

Questionnaire on the impact of COVID-19 on intercountry adoptions under the 1993 Adoption Convention

<i>Identification for follow-up purposes:</i>	
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I. OVERARCHING QUESTIONS	
	<u>Both States of origin and receiving States</u>
1.	In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, has your State modified intercountry adoption procedures under the 1993 Adoption Convention? If so, what has your State done to ensure that the safeguards and procedures of the Convention have been, and continue to be, respected? LVR : No LWL : N/A
II. OUTBREAK OF COVID-19 (cases in transition only)	
	<u>Both States of origin and receiving States</u>
2.	What measures, if any, did your State take to deal with cases where the child had already been matched with prospective adoptive parents, but no adoption decision had been issued at the time of the COVID-19 outbreak in your State? How many children were in such a situation? LVR : None, no cases here. LWL : N/A
3.	What measures, if any, did your State take to deal with cases where the adoption decision had already been issued , but the child was still in the State of origin at the time of the COVID-19 outbreak in your State? How many children were in such a situation? LVR : None, no cases here either. LWL : N/A

III. DURING COVID-19 (cases in transition and new cases)	
	<u>States of origin only</u>
4.	<p>Has your State adapted, and if so how, the following stages of the adoption procedure:</p> <p>a) Declaration of adoptability of the child: Please insert text here</p> <p>b) Matching: Please insert text here</p> <p>c) Socialisation period: Please insert text here</p> <p>d) Support and counselling to adoptable children: Please insert text here</p> <p>e) Adoption decision: Please insert text here</p> <p>f) Other stages: Please insert text here</p>
	<u>Receiving States only</u>
5.	<p>Has your State adapted, and if so how, the following stages of the adoption procedure:</p> <p>a) Eligibility and suitability of prospective adoptive parents: LVR : Some conversations take place via video conference, as house visits are suspended during lockdown. Group events such as information evenings or preparatory seminars cannot take place. Attempts are made to use individual conversations to communicate the information to the interested parties. LWL : N/A</p> <p>b) Support and counselling to prospective adoptive parents: LVR : Conversations take place via telephone or via video conference. LWL : Yes, more often taking contact with the prospective adoptive parents. If a meeting with the prospective adoptive parents was face-to face we keep distance and paid attention to the rules of hygiene.</p> <p>c) Other stages: LWL : N/A</p>
IV. USE OF TECHNOLOGY	
	<u>Both States of origin and receiving States</u>

6.	<p>Has the use of technologies (e.g, videoconferencing) evolved in the adoption procedures in place in your State since the outbreak of COVID-19 in your State? Please specify:</p> <p>a) any benefits and challenges:</p> <p>LVR : Video conferences are used as a replacement for conversations in person. However, purely online-based work with applicants can only go so far towards meeting the requirements for checks and preparation. Technical difficulties also occur on a regular basis.</p> <p>LWL : More contact by phone. Initial meetings and consultation via video conference.</p> <p>b) if your response to question 72 (“Use of new technologies”) of the 2020 Questionnaire on the practical operation of the 1993 Adoption Convention (Prel. Doc. No 3) has changed:</p> <p>LWL : Less face-to-face contacts, more using for consultation technical possibilities.</p>
V. POST COVID-19: LOOKING AHEAD	
	<u>Both States of origin and receiving States</u>
7.	<p>Has your State developed any practices during this pandemic period that would be useful to mainstream into regular work practices? If so, please elaborate on what those practices are and how you plan to go about mainstreaming them into regular work practices:</p> <p>LVR : None known here.</p> <p>LWL : Not yet definite. We still have to evaluate the experience decisively. May be we will use the possibilitie to informate and consult with video-meetings more often.</p>
8.	<p>Please share any good practices and lessons learned by your State which may be applied in the event of another pandemic or similar state of emergency:</p> <p>LVR : Meeting the child in person should not be dispensed with.</p> <p>LWL : To keep distance while counseling and comply with the rules of hygiene is useful in any case.</p>
VI. ANY OTHER COMMENTS	
	<u>Both States of origin and receiving States</u>
9.	<p>Please insert here any other comments you may have:</p> <p>Please insert text here</p>