

Title	Development of e-Country Profiles for key HCCH Conventions
Document	Prel. Doc. No 14 of February 2025
Author	PB
Agenda Item	Item III.4
Mandate(s)	C&D No 58 of CGAP 2024
Objective	To provide an update on the development of electronic Country Profiles for the 1965 Service, 1970 Evidence, 1980 Child Abduction, 1993 Adoption, 1996 Child Protection, 2000 Protection of Adults and the 2007 Child Support Conventions
Action to be Taken	For Decision <input type="checkbox"/> For Approval <input type="checkbox"/> For Discussion <input type="checkbox"/> For Action / Completion <input type="checkbox"/> For Information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Annexes	N/A
Related Documents	Prel. Doc. No 9A of December 2024 (first revised version) - 2007 Child Support Convention: Country Profile (update) Prel. Doc. No 11c of January 2025 - 1965 Service and 1970 Evidence Conventions: Country Profiles for approval

Development of e-Country Profiles for key HCCH Conventions

I. State of play

- 1 The Permanent Bureau of the HCCH (PB) continued with the work in relation to this European Union-funded project, with additional voluntary contributions from Australia, France, Germany, Italy, Sweden, Switzerland, and the European Union Bailiffs' Foundation (EUBF). Members will recall that an e-Country Profile is a standardised web page that will be available to Contracting Parties to complete, view and update electronically. The e-Country Profiles are intended to assist with the practical operation of selected Conventions by facilitating the exchange of information between Contracting Parties and by providing information about Central Authorities and other authorities in Contracting Parties.
- 2 In the first half of 2024, functional requirements were prepared and formed the basis for the publication of a call for tenders on 23 May 2024, for response on 27 August 2024. Two submissions were received, one from the current provider, Alphinat, and one from another company. Alphinat's offer was evaluated as more successfully meeting the criteria as set out in the call for tenders and was also better priced. The PB therefore decided to contract with Alphinat and work started immediately following the conclusion of the contract in October 2024.
- 3 The project rests on work to create or update Country Profiles for selected HCCH Conventions, in particular with a view to harmonising, insofar as possible, their content. For the 1980 Child Abduction Convention, the revised Country Profile was adopted by the Council on General Affairs and Policy (CGAP) in 2024.¹ For the 1996 Child Protection Convention, the Country Profile was adopted in November 2024 following a written procedure. The Country Profile for the 2000 Protection of Adults Convention was adopted in April 2024 following a written procedure.² Finally, the updated Country Profile for the 2007 Child Support Convention was approved in January 2025 following a written procedure. Members will also recall that, for the 1993 Adoption Convention, the Country Profile has already been approved in 2015 by the Fourth Meeting of the Special Commission on the Practical operation of the 1993 Convention.³
- 4 Pursuant to a mandate adopted by CGAP at its 2024 meeting,⁴ two Working Groups (WGs) were established to review and refine updates to the draft Country Profiles for the Service and Evidence Conventions, respectively. Following the final joint meeting of the WGs which was held on 13 November 2024, WG members finalised work on each Country Profile. Accordingly, the Country Profiles have been submitted to CGAP for approval.⁵

II. Next steps

- 5 On this basis, the timeline that was envisaged last year for the release of e-Country Profiles still holds. Online Profiles for the 1980 Child Abduction, 1993 Adoption, 2000 Protection of Adults, and 2007 Child Support Conventions' e-Country Profiles will be made available for testing between February and May 2025, followed by the 1965 Service, 1970 Evidence, and 1996 Child Protection Conventions' e-Country Profiles in June 2025. The PB will work with interested Members which, for example, may include participants who were involved in the development of the respective Country Profiles to test the online versions. Testing will check and provide feedback on the user experience. Testing will also include the verification of the functional requirements such as validation, posting

¹ Conclusion & Decision (C&D) No 20 of CGAP 2024, available on the HCCH website at www.hcch.net under "Governance" then "Council on General Affairs and Policy" then "Archive 2000-2024".

² C&D No 39 of CGAP 2024, available on the HCCH website at www.hcch.net (see path indicated in note 1).

³ Available on the HCCH website at www.hcch.net under "Adoption" then "Country Profiles".

⁴ C&D No 47 of CGAP 2024, available on the HCCH website at www.hcch.net (see path indicated in note 1).

⁵ "1965 Service and 1970 Evidence Conventions: Country Profiles for approval", [Prel. Doc. No 11 of January 2025](#)

the country profile online, and the notification of country profile updates. This will be done in the three official languages. Once testing is complete, each e-Country Profile will be published and will be available to access via the HCCH website. Designated officials of the relevant Central Authority will be responsible for entering and maintaining the information contained in the e-Country Profile.

III. Proposal for CGAP

6 The PB proposes the following C&D for CGAP's consideration:

CGAP welcomed the progress on the development of e-Country Profiles under the 1965 Service, 1970 Evidence, 1980 Child Abduction, 1993 Adoption, 1996 Child Protection, 2000 Protection of Adults, and 2007 Child Support Conventions, and took note of the proposed schedule for their release.