h) Under the law of YOUR STATE, who may be present via video-link when evidence is taken by commissioners ? <i>Please tick all that apply.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> The parties. <input type="checkbox"/> The parties' representatives. <input type="checkbox"/> Judicial personnel. <input type="checkbox"/> Someone else. Please specify: <i>Comments:</i>
Applicable law	
i) The law of which State governs the administration of an oath or affirmation when evidence is taken by video-link under Chapter II?	<input type="checkbox"/> The law of the State of Origin <input type="checkbox"/> The law of the State of Execution <input type="checkbox"/> It depends on whether evidence is taken by a consular or diplomatic agent or a commissioner. Please specify: <i>Comments:</i>
j) The law of which State governs perjury and contempt when evidence is taken by video-link under Chapter II?	<input type="checkbox"/> The law of the State of Origin <input type="checkbox"/> The law of the State of Execution <input type="checkbox"/> It depends on whether evidence is taken by a consular or diplomatic agent or a commissioner. Please specify: <i>Comments:</i>

PART VII – PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS (BOTH CHAPTERS)

PART VII PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS

COMMON TO BOTH CHAPTERS	
Notice	
a) What does YOUR STATE consider to be the minimum amount of time required between the request and the actual hearing in order to make the arrangements to take evidence by video-link?	Chapter I: six months after the request received Chapter II:
Interpretation services	
b) Who is responsible, under Chapter I and Chapter II, for the use of interpretation services and who arranges these services in YOUR STATE when video-link is used?	Chapter I: the requesting authority Chapter II:
c) Are professional accredited interpreters required in YOUR STATE, and where can relevant contact details be found?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify: <input type="checkbox"/> No. Comments:
d) Under the law of YOUR STATE, is interpretation to be <i>simultaneous</i> or <i>consecutive</i> when a witness / expert is examined via video-link?	any variant is acceptable
e) Where may the interpreter be located when a witness / expert is examined via video-link? <i>Please check all that apply.</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In the room with the witness / expert. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In the room with those conducting the examination. <input type="checkbox"/> Elsewhere in the requesting State (Chapter I) / State of Origin (Chapter II). <input type="checkbox"/> Elsewhere in the requested State (Chapter I) / State of Execution (Chapter II). <input type="checkbox"/> In a third State. <input type="checkbox"/> Other. Please specify: Comments:
Reporting and recording	
f) Is a written report of the video-link hearing or testimony prepared?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify by whom: Please also outline the specific rules or regulations, if any, that are applicable to the handling/storage/distribution of the report: <input type="checkbox"/> No. Comments:

PART VII – PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS (BOTH CHAPTERS)

<p>g) Are facilities and equipment made available in order to record the hearing or testimony?</p>	<p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, with audio and video. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, only with video. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, only with audio. <input type="checkbox"/> No, but the recording of hearings/testimonies is permitted. </p> <p>If a recording is produced, please also outline the specific rules or regulations, if any, that are applicable to the handling/storage/distribution of the recording: The CPC Article 175 and the CCP Article 189</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> No, because the recording of hearings/testimonies is not permitted under internal law. </p> <p><i>Comments:</i></p>
<p>Documents and exhibits</p>	
<p>h) What arrangements are to be made for showing or referring to documents or exhibits when taking evidence by video-link?</p>	<p>According to the Part 4 of the CPC Article 185-1 evidence presented at court hearing with video conferencing is sent to the competent court during the day next to the day of hearing. According to the Part 4 of the CCP Article 176-1 evidence presented at court hearing concerning commercial affairs and organizing video conferencing is sent to the economic court during the day next to the day of hearing</p>

PART VII – PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS (CHAPTER I)

PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS UNDER CHAPTER I	
Practical obstacles	
<p>i) Does YOUR STATE consider that there are practical obstacles to using video-link to assist in the taking of evidence under Chapter I of the Convention?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p><i>Comments:</i></p>
Identification of all relevant actors	
<p>j) What is the procedure for verifying the identity of the parties, the witness / expert, and all relevant actors in YOUR STATE when video-link is used under Chapter I?</p>	<p>According to the Part 2 of the CPC Article 275 the chief justice identifies appeared persons, verifies their identifying papers, powers of legal entities heads and the same of their representatives.</p> <p>According to the Part 2 of the CCP Article 176 the judge of the commercial court (the chief justice) checks the persons appeared in court and taking part in the case, their representatives and other participants of a commercial affair as well as their identifying and confirming powers papers.</p>
Standard Forms	
<p>k) Do the authorities of YOUR STATE use a standardised request form under Chapter I that makes specific reference to the use of video-links?</p> <p><i>The use of the Model Form of the Evidence Convention is recommended when taking evidence under Chapter I.</i></p> <p><i>While the Model Form has no explicit reference to the use of video-link, a request to this effect may be included in item 13 of the Form.</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The standardised form used makes no reference to video-link.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No standardised form is used.</p> <p><i>Comments:</i></p>
<p>l) Does YOUR STATE require the inclusion of any particular practical or technical information from the requesting State in the request in order to conduct / arrange a witness / expert examination by video-link under Chapter I? (e.g. contact details for IT support, technical specifications, etc)</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p><i>Comments:</i> This question is not regulated by the national law. In reality it is desirable to present technical specifications as well as to realize preliminary connection and transmission quality testing.</p>
Costs	
<p>m) Are there any costs associated with the taking of evidence via video-link under Chapter I in YOUR STATE?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please provide an approximate estimate of these costs and / or specify the criteria used to determine these costs:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p><i>Comments:</i></p>
<p>n) Who is responsible for bearing the costs occasioned by the use of video-link under Chapter I in YOUR STATE?</p> <p><i>See Art. 14(2) of the Evidence Convention</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> The moving party (requesting the use of video-link).</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The requesting authority (in the requesting State).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The requested authority (in the requested State).</p>

PART VII – PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS (CHAPTER I)

	<input type="checkbox"/> Other. Please specify: <i>Comments:</i>
<p>o) How are these costs generally expected to be paid and/or reimbursed?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Payment in cash <input type="checkbox"/> Payment by (credit) card <input type="checkbox"/> Electronic/wire transfer <input type="checkbox"/> Other. Please specify: <i>Comments:</i>
<p>p) Who pays for the interpretation services under Chapter I in YOUR STATE when video-link is used and how are these costs to be paid and/or reimbursed?</p>	

PART VII – PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS (CHAPTER II)

PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS UNDER CHAPTER II	
Only for States that have not excluded in whole the application of Chapter II	
Practical obstacles	
<p>q) Does YOUR STATE consider that there are practical obstacles to using video-link to assist in the taking of evidence under Chapter II of the Convention?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p><i>Comments:</i></p>
Identification of all relevant actors	
<p>r) What is the procedure for verifying the identity of the parties, the witness / expert, and all relevant actors in YOUR STATE when video-link is used under Chapter II?</p>	
Standard Forms	
<p>s) Do the authorities of YOUR STATE use a standardised request form under Chapter II that makes specific reference to the use of video-links?</p> <p><i>Although the use of the Model Form of the Evidence Convention is recommended when taking evidence under Chapter I, it may also be used, with the necessary amendments when applying for permission to take evidence under Chapter II.</i></p> <p><i>While the Model Form has no explicit reference to the use of video-link, a request to this effect may be included in item 13 of the Form.</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The standardised form used makes no reference to video-link.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No standardised form is used.</p> <p><i>Comments:</i></p>
Assistance and facilities	
<p>t) Are the Embassies and Consulates of YOUR STATE (acting as the State of Execution) able to assist applicants in arranging a video-link?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify how, e.g., via a booking system:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No. Please specify who else would assist, if anyone:</p> <p><i>Comments:</i></p>
<p>u) Is it possible to hold a video-link session requested under the Convention at the premises of the Embassies or Consulates of YOUR STATE abroad?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p><i>Comments:</i></p>
<p>v) Does YOUR STATE require the inclusion of any particular practical or technical information from the State of Origin in the request in order to conduct / arrange a witness or expert examination by video-link under Chapter II? (e.g. the use of interpreters, stenographers, or recording devices)</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p><i>Comments:</i></p>

PART VII – PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS (CHAPTER II)

Costs	
<p>w) Are there any costs associated with the taking of evidence via video-link under Chapter II in YOUR STATE?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please provide an approximate estimate of these costs and / or specify the criteria used to determine these costs:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p><i>Comments:</i></p>
<p>x) Who is responsible for bearing the costs occasioned by the use of video-link under Chapter II in YOUR STATE?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> The moving party (requesting the use of video-link).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The State of Origin</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The Diplomatic mission or Consulate in the State of Execution.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The commissioner</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other. Please specify:</p> <p><i>Comments:</i></p>
<p>y) How are these costs generally expected to be paid and/or reimbursed?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Payment in cash</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Payment by (credit) card</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Electronic/wire transfer</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other. Please specify:</p> <p><i>Comments:</i></p>
<p>z) Who pays for the interpretation services under Chapter II in YOUR STATE when video-link is used and how are these costs to be paid and/or reimbursed?</p>	