SC 1980 ABDUCTION & 1996 CHILD PROTECTION

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Title	Draft Country Profile for the 1996 Child Protection Convention
Document	Prel. Doc. No 9 of October 2024 (second revised version – clean version)
Author	PB with the assistance of the Working Group on the 1996 Child Protection Convention (Country Profile + Model Form)
Agenda Item	XXI.2.
Mandate(s)	C&D No 23 of CGAP 2024 C&D No 48 of CGAP 2023 C&D No 16 of CGAP 2021
Objective	To obtain the approval of HCCH Members on the Country Profile under the 1996 Child Protection Convention. The Country Profile will assist Contracting Parties with the fulfilment of their obligations under the 1996 Child Protection Convention such as providing information on: (1) the authorities designated; (2) the services provided; and (3) some of the legal issues arising under the Convention. Changes highlighted in yellow show changes made to the first revised version of the document. In the absence of any objection within one month of its circulation, the Country Profile will be taken to be approved.
Action to be Taken	For Decision For Approval For Discussion For Action / Completion For Information
Related Documents	 Prel. Doc. No 18 of March 2024 (final version) - Country Profile for the 1980 Child Abduction Convention Prel. Doc. No 7 of January 2024 (final version) - 2000 Protection of Adults Convention Country Profile Prel. Doc. No 3 (final) of September 2011 - Country Profile 2007 Child Support Convention

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Draft Country Profile for the 1996 Child Protection Convention

Foreword to the Country Profile

This Country Profile should be used by Contracting Parties¹ to assist with the fulfilment of their obligations under the *Convention of 19 October 1996 on Jurisdiction, Applicable Law, Recognition, Enforcement and Co-operation in respect of Parental Responsibility and Measures for the Protection of Children (1996 Child Protection Convention or Convention).* It is anticipated that the Country Profile will help Contracting Parties fulfil their obligations under Article 30 of the Convention, namely:

- To co-operate with each other and promote co-operation amongst the competent authorities in their States to achieve the purposes of the Convention.
- In connection with the application of the Convention, to take appropriate steps to provide information as to the laws of, and services available in, their States relating to the protection of children.

The Country Profile is intended to assist with the practical operation of the Convention and to facilitate:

- a) the exchange of information between Contracting Parties;
- b) obtaining information about services provided by Central Authorities and other competent authorities in the Contracting Parties;
- c) obtaining information about relevant concepts and measures of protection available in the Contracting Parties;
- d) accessibility of information concerning the application of the Convention and relevant rules and procedures in the Contracting Parties.

The information in this Country Profile is not legal advice and should not be relied upon as a statement of the current law. For information on the current law on any particular issue, individuals should seek their own independent local legal advice.

Background

This draft Country Profile is consistent, as to form and structure, to the extent possible, with other Country Profiles such as the 1980 Child Abduction Convention, the 2000 Protection of Adults Convention and the 2007 Child Support Convention.

This draft Country Profile is divided into thirteen Sections that follow, to the extent possible, the order of the Chapters in the text of the 1996 Child Protection Convention. The aim of each section is as follows.²

- Section I: Designated Central and other authorities: This section aims to provide all the relevant information that will enable the Central Authority, a legal practitioner or a member of the public to contact the relevant Central and other authorities designated by this Contracting Party. Central Authorities are designated to discharge the duties imposed by the Convention (Art. 29). They play an important role in facilitating communication and cooperation between competent authorities in different Contracting Parties, as well as in transmitting information and requests to other Central Authorities. In this section the Central Authority, a legal practitioner or a member of the public can also find information relating to the authorities designated under Articles 40 and 44 of the Convention.

Any reference to a Contracting Party in this Country Profile is a reference to a Contracting Party to the 1996 Child Protection Convention.

If practically possible to implement and subject to available resources, the Permanent Bureau suggests the addition of a mouse over information icon "(i)" that will display such explanations in the electronic version of the Country Profile. This suggestion is intended to make the Country Profile more user-friendly and accessible by profiting creatively from available features in an electronic environment.

- **Section II: Coming into force and territorial application:** This section presents information about when the Convention entered into force in this State, and its territorial application.
- Section III: Relevant legislation: This section provides information about the legislation in this State, including legislation implementing the Convention, as well as information on other relevant Conventions to which the State is Party.
- Section IV: Measures or other matters falling within the scope of the Convention: This section provides an overview of the domestic law applicable to the different measures for the protection of the child that fall within the scope of the 1996 Child Protection Convention. It shows what supportive measures / arrangements and measures of protection are available in that State, and how the legislation of this State governs the different measures / arrangements.

Item 16 contains a detailed list of possible urgent measures of protection, which can provide helpful assistance to the competent authorities, for example, in their implementation of the Conclusion & Recommendation (C&R) No 27 of the Seventh Meeting of the Special Commission on the operation of the 1980 Child Abduction and 1996 Child Protection Conventions.³

- Section V: Jurisdiction (Arts 5 -14): This section provides information relating to matters of jurisdiction, including information on judicial authorities and the procedure for transferring jurisdiction under Articles 8 and 9 of the 1996 Convention.
- Section VI: Information relevant to courts and judicial proceedings: This section provides information about practical matters that may arise when dealing with Courts and judicial proceedings in cases falling within the scope of the 1996 Child Protection Convention, including the rules governing legal representation and assistance, the general procedure regarding first instance proceedings, the child's participation, and the appeals procedure.
 - Section 21 "Legal assistance and legal aid" allows Contracting Parties to elaborate on the type of legal assistance / legal aid they provide in their jurisdictions.
- Section VII: Multiple systems of law or sets of rules: For the purpose of identifying the applicable law, this section provides information on the application of the Convention in a State with multiple territorial units and on the application of the Convention in a State which has multiple systems of law applicable to different categories of persons in respect of matters covered by the Convention.
- Section VIII: Recognition and Enforcement (Arts 23-28): This section provides information on the rules applicable in this State relating to the recognition and enforcement of decisions under the 1996 Child Protection Convention
- Section IX: Cooperation (Arts 29-39): This section provides information on practical matters and questions that may arise when dealing with matters falling within the scope of the Convention in this State, including how authorities gather and transmit information and how authorities can assist with locating a child.
- Section X: Mediation and other forms of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR): Under the 1996 Child Protection Convention, Central Authorities have an obligation, either directly or through public authorities, to take all appropriate steps to facilitate agreed solutions for the protection of the person or property of the child (Art. 31(b)). If parties wish to engage in mediation in the context of the 1996 Convention, this section provides information on the mediation facilities available in this State, the legislation governing it, how to access mediation, the process of mediation, and the rules on

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The text of the C&R reads as follows: When taking measures of protection in accordance with Article 11 of the 1996 Convention in a child abduction case (for example, to facilitate interim access or ensure safe return), competent authorities are invited, preferably through Central Authorities or members of the International Hague Network of Judges (IHNJ) to obtain information on available measures of protection in the other State with a view to ensuring the effective implementation of such measures.

enforcement of mediated agreements in this State. Information will also be given regarding other ADR mechanisms available in this State.

- **Section XI: General:** This section provides information about international certificates under Article 40, training and other information.
- Section XII: Direct judicial communications: Engaging in direct judicial communications in the context of the 1996 Convention was encouraged at the Special Commissions on the practical operation of the 1980 and 1996 Conventions of 2011, 2017 and 2023. This section provides information as to the practice of direct judicial communication in this State.
- Section XIII: Electronic resources

Instructions

The Country Profile is a standardised document that will be available to Contracting Parties to complete, view and update electronically. It contains a mix of open-ended, multiple answers and yes/no questions that will be available for Contracting Parties to digitally fill in and update whenever necessary.

Contracting Parties comprised of more than one territorial unit may choose to submit separate Country Profiles for each territorial unit. Respondents are encouraged to provide links to relevant domestic legislation and procedural rules, where possible and applicable.

Contracting Parties are exclusively responsible for filling in and updating the information contained in their Country Profile.

Completed Country Profiles will be published on the website of the HCCH (<u>www.hcch.net</u>) under "Child Protection Section" and readily available for public consultation.

If comprehensive information on the 1996 Convention is of interest, users and interested parties are encouraged to consult the <u>Explanatory Report</u> and the <u>Practical Handbook</u>. For more information on questions in specific States, users are invited to contact the relevant Central Authority directly.

•

I. Central and other authorities designated by [name of your State]

1 Central Authority contact details (Art. 29)

1.1. Organisation	
1.2. Address	
1.3. Territorial and personal extent of functions, if applicable	
1.4. Telephone	
1.5. Emergency telephone (outside working hours – see question 7.1)	
1.6. Fax	
1.7. Email	
1.8. Website	
1.9. Contact person 1	Direct contact details: Direct telephone: Direct email: Language(s) of communication: Preferred method of communication: Phone Fax Email Other (please specify):
1.10. Contact person 2, if applicable	Direct contact details: Direct telephone: Direct email: Language(s) of communication: Preferred method of communication: Phone Fax Email Other (please specify):
Last Update: [INSERT DATE]4	
2 Other designated Central Authority,	if applicable (Art. 29(2)) ⁵
2.1. Organisation	
2.2. Address	
2.3. Territorial and personal extent of functions, if applicable	
2.4. Telephone	
2.5. Emergency telephone (outside working hours – see question 7.1)	

⁴ This will be done automatically in the electronic format of the Country Profile.

This section will be expandable in order to allow for the inclusion of additional Central Authorities.

2.6.	Fax	
2.7.	Email	
2.8.	Website	
2.9.	Contact person 1	Direct contact details: Direct telephone: Direct email: Language(s) of communication:
		Preferred method of communication: Phone Fax Email Other (please specify):
2.10.	Contact person 2, if applicable	Direct contact details: Direct telephone: Direct email: Language(s) of communication:
		Preferred method of communication: Phone Fax Email Other (please specify):
Last l	Jpdate: [INSERT DATE]	
	Designated authority for Article 8 and	d 9 requests (Art. 44) ⁶ 3 and 9 can be found in Section V – Jurisdiction, question 18.
3.1.	Has [name of your State] designated an authority to which requests under Articles 8 and 9 are to be addressed?	 Yes, the Central Authority (see details provided above) Yes, an authority other than the Central Authority (please complete questions 3.2 − 3.10) No
3.2.	Organisation	
3.3.	Address	
3.4.	Territorial and personal extent of functions, if applicable	
3.5.	Telephone	
3.6.	Fax	
3.7.	Email	
3.8.	Website	
3.9.	Contact person 1	Direct contact details: Direct telephone: Direct email: Language(s) of communication:

⁶ This section will be expandable in order to allow for the inclusion of additional authorities.

		Preferred method of communication:
		☐ Phone
		Fax
		☐ Email
		Other (please specify):
3.10.	Contact person 2, if applicable	Direct contact details:
		Direct telephone:
		Direct email:
		Language(s) of communication:
		Preferred method of communication:
		☐ Phone
		☐ Fax
		☐ Email
		Other (please specify):
Last l	Jpdate: [INSERT DATE]	
4	Destructed a the track state of	
	Designated authority for Article 33 r	
ı	More information about requests under Article 3	3 can be found in Section IX – Cooperation, question 31.
4.1.	Has [name of your State] designated an	Yes, the Central Authority (see details provided above)
	authority to which requests under Article	Yes, an authority other than the Central Authority (please
	33 are to be addressed?	complete questions 4.2 - 4.10)
		□No
4.2.	Organisation	
4.3.	Address	
4.4.	Territorial and personal extent of functions, if applicable	
4.5.	Telephone	
4.6.	Emergency telephone	
	(outside working hours)	
4.7.	Fax	
4.8.	Email	
4.9.	Website	
4.10.	Contact person 1	Direct contact details:
		Direct telephone:
		Direct email:
		Language(s) of communication:
		Drofowed mosthed of communications
		Preferred method of communication:
		☐ Phone ☐ Fax
		☐ Email ☐ Other (please specify):
4 4 4	Ocatest reserve O. H II II.	
4.11.	Contact person 2, if applicable	Direct contact details:
		Direct telephone:

⁷ This section will be expandable in order to allow for the inclusion of additional authorities.

		Direct email:
		Language(s) of communication:
		Preferred method of communication:
		Phone
		Fax
		 ☐ Email
		Other (please specify):
Last	Update: [INSERT DATE]	
5	Designated authority competent to o	draw up international certificates under Article 40 ⁸
More in	nformation about international certificates under	Article 40 can be found in <mark>Section</mark> XI – General, question 35.
	name of your State] designated an authority	Yes
	aw up international certificates under Article	☐ No (please move to section 6)
40?		
	se complete if the authority competent to nisation:	draw up international certificates under Article 40 is a single
5.1.	Organisation	
5.2.	Address	
5.3.	Territorial and personal extent of functions, if applicable	
5.4.	Telephone	
5.5.	Fax	
5.6.	Email	
5.7.	Website	
5.8.	Contact person 1	Direct contact details:
		Direct telephone:
		Direct email:
		Language(s) of communication:
		Preferred method of communication:
		Phone
		Fax
		☐ Email
		Other (please specify):
E 0	Contact person 2 if applicable	
5.9.	Contact person 2, if applicable	Direct contact details:
		Direct telephone:
		Direct email:
		Language(s) of communication:
		Preferred method of communication:
		Phone
		☐ Fax
		 ☐ Email

This section enables States which have a single authority competent to draw up certificates under Article 40 to fill in this information in items 5.1 to 5.9 and enables States which have several authorities that are competent to draw up the certificate to indicate which authorities are competent in 5.10.

	Other (please specify):		
Please complete if several authorities are compe	tent to draw up international certificates under Article 40:		
5.10. Please indicate which authorities in [name of your State] are competent to draw up international certificates under Article 40. Please tick all boxes that apply. Where applicable, please provide the details of the authorities (name of organisation, address, telephone, fax, email, website) and the details of the contact person(s), as requested above.	 ☐ Competent authorities, including court clerks / registrars Details of the authority: Details of contact person(s): ☐ Notaries Details of the authority: Details of contact person(s): ☐ Other (please specify): Details of the authority: Details of contact person(s): 		
Last Update: [INSERT DATE]	,		
6 Language requirements (Art. 54)			
6.1. Please specify the official language of [name of your State] into which any communication sent to the Central Authority or to another authority is to be translated. Article 54(1) of the 1996 Convention			
6.2. Has [name of your State] made a reservation in respect of the use of French or English for any communication sent to the Central Authority or any other authority? Article 54(2) of the 1996 Convention	☐ Yes, objection to French☐ Yes, objection to English☐ No		
Last Update: [INSERT DATE]			
7 Central Authority functions, operation			
7.1. Please specify the working days and hours of the Central Authority.	Days of the week open: Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Saturday Saturday Sunday Opening hours: Shut down periods (e.g., public holidays, court closures etc):		
7.2. In an emergency situation, can assistance be accessed outside working hours?	☐ Yes (see emergency telephone number at questions 1.5 or 2.5, as needed)☐ No		
7.3. Does the Central Authority have staff who deal exclusively with Convention requests and related issues?	☐ Yes ☐ No		

This section will be expandable in order to allow for the inclusion of additional authorities. It should be noted that the functions mentioned in this section are not necessarily mandatory and that they are included to the extent that such functions are available and permitted under the State's domestic law.

7.4.	Please indicate the professions represented in the Central Authority:	☐ Legal practitioners ☐ Mediators ☐ Psychologists ☐ Social workers ☐ Other (please specify):
7.5.	What are the services provided by the Central Authority in [name of your State] in the context of requests under the Convention? Please tick all the boxes that apply. Please be aware that not all services may be available in cases initiated by private persons (as opposed to authorities).	 □ (1) Establishment of contact with the Central Authority and / or the competent authorities in the requested State to find out the kind of assistance and services such authorities could provide (Art. 30(1)) □ (2) Assistance in obtaining information on the operation of the Convention (Art. 30(2)) □ (3) Assistance in obtaining information on the relevant laws and / or procedures and / or services available in [name of your State] and the requested State (Art. 30(2)) □ (4) Assistance concerning requests under Articles 8 and 9 of the Convention (Art. 31(a)) □ (5) Facilitation, by mediation, conciliation or similar means, agreed solutions for the protection of the person or property of the child (Art. 31(b)) □ (6) Assistance in discovering the whereabouts of a child that may be present in [name of your State] and in need of protection (Art. 31(c)) □ (7) Requesting – or transmitting the request on behalf of competent authorities in [name of your State] – that a report be provided on the situation of the child (Art. 32(a)) □ (8) On a request made by another Contracting Party, providing a report on the situation of the child (Art. 32(a)) □ (9) Requesting – or transmitting the request on behalf of competent authorities in [name of your State] – that the competent authorities in [name of your State] – that the competent authorities in [name of your State] to take measures for the protection of the person or property of the child (Art. 32(b)) □ (10) On a request made by another Contracting Party, requesting the competent authorities of [name of your State] to consider the need to take measures for the protection of the person or property of the child (Art. 32(b)) □ (11) Communication of information relevant to the protection of the child, if the situation of the child so requires (Art. 34(1)) □ (12) Assistance in the transmission of requests under Article 35(1) from competent authorities of another Contracting Par

		 ☐ (18) Assistance in providing such administrative arrangements as may be necessary to protect the child ☐ (19) Assistance concerning the recognition and enforcement of decisions ☐ (20) Assistance in obtaining the Certificate under Article 40 or, in case the Central Authority is competent to draw up the certificate, issuing the Certificate ☐ (21) Assistance in providing or facilitating the initiation of judicial or administrative proceedings ☐ (22) Ensuring separate legal representation for the child ☐ (23) Other:
7.6.	Has [name of your State] entered into any agreements with one or more other Contracting Parties with a view to improving cooperation under the 1996 Convention? Article 39 of the 1996 Convention	 □ Bilateral agreement Please provide the title of the agreement and, if available, a web link to the agreement or attach a copy: □ Regional agreements □ EU Regulation (Council Regulation (EU) 2019/1111 of 25 June 2019 on jurisdiction, the recognition and enforcement of decisions in matrimonial matters and the matters of parental responsibility, and on international child abduction (recast)) (i.e., "Brussels Ilb Regulation") □ Other (please specify): □ Other (please specify): Please provide the title of the agreement and, if available, a web link to the agreement or attach a copy □ No
7.7.	Has [name of your State] made a declaration under Article 34(2), requiring all requests for information under Article 34(1) from a Contracting Party contemplating a measure of protection to be communicated through the Central Authority of [name of your State]?	☐ Yes (please insert the hyperlink to the declaration made by [name of your State] on the HCCH website): ☐ No
7.8.	What role does the Central Authority of [name of your State] play in the context of requests for recognition under Article 24 or requests for declarations of enforceability or registrations for the purpose of enforcement under Article 26? (e.g., must such requests be processed by the Central Authority?)	
7.9.	Noting the general obligation under Article 38 on Contracting Parties to bear their own costs in applying the 1996 Convention, does the Central Authority in [name of your State] impose any "reasonable charges" for the provision of services?	☐ Yes Please indicate on which services the Central Authority imposes reasonable charges: Please tick all boxes that apply. ☐ Mediation ☐ Conciliation ☐ Legal advice ☐ Initiating proceedings before a competent authority ☐ Legal representation ☐ Translation ☐ Other services (please specify):

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		No, the Central Authority does not impose charges for any provision of services (please specify if there are any exceptions):
Last	Update: [INSERT DATE]	
II.	Coming into force and territori your State]	al application of the Convention in [name of
8	Coming into force and territorial app	olication
8.1.	When did the 1996 Convention enter into force in [name of your State]?	
8.2.	Has [name of your State] objected to the accession of another State to the 1996 Convention? Article 58(3) of the 1996 Convention	☐ Yes Please consult the HCCH website, under the "Child Protection Section", then "Status table" and "A**" (Accession giving rise to an objection procedure; click on A** for details of objections to the accession) ☐ No
8.3.	If [name of your State] consists of two or more territorial units, has [name of your State] made a declaration under Article 59?	☐ Yes (please elaborate): ☐ No ☐ Not applicable
8.4.	If [name of your State] is comprised of one or more overseas territories, please provide information about the applicability of the 1996 Convention to them.	Please list the territories that are bound by the 1996 Convention: Please list the territories that are not bound by the 1996 Convention:
Last	Update: [INSERT DATE]	<u>l</u>
III.	Relevant legislation in [name o	of your State]
9	1996 Child Protection Convention	
9.1.	In [name of your State], was implementing legislation passed before the 1996 Child Protection Convention entered into force in your domestic law? If applicable, please provide a web link to	Yes Please specify legislative provision(s) or implementing legislation and indicate the date that the legislation entered into force:
	the legislation or attach a copy.	No
9.2.	Was any other legislative work carried out after the entry into force of the 1996	Yes, substantive laws and / or procedural rules were enacted following the entry into force of the 1996 Convention in our

10 Other relevant HCCH Conventions

Last Update: [INSERT DATE]

the legislation or attach a copy.

Convention in [name of your State], with a view to assist with its effective operation?

If applicable, please provide a web link to

Conventions pertaining to the protection of	1980 Child Abduction Convention (please specify the date it entered into force in [name of your State]):
persons in [name of your State] is also a party to:	

☐ No

entered into force or effect:

Please specify the legislative provision(s) or procedural rules

and indicate the date that the legislation or procedural rules

The fact that two States are both Contracting States to a particular Convention does not always mean they have a treaty relationship. For the 1980 Convention, there is an acceptance procedure between acceding States and existing Contracting States. For the 1993, 2000 and 2007 Conventions, there is an objection procedure. Please consult the status table of each Convention on the HCCH website to verify whether [name of your State] has a treaty relationship with another Contracting State.	 1993 Adoption Convention (please specify the date it entered into force in [name of your State]): 2007 Child Support Convention (please specify the date it entered into force in [name of your State]): 2007 Maintenance Obligations Protocol (please specify the date it entered into force in [name of your State]): 2000 Protection of Adults Convention (please specify the date it entered into force in [name of your State]): 	
Last Update: [INSERT DATE]		
11 Other agreements on international of	child protection	
Is [name of your State] a party to other international agreements which relate to international child protection?	 Yes (please tick all the boxes that apply): ☐ 1989 UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) ☐ Optional Protocol to the UNCRC on the involvement of children in armed conflict (OPAC) ☐ Optional Protocol to the UNCRC on the sale of children, child prostitution, and child pornography (OPSC) ☐ Optional Protocol to the UNCRC on a communications procedure (OPIC) ☐ Protocol to Prevent, Supress and Punish Trafficking in Persons especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (Palermo Protocol) ☐ African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child ☐ Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (Lanzarote Convention) ☐ Brussels IIb Regulation (Council Regulation (EU) 2019/1111 of 25 June 2019) ☐ Inter-American Convention of 15 July 1989 on the International Return of Children ☐ Bilateral agreements (please specify): ☐ Non-binding memoranda of understanding (please specify): ☐ Other (please specify): 	
	□No	
Last Update: [INSERT DATE]		
 IV. Measures or other matters falling within the scope of the Convention Parental Responsibility - rights of custody - rights of access / contact 		
12.1. What are the legal concepts that correspond to the notion of parental responsibility according to the laws of [name of your State]?		
12.2. What are the legal concepts that correspond to the notion of rights of custody according to the laws of [name of your State] and what is their relationship with the notion of parental responsibility?		

12.3.	Which legislation governs parental responsibility and / or rights of custody in [name of your State]? Please describe and specify how legislation can be accessed or attach as copy. Please specify if case law is relevant in addition to legislation.	
12.4.	How is parental responsibility attributed in [name of your State]? Please tick all the boxes that apply. Article 1(2) of the 1996 Convention	 □ By operation of law (i.e., automatically), which attributes parental responsibility to: □ the person giving birth to the child; □ the person who legally acknowledges the child; □ the person married to the person giving birth to the child; □ the unmarried partner of the person giving birth to the
		child; Other (please specify): Judicial decision Administrative decision Agreement having legal effect Other (please specify):
12.5.	Can parental responsibility or its exercise be delegated in [name of your State]?	 ☐ Yes (please specify how): ☐ Judicial decision ☐ Administrative decision ☐ Other (please specify): ☐ No
12.6.	Can the attribution of parental responsibility be modified or terminated in [name of your State]?	 Yes (please specify how): □ By order of a judicial authority □ By order of an administrative authority □ It depends on how parental responsibility rights were attributed (please specify): □ Other (please specify): □ No
12.7.	Are there limits on the attribution of parental responsibility over a child in [name of your State]?	 ☐ Yes (please specify): ☐ Number of persons (please specify): ☐ Age (please specify): ☐ Marital / partnership status (please specify): ☐ Legal parent-child relationship (please specify): ☐ Other (please specify): ☐ No
12.8.	Are there any requirements under the law of [name of your State] for an agreement regarding parental responsibility to take legal effect (e.g., registration)?	☐ Yes (please specify): ☐ No
12.9.	Are there any age requirements in [name of your State] for person(s) to have parental responsibility over a child?	 Yes Maximum age requirements (please specify): Minimum age requirements (please specify): Difference in years required between the person and the child (please specify): Other (please specify): No

12.10. How can a person or institution acquire rights of custody over a child in [name of your State]?	☐ By operation of law (if relevant, please specify to whom this is applicable):☐ Judicial decision
Article 3(b) of the 1996 Convention.	☐ Administrative decision ☐ Agreement having legal effect ☐ Other (please specify):
12.11. Can rights of custody be modified or terminated in [name of your State]?	 Yes (please specify): By order of a judicial or administrative authority By agreement having legal effect It depends on how the rights of custody were acquired (please specify): Other (please specify): No
12.12. Which legislation governs the acquisition and exercise of rights of access / contact in [name of your State]? Please specify how legislation can be accessed or attach a copy. Please specify if case law is relevant in addition to legislation.	
12.13. In [name of your State], who can exercise their rights of access / contact with the child? Articles 3(b) and 35 of the 1996 Convention. Please tick all relevant boxes.	☐ A parent ☐ A step-parent ☐ A grand-parent ☐ Another member of the family (please specify): ☐ Other (please specify):
12.14. How can a person seek rights of access / contact in [name of your State]? Please tick all relevant boxes.	☐ Judicial decision ☐ Administrative decision ☐ Agreement having legal effect ☐ Other (please specify):
12.15. Can rights of access / contact be modified or terminated in [name of your State]?	 Yes (please specify): By order of a judicial or administrative authority By agreement having legal effect It depends on how the rights of custody were acquired (please specify): Other (please specify): No
Last Update: [INSERT DATE]	
13 Guardianship, curatorship <mark>and</mark> analo	gous institutions
13.1. What are the legal concepts that correspond to the notions of "guardianship, curatorship and analogous institutions" in [name of your State]? Article 3(c) of the 1996 Convention	
13.2. Is a guardianship, curatorship or an analogous institution towards a child available in [name of your State]? Please tick all boxes that apply	Yes, guardianship is available Yes, curatorship is available Yes, an analogous institution is available No (please proceed to the following section)

13.3. Do guardianships, curatorships or analogous institutions always carry the full rights of custody of the child in [name of your State]?	☐ Yes (please elaborate): ☐ No (please elaborate):
13.4. Which legislation governs guardianship and curatorship in [name of your State]? Please specify how legislation can be accessed or attach a copy. Please specify if case law is relevant in addition to legislation.	
13.5. How can guardianship or curatorship be established in [name of your State]? Please tick all the boxes that apply.	 ☐ Will or testament established by the holders of parental responsibility ☐ Judicial decision ☐ Administrative decision ☐ By agreement having legal effect ☐ Other (please specify):
13.6. Are there limits for appointing a person as a child's guardian or curator in [name of your State]?	 Yes (please specify): Number of guardians / curators (please specify): Age (please specify): Marital / partnership status (please specify): Other (please specify): No
13.7. Can guardianships or curatorships be modified or terminated in [name of your State]?	 Yes, if so, please specify how By order of a judicial authority By order of an administrative authority By agreement having legal effect Other (please specify): No
Last Update: [INSERT DATE]	
14 Supportive measures / arrangemen	ts
In [name of your State] are supportive measures / arrangements available in place of, or alongside, the placement of a child (e.g., family assistance, family coaching, monitoring, educational programs)? Please tick all boxes that apply and indicate the measures / arrangements available. If applicable, please provide a web link to the	 □ Voluntary arrangements □ Support measures ordered by a judicial authority □ Support measures ordered by an administrative authority □ Other (please specify):
legislation or attach a copy. Last Update: [INSERT DATE]	
Last opdate. [INOLITY DATE]	
15 Foster care, kinship care, kafala, ins	titutional care and educational measures
15.1. How can alternative care arrangements be established in [name of your State]?	☐ Foster care ☐ Judicial decision ☐ Administrative decision ☐ By agreement having legal effect ☐ Other (please specify): ☐ Kinship care ☐ Judicial decision

		Administrative decision
		☐ By agreement having legal effect
		Other (please specify):
		☐ Kafala
		Judicial decision
		Administrative decision
		Other (please specify):
		☐ Institutional care
		Judicial decision
		Administrative decision
		☐ By agreement having legal effect
		Other (please specify):
		Other (please specify):
		Judicial decision
		Administrative decision
		☐ By agreement having legal effect
		Other (please specify):
15.0 How 4	an alternative care arrangements	
	can alternative care arrangements odified or terminated in [name of	Foster care
your S		☐ Judicial decision
		Administrative decision
		☐ By agreement having legal effect
		Other (please specify):
		Kinship care
		☐ Judicial decision
		Administrative decision
		☐ By agreement having legal effect
		Other (please specify):
		☐ Kafala
		☐ Judicial decision
		Administrative decision
		☐ By agreement having legal effect
		Other (please specify):
		Institutional care
		☐ Judicial decision
		Administrative decision
		☐ By agreement having legal effect
		Other (please specify):
		Other (please specify):
		☐ Judicial decision
		Administrative decision
		☐ By agreement having legal effect
		Other (please specify):
	ere limitations as to what kind of	Yes (please specify the circumstances and the relevant
	ative care is available in [name of state] under certain circumstances?	limitations):
	only long-term or short-term)	□No
	ere any requirements or criteria in	Yes (please specify):
[name	e of your State] for a person to be	No
_	nated as responsible for a child in	
KINSNI	p care (e.g. degree of proximity, age,	

marital/partner status, no criminal records)?	
15.5. Are there any requirements or criteria in [name of your State] for a person to be designated as responsible for a child in foster care (e.g., age, marital/partner status, no criminal records)?	☐ Yes (please specify): ☐ No
15.6. Are there any requirements or criteria in [name of your State] for a person to be designated as the kafil of a child (e.g., age, marital/partner status, no criminal records, religious confession)?	☐ Yes (please specify): ☐ No
15.7. In [name of your State], is there a centralised government entity or accredited body that is responsible for managing cases in which alternative care arrangements are involved?	☐ Yes (please specify entity or body and provide contact details):☐ No
15.8. In cases of unaccompanied and separated children in need of alternative care arrangements arriving in [name of your State], what are the steps or procedures that follow their arrival in your State? (e.g., appointment of a guardian and placement in foster care)	
Please describe the steps and specify any relevant applicable legislation, regulation and/or framework.	
Last Update: [INSERT DATE]	

16 Urgent measures of protection

Bearing in mind that the measures listed in this question are not meant to be exhaustive, please indicate what urgent measures of protection are available in [name of your State].	Concerning the urgent protection of the child against violence, abuse, mistreatment, and in cases of international child abduction:
Please tick all the boxes that apply.	
If possible, please specify how legislation can be	Issuing a placement order
accessed or attach a copy. It is understood that, in some States, measures	Issuing an order prohibiting removal from the jurisdiction (i.e., a ne exeat order) (please specify relevant legislation):
of protection are not provided for under domestic law but are left to the discretion of the competent authorities.	Issuing other types of orders preventing certain actions, for example prohibiting the issuance of a passport for the child (please specify relevant legislation):
	Ordering the retention of the child's documents with an authority, for example depositing the passport with the police (please specify relevant legislation):
	Issuing an order temporarily suspending the exercise of parental authority and/or rights of custody and/or rights of access/contact (please specify relevant legislation):
	Issuing an order of protection of the primary caregiver of the child (please specify relevant legislation):
	Establishing supervised contact (please specify relevant legislation):
	Providing shelter for victims of domestic and family violence (please specify relevant legislation):
	Providing psychological first aid for the child and family members (please specify relevant legislation):

	Other (please specify measure and relevant legislation):
	Concerning the urgent socio-economic needs of the child:
	Issuing interim provision of financial assistance to the child (please specify relevant legislation):
	Issuing an order of integration into the national education systems and schooling (please specify relevant legislation):
	Issuing an order requesting support and monitoring by social services (please specify relevant legislation):
	Providing psychological and other kinds of professional support (please specify relevant legislation):
	Ordering procedures for family reunification, subject to obtaining relevant immigration documents (please specify relevant legislation):
	Designating a temporary guardian (please specify relevant legislation):
	Arranging provisional alternative care (i.e., placement in foster care or institutional care) (please specify relevant legislation):
	Other (please specify measure and relevant legislation):
	Concerning the urgent needs of the child in the case of judicial or administrative proceedings:
	Designating a guardian <i>ad litem</i> (please specify relevant legislation):
	Ordering the provision of legal aid and legal assistance (please specify relevant legislation):
	Designating a separate representative for the child, such as an Independent Children's Lawyer, for example, in case of conflicts of interest (please specify relevant legislation):
	Ordering the appointment of an interpreter (please specify relevant legislation):
	Other (please specify measure and relevant legislation):
	Other urgent needs:
	Arranging urgent medical treatment (please specify relevant legislation):
	☐ Issuing an order to protect the child's image and right to privacy (please specify relevant legislation):
	Administering the child's property, for example, to protect perishable goods belonging to a child or to cover urgent expenses (please specify relevant legislation):
	Issuing an order of preventive freezing of assets belonging to the child (please specify relevant legislation):
	Other (please specify measure and relevant legislation):
Last Update: [INSERT DATE]	
V. Jurisdiction (Arts 5 – 14)	
17 Judicial Authorities	
Please indicate the judicial authorities in [name	Courts with general competence
of your State] that are competent to deal with	Relevant laws and / or procedural rules:

matters falling under the scope of the Convention.	☐ Courts of family law	
Please tick all the boxes that apply.	Relevant laws and / or procedural rules:	
Please provide any links or attachments to the	Other specialised courts (please specify):	
most relevant laws and / or rules that govern	Relevant laws and / or procedural rules:	
procedural issues for the protection of children	Other (please specify):	
in your State.	Relevant laws and / or procedural rules:	
Last Update: [INSERT DATE]		
18 Transfer of jurisdiction (Arts 8 and 9)		
See Question 3 above for the contact details of the	e designated authority, if any.	
18.1. How does the law of [name of your State]	☐ Statutory rules	
provide for domestic procedures and	☐ Jurisprudence	
mechanisms for the transfer or assumption of jurisdiction under Articles 8 and 9 of the Convention?	Other (please specify):	
If applicable, please provide a web link to the relevant legislation in the space available or attach a copy.	Please indicate the conditions under which a transfer or assumption of jurisdiction may occur:	
18.2. Has [name of your State] designated an	Yes (please ensure you have completed question 3 above):	
authority for the purpose of transmittal		
and receipt of requests for a transfer of jurisdiction under Articles 8 and 9, in	□ No	
accordance with Article 44?		
18.3. If no to the above question, does the	Yes	
Central Authority play a role in the	Please elaborate on this role:	
transmittal and receipt of requests for a transfer of jurisdiction under Article 8 in	☐ No, competent authorities exchange directly between	
[name of your State]?	themselves	
18.4. Does the law of [name of your State]	Yes (please specify):	
prescribe the use of a specific model form	□No	
for the purpose of transfers or assumption of jurisdiction under Articles		
8 and 9?		
Last Update: [INSERT DATE]		
19 Divorce or legal separation of the parents		
Please indicate the authorities in [name of your	Courts with general competence	
State] that are competent to decide upon an application for divorce or legal separation or to	Relevant laws and / or procedural rules:	
give effect to a divorce agreement:	Courts of family law	
Article 10 of the 1996 Convention	Relevant laws and / or procedural rules:	
Please tick all the boxes that apply.	Other specialised courts (please specify):	
Please provide any links or attachments to the	Relevant laws and / or procedural rules:	
relevant laws and / or rules that govern	Other (please specify):	
procedural issues for the protection of children in your State.	Relevant laws and / or procedural rules:	
Last Update: [INSERT DATE]		

VI. Information relevant to courts and judicial proceedings

20 General information

Are there any specific laws, regulations, rules of court or civil procedure in [name of your State] that provide for procedural aspects of cases falling within the scope of the Convention?	
Last Update: [INSERT DATE]	
21 Legal assistance and legal aid ¹⁰	
21.1. In [name of your State], is legal representation required in proceedings falling within the scope of the 1996 Child Protection Convention?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ No, but recommended ☐ It depends on the matter (please specify):
21.2. Does [name of your State] provide free or reduced rate legal assistance / legal aid for the following categories? If so, please indicate the types of costs that are covered. In the space next to each category, please elaborate on who can request such legal assistance / legal aid. Please provide any links or attachments to the relevant laws and / or rules and / or procedures in [name of your State].	Child protection Yes (please specify): Mediation Translation Interpreters Service of documents Costs associated with locating the child Court fees Travel costs for the child Other (please specify): No Custody (including in the context of divorce proceedings) Yes (please specify): Mediation Translation Interpreters Service of documents Costs associated with locating the child Court fees Travel costs for the child Other (please specify): No Access / Contact (including in the context of divorce proceedings)
	☐ Yes (please specify): ☐ Mediation

Legal assistance and legal aid may include as necessary legal advice, assistance in bringing a case before an authority, legal representation and exemption from costs of proceedings.

	☐ Translation
	☐ Interpreters
	Service of documents
	Costs associated with locating the child
	Court fees
	Travel costs for the child
	☐ Other (please specify):
	□ No
	Placement
	Yes (please specify): Mediation
	☐ Translation
	☐ Interpreters
	Service of documents
	Costs associated with locating the child
	☐ Court fees
	☐ Travel costs for the child
	Other (please specify):
	□No
	Recognition and enforcement
	Yes (please specify):
	☐ Mediation
	☐ Translation
	☐ Interpreters
	Service of documents
	Costs associated with locating the child
	Court fees
	Travel costs for the child
	— ☐ Other (please specify):
	□ No
	Other (please specify):
	Mediation
	☐ Translation —
	☐ Interpreters
	Service of documents
	Costs associated with locating the child
	☐ Court fees
	☐ Travel costs for the child
	Other (please specify):
Last Update: [INSERT DATE]	

22 Family and child protection proceedings

22.1.	Does documentation submitted to competent authorities have to be translated into the official language(s) of [name of your State]?	Yes (please state who is responsible for arranging the translation and for its cost): No (please explain):	
22.2.	In [name of your State], are all parties generally required to participate in proceedings?	☐ Yes (please specify in what circumstances):☐ No, but it is advisable (please explain):☐ No	
22.3.	Are facilities available to enable parties to participate from outside [name of your State]?	☐ Yes ☐ Video-conference ☐ Telephone ☐ Through a legal representative ☐ Other (please specify): ☐ No	
22.4.	Is interpretation available during proceedings in [name of your State] where necessary?	☐ Yes (please explain):☐ No (please explain):☐ It depends upon the circumstances (please specify):	
Last U	pdate: [INSERT DATE]		
23 I	Relocation		
	[name of your State] provide for specific dures for international family relocation?	☐ Yes (please specify the applicable legislation and relevant provisions): ☐ No	
Last U	lpdate: [INSERT DATE]		
24 I	24 Participation of the child		
24.1.	Please indicate the rules, procedures and guidelines in place in [name of your State] for hearing the child during judicial or administrative proceedings before a competent authority.		
24.2.	How is the child heard during proceedings in [name of your State]? Please tick all the boxes that apply.	☐ Direct interview ☐ Report prepared by independent expert ☐ The legal representative of the child	
	Please provide any links or attachments to the relevant laws and / or rules and / or procedures in [name of your State].	Other (please specify):	
24.3.	Can competent authorities in [name of your State] appoint a separate legal representative (attorney or guardian ad litem) to represent the child's best interests?	Yes (please specify under what circumstances): No	
Last U	pdate: [INSERT DATE]		
25	Appeals		
25.1	Please indicate if there are any restrictions in [name of your State] on the	Child protection	

	possibility of appealing a decision on a particular type of case where the Convention applies?	Yes (please specify):
		Custody (including in the context of divorce proceedings) Yes (please specify): No
		Access / Contact (including in the context of divorce proceedings) Yes (please specify): No
		Placement ☐ Yes (please specify): ☐ No
		Recognition and enforcement Yes (please specify): No
		Other (please specify):
25.2	In [name of your State], can decisions be suspended pending an appeal?	Yes, they are automatically suspended pending appeal Yes, they can be suspended pending an appeal at the request of either party
		Yes, they can be suspended pending an appeal at the request of either party and after determination by the judge / authority
		☐ No ☐ Other (please specify):
25.3	Are the rules that are applicable to the participation of the child in the proceedings in general also applicable to appeals?	Yes No (please specify the differences at the appeal level(s)):
Last U	pdate: [INSERT DATE]	
VII.	Multiple systems of law or set	s of rules
26	Territorial units (Arts 47-48)	
26.1	Does [name of your State] have two or more systems of law or sets of rules of law with regard to any matters dealt with in the 1996 Convention that apply in different territorial units?	☐ Yes (please specify): ☐ No
26.2	If [name of your State] consists of two or more territorial units, each of which has its own system of law or set of rules of law in respect of matters covered by the Convention, are there any laws identifying which territorial unit's law is applicable? Article 48 of the 1996 Convention	☐ Yes Please explain briefly what those rules are: If possible, please provide any links or attachments to the relevant laws and / or rules: ☐ No
26.3	Where there are differences between the	Rules governing parental responsibility

	in [name of your State], which matters under the Convention are subject to	☐ Rules governing rights of custody☐ Rules governing rights of access
	multiple systems of law or sets of rules in	Rules governing divorce
	the different territorial units of [name of your State]?	Rules governing guardianship or curatorship of a child
	your state]:	Rules governing supportive measures / arrangements
		Rules governing the establishment of foster care, kinship care, kafala and institutional care
		Other (please specify):
26.4	If [name of your State] consists of two or more territorial units, are there any laws	Yes
	in [name of your State] which provide for	Please explain briefly what those rules are:
	or regulate the designation of a territorial unit?	If possible, please provide any links or attachments to the relevant laws and / or rules:
	Article 48 of the 1996 Convention	□No
27	Different categories of persons (Ar	t. 49)
27.1	Does [name of your State] have two or	Yes (please specify):
27.1	more systems of law or sets of rules of law	□ No
	with regard to any matters dealt with in	ino in the second secon
	the 1996 Convention that apply to	
07.0	different categories of persons?	
27.2	If yes to the above question, which matters under the Convention are subject	Rules governing parental responsibility
	to multiple systems of law or sets of rules that apply to different categories of persons in [name of your State]?	Rules governing rights of custody
		Rules governing rights of access
		Rules governing guardianship or curatorship of a child
		Rules governing supportive measures / arrangements
		Rules governing the establishment of foster care, kinship
		care, kafala and institutional care Other (please specify):
1 4 1	In John (INOEDT DATE)	Other (please specify).
Last	Jpdate: [INSERT DATE]	
VIII.	Recognition and Enforcement	(Arts 23-28 and 55)
28	Recognition	
28.1.	Does [name of your State] reserve the	Yes
	right not to recognise any parental responsibility or measures, insofar as they	Please explain if this reservation is restricted to certain
	responsibility or measures insorar as they	
		categories of property and, if so, which ones:
	are incompatible with any measure taken	categories of property and, if so, which ones:
	are incompatible with any measure taken by the competent authorities of your State, in relation to a child's property	
	are incompatible with any measure taken by the competent authorities of your State, in relation to a child's property located in your State?	
	are incompatible with any measure taken by the competent authorities of your State, in relation to a child's property	
28.2.	are incompatible with any measure taken by the competent authorities of your State, in relation to a child's property located in your State? Article 55(1)(b) of the 1996 Convention What is the procedure in [name of your	
28.2.	are incompatible with any measure taken by the competent authorities of your State, in relation to a child's property located in your State? Article 55(1)(b) of the 1996 Convention What is the procedure in [name of your State] for the refusal to recognise a	
28.2.	are incompatible with any measure taken by the competent authorities of your State, in relation to a child's property located in your State? Article 55(1)(b) of the 1996 Convention What is the procedure in [name of your State] for the refusal to recognise a measure of protection taken by the	
28.2.	are incompatible with any measure taken by the competent authorities of your State, in relation to a child's property located in your State? Article 55(1)(b) of the 1996 Convention What is the procedure in [name of your State] for the refusal to recognise a	
28.2.	are incompatible with any measure taken by the competent authorities of your State, in relation to a child's property located in your State? Article 55(1)(b) of the 1996 Convention What is the procedure in [name of your State] for the refusal to recognise a measure of protection taken by the competent authorities of a Contracting	
	are incompatible with any measure taken by the competent authorities of your State, in relation to a child's property located in your State? Article 55(1)(b) of the 1996 Convention What is the procedure in [name of your State] for the refusal to recognise a measure of protection taken by the competent authorities of a Contracting Party? Article 23(2) of the 1996 Convention	□ No
	are incompatible with any measure taken by the competent authorities of your State, in relation to a child's property located in your State? Article 55(1)(b) of the 1996 Convention What is the procedure in [name of your State] for the refusal to recognise a measure of protection taken by the competent authorities of a Contracting Party?	

If possible, please provide a web link or attach a copy of any relevant legislation, guidelines or protocols: Please provide the details of the authority responsible for the procedure for the recognition or non-recognition of a measure under Article 24:
Name of organisation ¹¹ : Telephone:
Fax:
Email:
Website:
Yes No If possible, please provide a web link or attach a copy of any relevant legislation, guidelines or protocols:
In particular, please indicate: The information needed in [name of your State] to register or process a decision for the purpose of enforcement: The nature of the procedure: It is an administrative procedure (please specify): It is a judicial procedure (please specify): It is a combination of a judicial and administrative procedure (please specify): Which authority declares enforceable or registers for the purposes of enforcement a measure of protection taken in another Contracting Party: Whether the law of [name of your State] provides for a particular time frame for the resolution of applications for declarations of enforceability or the registration of a measure for the purpose of enforcement to ensure that the procedure is rapid: Yes If possible, please specify the number of days / weeks / months foreseen by the law of [name of your State]: If possible, please provide a web link to the relevant legislation in the space available next to each item or attach a copy: No Whether legal representation is required Yes (please describe): No Whether the applicant can apply without notice to the other party Yes

 $^{^{11}}$ This section will be expandable in order to allow for the inclusion of additional authorities.

		Whether the declaration of enforceability or registration for the purposes of enforcement is appealable	
		Yes, it is appealable	
		Please specify the timeframe foreseen in [name of your State] for the resolution of appeals regarding declarations of enforceability or the registration of a measure for the purpose of enforcement:	
		Less than a week	
		☐ Within one month	
		☐ Within three months	
		☐ Within a year	
		Other (please specify):	
		☐ No, it is not appealable	
		 Any other measures taken in [name of your State] to ensure the procedure is simple and rapid: 	
29.3.	What is the procedure in [name of your	☐ The Central Authority must apply for enforcement.	
	State] to commence enforcement proceedings?	Please describe how this procedure is initiated:	
	procedurigs:	The applicant must apply for enforcement.	
		Please describe how this procedure is initiated:	
		Other (please specify):	
29.4.		Yes	
	electronically in [name of your State] for the purpose of enforcement?	□No	
	the purpose of emergement.	Please provide any specific requirements:	
29.5.	What coercive measures, if any, are available in [name of your State] to	Intervention by government agency (e.g., police, social welfare)	
	enforce a measure?	Contempt of court	
		Removal of the child from the non-compliant party	
		Imprisonment	
		Pecuniary measures An order placing the child under supervision	
		Other (please specify):	
29.6.	Who is generally responsible for	The applicant	
29.0.	Who is generally responsible for supervising the process of enforcement in	Central Authority	
	[name of your State]?	Public Prosecutor	
		☐ The court / administrative authority	
		Police	
		☐ No single body has general responsibility	
		Other (please specify):	
Last l	Last Update: [INSERT DATE]		
IX.	IX. Cooperation (Arts 29-39 and 42)		
30	General information		
30.1	Does the Central Authority use a standard form for requests under the Convention?	Yes (please provide a link to the form or attach as copy):	
	101 104 acces and of the convention:	□No	
30.2	Which authority, entity or department of the government is responsible for		

	preparing reports on the situation of the child? Article 32 of the 1996 Convention
30.3	Has [name of your State] declared that requests for information relevant to the protection of the child be communicated to the authorities of your state only through the Central Authority? Article 34(1) of the 1996 Convention
Last l	Jpdate: [INSERT DATE]

31 Placement and provision of care abroad (Art. 33)

See Question 4 above for the contact details of the designated authority, if any.		
31.1 Does [name of your State] have procedures or protocols in place to deal with the mechanism of consultation established in Article 33 for the placement of children abroad?	☐ Yes (please specify and provide a link to the form or attach as copy):☐ No	
31.2 Is a standard form used for Article 33 requests in [name of your State]?	☐ Yes (please specify and provide a link to the form or attach as copy):☐ No	
31.3 Please briefly elaborate on the procedure followed by the Central or other competent authority in [name of your State] in order to arrange a cross-border placement of a child.	If the competent authority in [name of your State] is contemplating the placement or the provision of care of a child in another Contracting Party: If the competent authority in [name of your State] is consulted on the placement or the provision of care of a child in your State:	
31.4 Please specify any other authority in [name of your State] that would be responsible, in liaison with the designated authority under the Convention, to evaluate the best interests of the child when a placement or the provision of care abroad is being contemplated.		
31.5 Are there costs involved in Article 33 requests in [name of your State]?	☐ Yes (please specify the type of costs and to whom they are charged): ☐ No	
Last Update: [INSERT DATE]		

32 Locating a child (Art. 30)

32.1	How does the Central Authority of [name of your State], at the request of a competent authority of another Contracting Party, provide assistance in discovering the whereabouts of a child where it appears that child may be present and in need of protection within the territory of [name of your State]? Article 31(c)) of the 1996 Convention	 ☐ Assistance is provided directly Please elaborate on the procedure: ☐ Assistance is provided through public authorities Please elaborate on the procedure: ☐ Assistance is provided through other bodies Please indicate the body and elaborate on the procedure:
32.2	What evidence and information showing that the child is present in the State and	Evidence that the child entered your State (e.g., evidence that the child boarded an aeroplane bound for your State)

mediation in [name of your State]?

Please tick all the boxes that apply.

33.3 What mediation services / structures exist in [name of your State] for

Please tick all the boxes that apply.

international family disputes which are

within the scope of the 1996 Convention?

	in need of protection is required for authorities to assist with locating the child?	 ☐ Information from the applicant/requesting authority as to why they believe the child is in your State ☐ No information or evidence is required; searches can begin upon request ☐ Other (please explain):
32.3	What resources are available in [name of your State] to discover the whereabouts of the child located in [name of your State]? Please indicate in the space provided any associated costs for an applicant or any other necessary information	 ☐ (1) Private location services: ☐ (2) Population register: ☐ (3) Employment register: ☐ (4) Information maintained by other government agencies (e.g., immigration, social welfare): ☐ (5) Police: ☐ (6) INTERPOL: ☐ (7) EUROPOL: ☐ (8) Other (please specify):
32.4	Please indicate who is responsible for making contacting / utilising the resources listed in the question above by inserting the relevant numbers next to the responsible person or authority. E.g., Central Authority: 2,3 The applicant's representative: 7	☐ Central Authority: ☐ A competent authority: ☐ The representative(s) of the party(ies): ☐ Other (please specify):
Last L	pdate: [INSERT DATE]	
X. 33	Mediation and other forms of Family mediation	Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)
33.1	How does the Central Authority of [name of your State] facilitate agreed solutions for the protection of the person or property of the child in situations where the Convention applies? Please tick all the boxes that apply. Article 31(b) of the 1996 Convention.	 □ By providing, upon request, services of mediation, conciliation or other similar means □ By providing information about mediation, conciliation and other similar means □ By assisting and or liaising with third parties (e.g., independent mediators) □ By referring parties to accredited professionals to undertake mediation □ By seeking an order from judicial or administrative authorities for mediation between the parties □ Other (please specify):
33.2	What family matters can be dealt with by	Return / non-return of a child following an alleged wrongful

removal / retention

Other (please specify):

Property disputes on relationship breakdown

administrative system (please explain):

Access / contact

Custody

 □ Relocation ☐ Child support

> specify the NGO and give brief details of the service they provide):

Private mediation services / structures (please specify):

Mediation services / structures within the judicial or

☐ Mediation services / structures provided by NGOs (please

		☐ Other (please specify): ☐ There are no mediation services / structures available in our
33.4	Is co-mediation (<i>i.e.</i> , mediation involving two mediators – one from each State) available in [name of your State] for international family disputes which are within the scope of the 1996 Convention?	State Yes Please provide brief details of any available scheme (e.g., binational mediation programmes and any relevant web links):
33.5	How can individuals obtain information on suitable mediators in [name of your State]? Please tick all the boxes that apply.	 ☐ Lists of mediators are available ☐ Through the Central Authority ☐ Via accrediting bodies (please provide details): ☐ Through other sources (please specify): ☐ Other methods of accessing information are available (please specify): ☐ No general information is available. Individuals must carry out research themselves
33.6	How are the costs of mediation met in [name of your State]?	☐ If an individual qualifies for free or reduced rate legal assistance, this will always include the cost of mediation ☐ If an individual qualifies for free or reduced rate legal assistance, this may cover the cost of mediation ☐ The Central Authority will meet the costs associated with mediation ☐ Other sources of funding are available (please specify): ☐ The costs of mediation must be borne by the parties ☐ Other (please explain):
33.7	At what stage of applications under the 1996 Convention is mediation available in [name of your State]?	 □ At all stages, including prior to any application and as a preventive measure where necessary (please provide further explanation if necessary): □ Only before an application has been made to the relevant Central Authority □ Only after an application has been made to the relevant Central Authority □ Only before an application has been filed in the relevant competent authority □ Only after an application has been filed in the relevant competent authority □ Other (please specify):
33.8	Are cases assessed in [name of your State], to determine their suitability for mediation?	 Yes, always (please specify who carries out such an assessment of suitability): ☐ Mediators ☐ Other (please specify): ☐ Sometimes (please elaborate and specify who carries out such an assessment of suitability, when it happens): ☐ No, never
33.9	Can legal proceedings in [name of your State] be suspended while mediation is being carried out?	☐ Yes☐ No
33.10	How, if at all, are the views of the child taken into account in the mediation process?	Rules / legislation require that, if the child is of a sufficient age / maturity, the child must be seen by the mediator Rules / legislation require that, if the child is of a sufficient age / maturity, the views of the child must be communicated

	to the mediator but this need not be done directly (please explain the method(s) used):
	lt is within the discretion of the particular mediator
	☐ The child's views play no part in the mediation
	Other (please specify):
33.11 What safeguards are available in [name of your State] in cases where allegations of domestic violence and / or other forms	☐ The address and other contact details of the alleged victim are kept confidential☐ Other safeguards (please specify):
of abuse are made in a dispute which goes to mediation?	
33.12 Are these safeguards required by rules / legislation or left to the discretion	Required by legislation / rules of State Left to the discretion of the mediator
of the mediator?	
33.13 Are there legal restrictions on the content of mediated agreements regarding family law matters in [name of your State]?	☐ Yes (please specify): ☐ No
33.14 Are there any additional formalities	Yes (please specify):
required in [name of your State] to make	☐ Notarisation of the mediation agreement
family mediated agreements involving children enforceable?	Court approval of the mediation agreement. Please specify competent court:
	Registration of the mediation agreement with the court. Please specify the competent court:
	☐ Other (please specify):
	☐ No additional formalities are required. Family mediated agreements involving children are immediately enforceable.
33.15 Once approved by or registered with a court in [name of your State], is the mediated agreement treated as an order of that court?	☐ Yes ☐ No
33.16 In [name of your State], is it possible to turn a mediated agreement into a court order?	Yes Please briefly explain what steps are required and which court would be competent:
	□No
33.17 In [name of your State], who bears the	The parties
cost of rendering the mediated agreement enforceable?	The cost is covered by any free or reduced rate legal assistance provided to one / both parties
	Other (please specify):
	☐ There are no costs
33.18 Can an agreement involving children	Yes
mediated in another State be approved by a court in [name of your State] or	☐ No, a different method for formalising the agreement must be used. Please specify:
otherwise be formalised in [name of your State] in the same manner as a mediated agreement reached in [name of your	☐ No, it is not possible to formalise an agreement mediated in another State
State]?	Other (please specify):
Last Update: [INSERT DATE]	
34 Other forms of ADR	
34.1 What other forms of ADR are available in	☐ In-court conciliation
[name of your State] for the resolution of	Out-of-court conciliation
international family disputes falling	Collaborative law

within the scope of the 1996	☐ Early Neutral Evaluation
Convention?	Other (please specify):
	☐ No other forms of ADR are available
34.2 Does [name of your State] regulate othe forms of ADR in the same manner as	
mediation?	Two (piedase apeony).
Last Update: [INSERT DATE]	

XI. General

35 International certificates under Article 40

See Question 5 above for the contact details of the designated authority, if any.		
35.1. Where a child is habitually resident in [name of your State] or where authorities in [name of your State] have taken a measure of protection, does [name of your State] provide (if requested) for the delivery of certificates to a person having parental responsibility or entrusted with the protection of the person or property of the child, indicating the capacity in which said person may act and the powers conferred, under Article 40?	☐ Yes (please ensure you have responded to item 5 above) ☐ No	
35.2. If yes to the above question, how may certificates under Article 40 be requested in [name of your State]? Please tick all boxes that apply.	 □ By an application on a website □ By e-mail □ By mail □ By phone □ In person □ Other (please specify): 	
35.3. In addition to the official language of [name of your State], can the certificate be issued in different languages?	☐ Yes ☐ English ☐ French ☐ Spanish ☐ Other (please specify): ☐ No	
Last Update: [INSERT DATE]		

36 Training

What measures are available in [name of your State] to ensure that persons responsible for applying the 1996 Convention (e.g., judges, lawyers and Central Authority personnel) receive appropriate information and training? Please tick all the boxes that apply. Please contact the Permanent Bureau for information in relation to forms of assistance which may be available for this purpose.	 ☐ Training as required for Central Authority staff ☐ Training as required for competent authorities ☐ Updates as required on legal developments related to the 1996 Convention provided to staff responsible for its implementation ☐ Training as required for lawyers ☐ Other (please specify):
, ,	Specifically in respect of judges:
	Sending a basic package of information on the 1996 Child Protection Convention to judges
	☐ Training through a dedicated judicial studies board

		Participation in judicial training seminars
	'	Participation in the International Hague Network of Judges
	'	Other (please specify):
Last l	Jpdate: [INSERT DATE]	
37	Other information	•
37.1.	Does the Central Authority of [name of your State] have regular meetings with competent authorities to exchange any experience or insights on the implementation and operation of the 1996 Convention?	☐ Yes If possible, please indicate how often such meetings take place: ☐ Once a year ☐ Twice a year ☐ As needed ☐ Other (please specify): ☐ No
37.2.	What other services / resources are available in [name of your State] to assist those involved in the international protection of children? Please tick all the boxes that apply. Please indicate, where available, contact details, websites and costs for such services.	□ NGOs and international organisations authorised by the government of [your State] to work on the protection of children in cross-border situations (please provide contact information) Name of organisation: Telephone: Fax: Email: Website: □ Financial / legal assistance □ Social / welfare assistance □ Other (please specify):
Last L	Jpdate: [INSERT DATE]	
Luci	puate. [INOLITY D. VIL]	
XII.	Direct judicial communication	IS
38	Direct judicial communications	
38.1	Has a Member of the International Hague Network of Judges been designated in [name of your State]? For more information go to www.hcch.net under "1980 Child Abduction Section" then "The International Hague Network of Judges" or "Judicial Communications".	Yes Please specify their name(s): Please do not list the contact details of the judge(s) here. Instead, please ensure that the name, position, court and contact details have been provided to the Permanent Bureau No
38.2	Is there a legislative basis upon which judges in [name of your State] can engage in direct judicial communications?	☐ Yes Please specify how the legislation can be accessed (e.g., a web link) or attach a copy: ☐ No
38.3	In the absence of legislation, can judges in [name of your State] engage in direct judicial communications?	☐ Yes ☐ No (please explain):
38.4	What means of communication are available to judges in [name of your State] to liaise with the International Hague Network of Judges?	☐ Telephone ☐ Secure e-mail ☐ Registered mail ☐ Other (please specify):
Last Update: [INSERT DATE]		

XIII. Electronic resources

39 Resources

Please use the space below to provide any additional links to relevant legislation, rules of private international law, guidelines or protocols regarding the protection of children, and relevant websites (e.g., of courts and other competent authorities, public bodies, agencies, non-governmental organisations, associations) and any other electronic resource pertinent to the protection of children.

Last Update: [INSERT DATE]