

**QUESTIONNAIRE CONCERNING THE PRACTICAL OPERATION OF  
THE 1996 CONVENTION**

Wherever your replies to this Questionnaire make reference to domestic legislation, rules, guidance or case law relating to the practical operation of the 1996 Convention, **please provide a copy of the referenced documentation** in (a) the original language and, (b) wherever possible, accompanied by a translation into English and / or French.

<b>Name of State or territorial unit:</b> <sup>1</sup>	Ukraine
<i>For follow-up purposes</i>	
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**PART I – FOR STATES PARTIES**

**Recent developments in your State**

1. Since the 2011 / 2012 Special Commission, have there been any significant developments in your State regarding the legislation or procedural rules applicable in cases of international child protection? Where possible, please state the reason for the development in the legislation / rules, and, where possible, the results achieved in practice.

- No  
 Yes, please specify:

Due to the reforms carried out in the area of social protection with the current legislation of Ukraine, which regulates child protection on the time elapsed since the last Special Commission meeting in 2011-2012 Ukrainian legislation was introduced a number of changes. However, these changes do not concern the protection of children in international relationships, and concerning social protection of children within the territory of Ukraine. However, these changes do not concern the international protection of children, and concern of a social protection of children in difficult life circumstances, and their families, orphans and children without parental care. In case the children will be remove to the territory of Ukraine from abroad they would have to obtain the appropriate protection.

2. Please provide a brief summary of any significant decisions concerning the interpretation and application of the 1996 Convention rendered since the 2011 / 2012 Special Commission by the relevant authorities<sup>2</sup> in your State including in the context of the 20 November 1989 United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and other relevant instruments:

In Ukraine the relevant authorities which are apply of the 1996 Convention in its decisions are:

- 1) Constitutional Court of Ukraine;
- 2) the courts of general jurisdiction;
- 3) the local Child's Issues Offices.

In total the courts of general jurisdiction Ukraine delivered 44 judgements (16 Decisions and 28 Rulings) based under 1996 Hague Child Protection Convention. Among them 2 judgements of court of cassation; 11 judgements of the court of appeal and 31 judgement of the court of 1<sup>st</sup> instance (information taken from the web-site [www.reyestr.court.gov.ua](http://www.reyestr.court.gov.ua))

In 2016 the Constitutional Court of Ukraine based, inter alia, on provisions of Para 1, 2 of Art. 3 and Art. 26 of the 1989 UN Convention on the Rights of the Child under the application of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights delivered a

<sup>1</sup> The term "State" in this Questionnaire includes a territorial unit, where relevant.

<sup>2</sup> The term "relevant authorities" is used in this Questionnaire to refer to the judicial or administrative authorities with decision-making responsibility under the 1996 Convention. Whilst in the majority of States Parties such "authorities" will be courts (*i.e.*, judicial), in some States Parties administrative authorities remain responsible for decision-making in Convention cases.

Decision dated 8 June 2016, due to which the court established that Para 7 Part 9 of Article 11 of the Law of Ukraine "On State Support to Families with Children" contradicts to Para 1 Article 8 of the Constitution of Ukraine (case № 3-пн/2016). Therefore, the mentioned above provision of Ukrainian Law has been recognised as unconstitutional.

In particular, the above mentioned provision of law had stated that the financial support to the families with children under the age of 3 could have been suspended, amongst others, in case when "other circumstances arise", which, as was established, was contrary to the Conventional Principle of "Best Interests of the Child" (Art 3) and Constitutional Principle of "Legal Certainty" (Art 8). Acting within its capacity the Constitutional Court of Ukraine has eliminated described above discretion for certain Ukrainian State Authorities.

3. Please provide a brief summary of any other significant developments in your State since the 2011 / 2012 Special Commission relating to international child protection:

In 2011 the institute of President of the Commissioner for Children's Rights was instituted in Ukraine. In 2013 Ukraine became a member of the European Network of Ombudsman for Children (ENOC). Children's rights is one of the priorities of the Commissioner on Human Rights of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine. In 2010 the Commissioner appointed Special Representative of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine on Human Rights on the protection of children's rights, equality and non-discrimination. The structure of the Secretariat of the Ombudsman has the separate unit dealing with the issues of the rights of the child, whose powers include monitoring of observance the children's rights in Ukraine, of implementation the Ukraine's international obligations in this area and formulating proposals for acts in response or to prevent the violation of children's rights or promote their restoration.

### Scope

4. Have competent authorities in your State experienced any challenges, or have questions arisen, in determining the scope of the Convention under **Article 2** (meaning of "child")\_or **Article 3** (meaning of "protective measures")?

- No  
 Yes, please specify:  
 Please insert text here

### Jurisdiction

5. Have competent authorities in your State experienced any challenges, or have questions arisen, in making a determination whether to exercise jurisdiction under **Articles 5, 6, 7 or 10**?

- No  
 Yes, please specify:  
 Please insert text here

6. Have competent authorities in your State experienced any challenges, or have questions arisen, in implementing and / or applying **Articles 8 and 9**?

- No  
 Yes, please specify:  
 Please insert text here

7. Have judicial or administrative procedures, guidelines or protocols been adopted in your State to facilitate the application of **Articles 8 and 9**?<sup>3</sup>

- No  
 Yes, please describe them and also provide a link or attach them, preferably translated into English or French:  
 Please insert text here

8. Have competent authorities in your State had experience with urgent measures of protection taken under **Article 11**? (See also Question No 35.)

<sup>3</sup> See, e.g., Direct Judicial Communications - [Emerging Guidance regarding the development of the International Hague Network of Judges and General Principles for Judicial Communications \(2013\)](#).

- No  
 Yes, please describe in which situations a competent authority in your jurisdiction has applied Article 11:  
[Please insert text here](#)

9. Have competent authorities in your State experienced any challenges, or have questions arisen, with respect to the application of **Article 11**?

- No  
 Yes, please describe:  
[Please insert text here](#)

10. Have competent authorities in your State experienced any challenges, or have questions arisen, in applying **Articles 12, 13 or 14**?

- No  
 Yes, please describe:  
[Please insert text here](#)

### Applicable law

11. Have competent authorities in your State experienced any challenges, or have questions arisen, in applying **Articles 15, 16, 17 or 18**?

- No  
 Yes, please describe:  
[Please insert text here](#)

12. Have competent authorities in your State experienced any challenges, or have questions arisen, in applying the other articles in **Chapter III**?

- No  
 Yes, please describe them:  
[Please insert text here](#)

### Recognition and enforcement

13. Have competent authorities in your State experienced any challenges, or have questions arisen, in applying **Article 23** from the perspective of the requested State?

- No  
 Yes, please describe:  
[Please insert text here](#)

14. Have judicial or administrative procedures, guidelines or protocols been adopted in your State to facilitate the application of **Article 24**?

- No  
 Yes, please describe and also provide a link or attach them, preferably translated into English or French:  
[Please insert text here](#)

15. Have competent authorities in your State experienced any challenges, or have questions arisen, in applying **Article 24** (e.g., in terms of procedure, formalities, time frames, etc.)?

- No  
 Yes, please describe:  
[Please insert text here](#)

16. Please describe the "simple and rapid procedure" (see **Article 26(2)**) in place in your State for declaring enforceable or registering for the purpose of enforcement measures of protection taken in another State Party and enforceable there, in particular:

- a) Which authority declares enforceable or registers a measure of protection taken in another State Party?
- b) What time frames are applied to ensure that the procedure is rapid?
- c) Is legal representation required?

Please explain:

[a\) any court of general jurisdiction of Ukraine may declare enforceable the foreign court decision after consideration of the application on recognition and enforcement of the](#)

court decision delivered in another country.

b) Article 395 of the Civil Procedural Code of Ukraine establish that the time frame from applying to the court up to delivering a relevant court Ruling is around 2 months. The Ruling can be challenged in a way and terms as for the ordinary court Rulings (Art. 397 of the Civil Procedural Code of Ukraine)

c) not necessarily. In some cases under the Convention the Ministry of Justice provides representing an applicant.

The local Office on Children Issues may recognize the decision delivered by the foreign authority on children issues (except court decision) without special procedure and in the sense of Article 5 of the 1996 Convention accept jurisdiction to take their own measures directed to the protection the person or property of a child.

17. Are you aware of any challenges, or have questions arisen, in applying **Article 26** in your State?

- No  
 Yes, please describe:  
 Please insert text here

18. Are you aware of any challenges, or have questions arisen, in applying **Article 28** in your State?

- No  
 Yes, please describe:  
 Please insert text here

### Co-operation

19. Are you aware of any challenges, or have questions arisen, in applying **Article 30** in your State (e.g., in relation to the timeliness of responses to requests)?

- No  
 Yes, please describe:  
 Please insert text here

20. In your view, would it facilitate the task of Central Authorities under **Article 30(2)** if States Parties provided information as to their laws and available services in relation to the practical implementation of the 1996 Convention, e.g., in the form of a Country Profile or a similar tool published on the HCCH website?

- No  
 Yes, please describe the type of information that would be useful to include (e.g., information with respect to the availability of certain protective measures under internal law (e.g., in relation to **Article 3(e)**), or the procedures applied under, e.g., **Articles 23, 24, 26, 31 or 33**, or information on Central Authority services provided):

It would be useful in this regard to publish on the HCCH website:

1) information on services/measures provided by the competent authority of the Contracting States regarding the issues mentioned by Article 3 as well as the procedures applied under Article 23,24,26,31 and 33 in accordance with internal legislation, or reference to direct web-links related with issues.

21. How does your Central Authority (either directly or through public authorities or other bodies) take appropriate steps under **Article 31(b)** to facilitate, by mediation, conciliation or similar means, agreed solutions for the protection of the person or property of the child in situations to which the 1996 Convention applies? Please explain:

In Ukraine there is no Law on Mediation so far.

By the Order of the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine dated 17<sup>th</sup> of August, 2016, № 892 the State Standards of Social Services of Mediation were established. Based on this Order the Kyiv city Center of Child mediators provide services on mediation. Social services in the scope specified by this State standard, provided by free of charge, on a paid basis or differential fee. On the basis of this State Standarts in the City Center of Child of the Service on Children Issues of Kyiv State City Administration the mediators provide assistance in family matters.

Also there are private mediators who provide assistance in different kind of disputes, including matters of Child's Rights Protection. They conduct they may be engaged only on a payable basis.

Along with this the CA of Ukraine in cases like those falling under Article 31 (b) can refer to the competent local Child's Issues Office (CIO) with relevant request asking to involve social workers and/or qualified psychologists and mediators (if available) to assist in resolving the situation.

22. Have authorities in your State experienced any challenges, or have questions arisen, in applying **Article 33** (e.g., has your State been requested to accept a child under a certain type of placement or institutional care that is not available under your internal law, or was insufficient information provided to you as the Requested State)?

- No  
 Yes, please describe:  
[Please insert text here](#)

23. Have authorities in your State experienced any challenges, or have questions arisen, in providing or obtaining reports or information under **Articles 32, 33 or 34**?

- No  
 Yes, please describe:  
[Please insert text here](#)

24. Do authorities in your State use a standard template when providing a report on the (situation of the) child under **Article 32 or 33**?

- No  
 Yes, please attach the template to your response (preferably translated into English or French):  
[Please insert text here](#)

25. Have competent authorities in your State experienced any challenges, or have questions arisen, in applying **Article 35**?

- No  
 Yes, please describe:  
[Please insert text here](#)

26. Does your State impose charges, as provided under **Article 38(1)**, for the provision of services under **Chapter V** (Co-operation)?

- No  
 Yes, for the following types of services (e.g., translation, legal assistance):  
[Please insert text here](#)

27. Have authorities in your State experienced any challenges, or have questions arisen, with regard to charges provided under **Article 38(1)**?

- No  
 Yes, please describe:  
[Please insert text here](#)

28. With the understanding that services provided by Central Authorities under the 1996 Convention may vary, does your Central Authority provide assistance to **individuals** habitually resident in your State who request it in connection with the following matters? If so, please specify the nature of the assistance provided.

a) A request to organise or secure effective exercise of **rights of access** in another State Party (requested State)<sup>4</sup>

1. None  
 2. Assistance in obtaining information on the operation of the 1996 Convention  
 3. Assistance in obtaining information on the relevant laws and procedures in the requested State  
 4. Establishment of contact with the Central Authority and / or the competent authorities in the requested State to find out the kind of assistance such authorities could provide

<sup>4</sup> See in this context, e.g., the [Practical Handbook](#) on the Operation of the 1996 Child Protection Convention, sections 11(E)(d) and 13(B) (2014).

- 5. Transmission of the request to the Central Authority or to the competent authorities in the requested State
- 6. Assistance in initiating judicial or administrative proceedings with a view to making arrangements for organising or securing the effective exercise of rights of access
- 7. Assistance in providing or facilitating the provision of legal aid and advice
- 8. Assistance in obtaining private legal counsel or mediation services, where needed in the requested State
- 9. Referral to other governmental and / or non-governmental organisations for assistance
- 10. Provision of regular updates on the progress of the application
- 11. Other, please specify:  
[Please insert text here](#)

b) A request to secure the return to your State of a child subject to **parental abduction** where the 1980 Convention is not applicable

- 1. None
- 2. Assistance in obtaining information on the operation of the 1996 Convention
- 3. Assistance in obtaining information on the relevant laws and procedures in the requested State
- 4. Establishment of contact with the Central Authority and / or the competent authorities in the requested State to find out the kind of assistance such authorities could provide
- 5. Transmission of the request to the Central Authority or to the competent authorities in the requested State
- 6. Assistance in discovering the whereabouts of a child who has been wrongfully removed or retained
- 7. Assistance in taking provisional / urgent measures of protection to prevent further harm to the child
- 8. Assistance in securing the voluntary return of the child or in bringing about an amicable resolution of the issue
- 9. Assistance in initiating judicial or administrative proceedings with a view to obtaining the return of the child
- 10. Assistance in providing or facilitating the provision of legal aid and advice
- 11. Assistance in providing such administrative arrangements as may be necessary and appropriate to secure the safe return of the child
- 12. Assistance in obtaining private legal counsel or mediation services
- 13. Referral to other governmental and / or non-governmental organisations for assistance
- 14. Regular updates on the progress of the application
- 15. Other, please specify:  
[Please insert text here](#)

c) A request to secure the return to your State of a **runaway child** (see **Article 31 c)**)

- 1. None
- 2. Assistance in obtaining information on the operation of the 1996 Convention
- 3. Assistance in obtaining information on the relevant laws and procedures in the requested State
- 4. Establishment of contact with the Central Authority and / or the competent authorities in the requested State to find out the kind of assistance such authorities could provide
- 5. Transmission of the request to the Central Authority or to the competent authorities in the requested State
- 6. Assistance in discovering the whereabouts of a runaway child
- 7. Assistance in initiating judicial or administrative proceedings with a view to obtaining the return of the child
- 8. Assistance in providing or facilitating the provision of legal aid and advice

9. Assistance in providing such administrative arrangements as may be necessary and appropriate to secure the safe return of the child  
 10. Assistance in obtaining private legal counsel  
 11. Referral to other governmental and / or non-governmental organisations for assistance  
 12. Regular updates on the progress of the application  
 13. Other, please specify:  
[Please insert text here](#)
- d) A request for a **report on the situation of a child** habitually resident in another State Party (*e.g.*, a child returned as a result of child abduction proceedings or a child who has moved as a result of a relocation) (see **Article 32 a**)
1. None  
 2. Assistance in obtaining information on the operation of the 1996 Convention  
 3. Assistance in obtaining information on the relevant laws and procedures in the requested State  
 4. Establishment of contact with the Central Authority and / or the competent authorities in the requested State to find out the kind of assistance such authorities could provide  
 5. Transmission of the request to the Central Authority or to the competent authorities in the requested State  
 6. Other, please specify:  
[Please insert text here](#)
- e) A request that the competent authorities of another State Party decide on the **recognition or non-recognition** of a measure taken in your State (see **Article 24**)
1. None  
 2. Assistance in obtaining information on the operation of the 1996 Convention  
 3. Assistance in obtaining information on the relevant laws and procedures in the requested State  
 4. Establishment of contact with the Central Authority and / or the competent authorities in the requested State to find out the kind of assistance such authorities could provide  
 5. Transmission of the request to the Central Authority or to the competent authorities in the requested State  
 6. Assistance in obtaining private legal counsel  
 7. Regular updates on the progress of the request  
 8. Other, please specify:  
[Please insert text here](#)
- f) A request that the competent authorities of another State Party **declare enforceable or register for the purpose of enforcement** measures taken in your State (see **Article 26**)
1. None  
 2. Assistance in obtaining information on the operation of the 1996 Convention  
 3. Assistance in obtaining information on the relevant laws and procedures in the requested State  
 4. Establishment of contact with the Central Authority and / or the competent authorities in the requested State to find out the kind of assistance such authorities could provide  
 5. Transmission of the request to the Central Authority or to the competent authorities in the requested State  
 6. Assistance in obtaining private legal counsel  
 7. Regular updates on the progress of the request  
 8. Other, please specify:  
[Please insert text here](#)

29. With the understanding that services provided by Central Authorities under the 1996 Convention may vary, if your Central Authority were to receive a request of assistance from **another Central Authority** on behalf of an individual residing abroad, in connection with the following matters, please specify the nature of the assistance that your Central Authority provides or would provide if the situation was to arise.

a) A request to organise or secure effective **exercise of rights of access**

- 1. None
- 2. Providing information on the operation of the 1996 Convention and / or the relevant laws and procedures in your State
- 3. Assistance in initiating judicial or administrative proceedings with a view to making arrangements for organising or securing the effective exercise of rights of access
- 4. Assistance in providing or facilitating the provision of legal aid and advice
- 5. Assistance in obtaining private legal counsel or mediation services available in your State
- 6. Referral to other governmental and / or non-governmental organisations for assistance
- 7. Regular updates on the progress of the application
- 8. Other, please specify:  
[Please insert text here](#)

b) A request to secure the return to the State of habitual residence of a child subject to parental abduction where the 1980 Convention is not applicable

- 1. None
- 2. Providing information on the operation of the 1996 Convention and / or the relevant laws and procedures in your State
- 3. Assistance in discovering the whereabouts of a child who has been wrongfully removed or retained
- 4. Assistance in taking provisional measures of protection to prevent further harm to the child
- 5. Assistance in securing the voluntary return of the child or in bringing about an amicable resolution of the issue
- 6. Assistance in initiating judicial or administrative proceedings with a view to obtaining the return of the child
- 7. Assistance in providing or facilitating the provision of legal aid and advice
- 8. Assistance in providing such administrative arrangements as may be necessary and appropriate to secure the safe return of the child
- 9. Assistance in obtaining private legal counsel or mediation services
- Referral to other governmental and / or non-governmental organisations for assistance
- 10. Regular updates on the progress of the application
- 11. Other, please specify:  
[Please insert text here](#)

c) A request to secure the return of a runaway child (see **Article 31 c)**)

- 1. None
- 2. Providing information on the operation of the 1996 Convention and / or on the relevant laws and procedures in your State
- 3. Assistance in discovering the whereabouts of a runaway child
- Assistance in initiating judicial or administrative proceedings with a view to obtaining the return of the child
- 4. Assistance in providing or facilitating the provision of legal aid and advice
- Assistance in providing such administrative arrangements as may be necessary and appropriate to secure the safe return of the child
- 5. Assistance in obtaining private legal counsel
- 6. Referral to other governmental and / or non-governmental organisations for assistance
- 7. Regular updates on the progress of the application
- 8. Other, please specify:



Please insert text here

- d) A request for a report on the situation of a child habitually resident in your State (e.g., a child returned as a result of child abduction proceedings or a child who has moved as a result of a relocation) (see **Article 32 a**)

1. None  
 2. Providing information on the operation of the 1996 Convention and / or on the relevant laws in your State  
 3. Preparing and transmitting the requested report  
 4. Transmission of the request to the competent authorities in your State  
 5. Other, please specify:  
Please insert text here

- e) A request that the competent authorities of your State decide on the recognition or non-recognition of a measure taken in another State Party (see **Article 24**)

1. None  
 2. Providing information on the operation of the 1996 Convention and / or relevant laws in your State  
 3. Transmission of the request to the competent authorities in your State  
 4. Assistance in obtaining private legal counsel  
 5. Other, please specify:  
Please insert text here

- f) A request that the competent authorities of your State declare enforceable or register for the purpose of enforcement measures taken in another State Party (see **Article 26**)

1. None  
 2. Providing information on the operation of the 1996 Convention and / or relevant laws in your State  
 3. Transmission of the request to the competent authorities in your State  
 4. Assistance in obtaining private legal counsel  
 5. Other, please specify:  
Please insert text here

30. Where the habitual residence of a child present in your State cannot be established, have authorities in your State used any of the provisions of **Chapter V** in determining the child's place of habitual residence?

- No  
 Yes, please specify:

The National Police of Ukraine and its local authorities take all relevant measures in order to establish the child's whereabouts on the territory of Ukraine. In case of absence of the requested information no measures are available.

31. Are you aware of any challenges, or have questions arisen, in applying any other provisions under **Chapter V** in your State?

- No  
 Yes, please describe:  
Please insert text here

32. Have judges in your State used direct judicial communications in cases falling under the 1996 Convention?

- No  
 Yes, please specify in relation to which specific matters (e.g., transfer of jurisdiction, placement of a child):

There is no information available in the CA of Ukraine on this issue.

## General provisions

33. Has your State experienced any challenges, or have questions arisen, in relation to requests under **Article 40** for the delivery of a certificate indicating the capacity in which a person having parental responsibility or entrusted with protection of the child's person or property is entitled to act and the powers conferred upon him or her?

- No  
 Yes, please describe:  
[Please insert text here](#)

34. Which authorities in your State are competent to issue such certificates? Please specify:

[There is no such requirement to issue such certificate in Ukraine under Para 3 Article 40 of the 1996 Hague Convention yet.](#)

### **Special categories of children**

#### Children subject to international parental abduction

35. Have authorities in your State experienced any challenges, or have questions arisen, in relation to the application of the 1996 Convention in cases of child abduction where the 1980 Convention was not applicable (see Question Nos 28 b) and 29 b) above)?

- No  
 Yes, please describe:  
[Please insert text here](#)

36. In cases of child abduction where both the 1980 Convention and the 1996 Convention were applicable, have authorities in your State made use of provisions under the 1996 Convention in addition to or instead of provisions of the 1980 Convention?

- No  
 Yes, please specify the provisions and explain:  
[Ukrainian competent authorities use the provisions of the 1996 Convention in addition to the provisions of the 1980 Convention for instance in order to obtain the information on social situation of the child in requested State.](#)

37. In cases of parental child abduction, whether or not the 1980 Convention is applicable, have authorities in your State used the co-operation provisions in **Chapter V** of the 1996 Convention to determine whether adequate measures of protection are available in the State of the habitual residence of the child (e.g., to facilitate the safe return of the child)?

- No  
 Yes, please explain:  
[Please insert text here](#)

38. In cases of parental child abduction, have competent authorities in your State taken measures of protection under **Article 11**, as an alternative to measures of protection in the form of mirror orders or undertakings, to facilitate the safe return of the child? (See also Question No 5.)

- No  
 Yes, please explain:  
[Please insert text here](#)

#### Children subject to international relocation

39. Are you aware of any use being made of provisions of the 1996 Convention in cases where a parent wishes to relocate with his or her child to another State?

- No  
 Yes, please explain:  
[Please insert text here](#)

#### International access / contact cases involving children

40. Are you aware of any use being made of provisions of the 1996 Convention, including those under **Chapter V**, in lieu of or in connection with an application under **Article 21** of the 1980 Convention?<sup>5</sup>

- No  
 Yes, please explain:  
[Please insert text here](#)

Unaccompanied, separated, and internationally displaced children

41. Are you aware whether authorities in your State have used the provisions of the 1996 Convention in relation to the protection of internationally displaced children (such as refugee children, trafficked children, sexually exploited children, or unaccompanied children) and / or children whose habitual residence cannot be established?

- No  
 Yes, please specify:  
[Please insert text here](#)

**Miscellaneous**

42. Is there any other comment that your State wishes to make relating to the practical operation of the 1996 Convention? If so, please specify:

NO

**PART II – FOR NON-STATES PARTIES**

43. Is your State currently considering signing and ratifying or acceding to the 1996 Convention?

- No  
 Yes

44. In considering how your State would implement the 1996 Convention, have you encountered any issues of concern?

- No  
 Yes, please explain:  
[Please insert text here](#)

**PART III – FOR BOTH STATES PARTIES AND NON-STATES PARTIES**

45. Are there any particular issues that your State would like the Special Commission meeting to discuss in relation to the 1996 Convention? Please specify and list in order of priority:

NO

46. Do you have any observations or comments to share concerning the Practical Handbook on the Operation of the 1996 Child Protection Convention? Please specify:

NO

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<sup>5</sup> The [Explanatory Report](#) (Lagarde) on the 1996 Convention notes that co-operation under Article 35(1) between authorities of States Parties with respect to rights of access “serves in a certain way to complete and reinforce the co-operation, which is not always effective, provided for the same purpose between Central Authorities” under Article 21 of the 1980 Convention. Explanatory Report, paragraph 146 (1997).