

Title	Questionnaire on possible topics for the Fifth Meeting of the Special Commission on the practical operation of the <i>Convention of 29 May 1993 on Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption</i> (“1993 Adoption Convention”)
Document	Prel. Doc. No 1 of July 2019
Author	PB
Agenda item	n.a.
Mandate(s)	C&R No 32 of the 2019 CGAP; C&R No 32 of the 2018 CGAP
Objective	To obtain the views of HCCH Members and Contracting Parties to the 1993 Adoption Convention regarding the matters that they would like to see discussed at the meeting as well as to provide input regarding its format
Action to be taken	For Approval <input type="checkbox"/> For Decision <input type="checkbox"/> For Information <input type="checkbox"/> For Action <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Annexes	n.a.
Related documents	n.a.

Objectives of the Questionnaire

As its March 2019 meeting, the Council on General Affairs and Policy of the Hague Conference on Private International Law (HCCH) mandated the Permanent Bureau (BP) to start preparing the next meeting of the Special Commission on the practical operation of the *Convention of 29 May 1993 on Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption* (hereinafter, “HCCH 1993 Adoption Convention”, “1993 Adoption Convention” or simply “the Convention”) subject to available resources and the overall Work Programme of the HCCH.

This Questionnaire is being circulated in preparation for this Fifth Meeting of the Special Commission to be held in The Hague, tentatively scheduled for the first half of 2021.

The objective of this Questionnaire is to obtain views of Members of the HCCH and Contracting Parties to the HCCH 1993 Adoption Convention regarding the matters that they would like to see discussed at the meeting as well as to provide input regarding its format. All this information will assist in the drawing up of the agenda for the meeting.

Instructions for completion

This Questionnaire is being sent to Central Authorities of Contracting Parties to the HCCH 1993 Adoption Convention as well as National and Contact Organs of Members of the HCCH. Central Authorities are asked to coordinate as appropriate with other competent authorities. For Contracting Parties to the Convention, Central Authorities are ultimately responsible for submitting the completed Questionnaire to the PB.

We kindly request that replies to this Questionnaire are introduced in this link no later than **Monday 30 September 2019, 5.00 p.m. CET**.

We intend to publish a summary of the responses to the Questionnaire on the HCCH website (www.hcch.net). Please therefore clearly identify any responses which you do not want to be publicly available.

Thank you for your kind cooperation as the PB prepares for the next Special Commission meeting on the HCCH 1993 Adoption Convention.

**QUESTIONNAIRE ON POSSIBLE TOPICS FOR
THE FIFTH MEETING OF THE SPECIAL COMMISSION ON
THE PRACTICAL OPERATION OF THE CONVENTION OF 29 MAY 1993 ON PROTECTION
OF CHILDREN AND CO-OPERATION IN RESPECT OF INTERCOUNTRY ADOPTION**

Identification for follow-up purposes:

NAME of STATE or territorial unit: Click or tap here to enter text.

Name of contact person: Click or tap here to enter text.

Name of Authority / Office: Click or tap here to enter text.

Telephone number: Click or tap here to enter text.

E-mail address: Click or tap here to enter text.

1. Topics to be addressed at the Fifth Meeting of the Special Commission on the practical operation of the 1993 Adoption Convention

Based on its work and interaction with authorities from different Contracting Parties, the PB has noted certain themes that might be of particular interest for the next meeting of the Special Commission. Please rate the following topics by degree of relevance for the purposes of the meeting.

	Interest to discuss specific topics in relation to the 1993 Adoption Convention	No	Yes: priority level			N/A
			Low	Med.	High	
1.1.	PREVENTING AND ADDRESSING ILLICIT PRACTICES IN INTERCOUNTRY ADOPTION	<input type="checkbox"/>				
1.1.1.	Draft Toolkit developed by the Working Group	<input type="checkbox"/>				
1.1.2.	Strengthening the standards regarding financial aspects	<input type="checkbox"/>				
1.1.3.	How to best respond to abuses and illicit practices that predate the entry into force of the Convention (" Historical cases ")?	<input type="checkbox"/>				
1.2.	POST-ADOPTION MATTERS	<input type="checkbox"/>				
1.2.1.	Preserving records and data protection	<input type="checkbox"/>				
1.2.2.	Search for origins	<input type="checkbox"/>				
1.2.3.	Counselling for adoptees, adoptive and birth families	<input type="checkbox"/>				
1.2.4.	Connection with the State of origin , including re-obtaining nationality	<input type="checkbox"/>				
1.2.5.	Breakdown or disruption of the adoption	<input type="checkbox"/>				
1.2.6.	Possibility of developing a Guide to Good Practice on post-adoption	<input type="checkbox"/>				

	Interest to discuss specific topics in relation to the 1993 Adoption Convention	No	Yes: priority level			N/A
			Low	Med.	High	
1.3.	INTRAFAMILY ADOPTION	<input type="checkbox"/>				
1.3.1.	Adoption by relatives	<input type="checkbox"/>				
1.3.2.	In particular, step-parent adoption	<input type="checkbox"/>				
1.3.3.	The use of intrafamily adoption to circumvent immigration laws	<input type="checkbox"/>				
1.4.	LEGISLATIVE GUIDANCE FOR NEW OR FUTURE CONTRACTING PARTIES, AND CONTRACTING PARTIES WISHING TO UPDATE THEIR LEGISLATION ON ADOPTION	<input type="checkbox"/>				
1.5.	DETERMINATION OF THE CHILD'S HABITUAL RESIDENCE WHEN THE BIRTH MOTHER HAS MOVED TO A DIFFERENT COUNTRY SHORTLY BEFORE THE BIRTH	<input type="checkbox"/>				
1.6.	CONTACT OF PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENTS WITH ADOPTABLE CHILDREN BEFORE MATCHING	<input type="checkbox"/>				
1.6.1.	Voluntourism (form of tourism in which travellers participate in voluntary work, <i>e.g.</i> , in child care institutions) and adoption	<input type="checkbox"/>				
1.6.2.	Summer camps for adoptable children	<input type="checkbox"/>				
1.6.3.	Adoption of children already under the care of prospective adoptive parents (" niño puesto ")	<input type="checkbox"/>				
1.7.	BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES OF OPEN ADOPTION AND SIMPLE ADOPTION, ESPECIALLY FOR OLDER CHILDREN IN NEED OF ADOPTION	<input type="checkbox"/>				
1.8.	ADOPTION OF CHILDREN WHOSE BIRTH PARENTS HAVE LOST PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY BUT NONETHELESS DISAGREE WITH THE ADOPTION	<input type="checkbox"/>				
1.9.	MODEL FORMS	<input type="checkbox"/>				
1.9.1.	Article 17 of the 1993 Adoption Convention	<input type="checkbox"/>				
1.9.2.	Consent of the child	<input type="checkbox"/>				
1.9.3.	Report on the child	<input type="checkbox"/>				
1.9.4.	Report on the prospective adoptive parents	<input type="checkbox"/>				
1.9.5.	Post-adoption report	<input type="checkbox"/>				

Please indicate any other topics you think it would be important to discuss at the next meeting of the Special Commission.

Click or tap here to enter text.

2. Format of the meeting

2.1. The PB intends to organise a **one-day training** for new Contracting Parties, and States interested in becoming Party, before the meeting of the Special Commission begins. If applicable, would you be interested in participating?

- Yes
 No
 N/A

Please enter your comment here: Click or tap here to enter text.

2.2. Should there be the possibility, for Contracting Parties and non-Contracting Parties that so desire, to schedule **informal bilateral / multilateral meetings**, for example at the premises of the PB prior to the start of the meeting of the Special Commission, where participants could meet to discuss specific matters?

- Yes
 No, interested Central Authorities should be able to organise such meetings between themselves
 N/A

Please enter your comment here: Click or tap here to enter text.

2.3. Would it be useful, in your opinion, to organise **round tables** on specific topics during the Special Commission meeting?

- Yes
 Yes, only for the first day of the meeting
 Yes, for specific topics. Please specify below which topics
 Yes, only for the first day of the meeting and for specific topics. Please specify below which topics
 No
 N/A

Please enter your comment here: Click or tap here to enter text.

2.4. Please indicate any additional suggestions you may have on the format of the next meeting of the Special Commission.

Click or tap here to enter text.

3. Other suggestions

Please provide any comments or suggestions you may have to assist the PB in preparing for the next meeting of the Special Commission.

Click or tap here to enter text.