

**PROJET DE PROFIL DES ÉTATS –
CONVENTION RECOUVREMENT DES ALIMENTS DE 2007**

Coordonné par le Bureau Permanent

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**DRAFT COUNTRY PROFILE –
2007 CHILD SUPPORT CONVENTION**

Co-ordinated by the Permanent Bureau

*Document préliminaire No 3 d'août 2009 à l'intention
de la Commission spéciale de novembre 2009 sur la mise en œuvre de
la Convention de 2007 sur le recouvrement des aliments et
du Protocole de 2007 sur la loi applicable aux obligations alimentaires*

*Preliminary Document No 3 of August 2009 for the attention
of the Special Commission of November 2009 on the implementation of
the 2007 Child Support Convention and of
the 2007 Protocol on the Law Applicable to Maintenance Obligations*

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FOREWORD TO THE COUNTRY PROFILE¹

A Contracting State may use this Country Profile to fulfill its obligations to provide information to the Permanent Bureau of the Hague Conference on Private International Law under the *Convention on the International Recovery of Child Support and Other Forms of Family Maintenance* (see Art. 57(2)).

The document is divided into two stages. Stage 1 includes information required under Articles 4(3), 6(3) and 57 of the Convention and other information that will be necessary for implementation of the Convention. Stage 2 includes additional information which may facilitate operation of the Convention.

The Country Profile is a standardised document that will be available to States to complete, view and update electronically. The Country Profile is intended to facilitate:

- a) timely compliance with the obligations of the Convention with a minimum of administrative effort;
- b) information exchange between Contracting States;
- c) cost effective translation of the information provided by Contracting States into English, French, Spanish, and other languages as required by Contracting States;
- d) accurate and prompt case processing by well informed caseworkers;
- e) knowledgeable service to applicants under the convention;
- f) prompt updates of the information provided.

This draft Country Profile is based on the final text of the *Hague Convention of 23 November 2007 on the International Recovery of Child Support and Other Forms of Family Maintenance* as agreed at the Twenty-First Session of the Hague Conference on Private International Law, to be referred to, for the purposes of this document, as "the Convention".

The draft Country Profile is designed to reflect an implementation of the Convention where no declaration or reservation in relation to the scope of the Convention have been made (*i.e.*, implementation limited to the compulsory scope of the Convention).

¹ From 2004 until 2009, the following experts have contributed on a regular basis to the work of the Country Profile Sub-Committee: Jorge Aguilar Castillo (Costa Rica), Mounia Allouch (Canada), Philip Ashmore (United Kingdom), Gay Bailey (United Kingdom), Ann Barkley, Co-Chair (United States of America), Margot Bean, past Co-Chair (United States of America), Florence Borcy (Belgium), Annick Boulay-Bramley, Co-Chair (Canada), Ioana Burduf (Romania), Zoe Cameron (Australia), Mary Helen Carlson (United States of America), Mary Dahlberg (United States of America), Victoria Damrell (United Kingdom), Katie Donley (United States of America), Michelle Douglas-Cummings (Canada), Hilde Drenth (Netherlands), Robert Fucik (Austria), Margaret Haynes (United States of America), Matthias Heger (Germany), Simon Kay (Australia), Irène Lambreth (Belgium), Katie Levasseur (Canada), Cynthia Lucas (United States of America), Elizabeth Matheson (United States of America), Danièle Ménard, past Co-Chair (Canada), Mathias Metzner (Germany), Anne Miller (United States of America), David Mole (Australia), Tracy Morrow (Canada), Harald Schoen (Germany), Mariana Silveira (United States of America), Boni Moraes Soares (Brazil), Carolin Speich (Germany), Amanda Stuart (Canada), Karlijne van Bree (Belgium), Ulrich Vogt (Germany), Anette Wermter (Germany) and LaShawn Williams (United States of America). In addition, the following experts participated in meetings of the Sub-Committee held in Ottawa (2006) and London (2007): Agnieszka Borowska (Poland), James Ding (China), Margot Greene (Barbados), Cristina Irimia (Romania), Collin Pipe (United Kingdom), Werner Schütz (Austria), Anna Svantesson (Sweden), Ana Maria Trejos (Costa Rica), Xu Yu (China) and Rostislav Zalesky (Czech Republic).

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STAGE 1

Last update of the Country Profile: [INSERT DATE]

States are encouraged to include Internet sites where that will provide additional relevant information. States should not provide an Internet site as a complete answer to any question.

I – DESIGNATED CENTRAL AUTHORITIES (Art. 4 of the Convention)	
1.	CENTRAL AUTHORITY TO WHICH COMMUNICATION SHOULD BE ADDRESSED
a.	Name
b.	Address
c.	Territorial or personal extent of functions, if applicable
d.	Telephone
e.	Fax
f.	E-mail
g.	Website
h.	Contact person(s)
i.	Language

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2.	OTHER DESIGNATED CENTRAL AUTHORITY (IF APPLICABLE)
a.	Name
b.	Address
c.	Territorial or personal extent of functions, if applicable
d.	Telephone
e.	Fax
f.	E-mail
g.	Website
h.	Contact person(s)
i.	Language

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3. LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS (Art. 44 of the Convention)	
a. Does your State require that any application and related documents be accompanied by a translation? If so, in what language? (Art. 44(1) of the Convention)	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Into official language of our State; <input type="checkbox"/> Into another language. Please specify.
b. Does your State have more than one official language?	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, please specify
c. If you have more than one official language in your State and cannot, for reasons of internal law, accept for the whole of your territory documents in one of those languages, please specify the language in which documents or translations shall be drawn up for submission in the specified parts of your territory. (Art. 44(2) of the Convention)	
d. For other communications between Central Authorities, do you object to the use of either French or English? (Arts 44(3) and 62 of the Convention)	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Object to English <input type="checkbox"/> Object to French.

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4. FUNCTIONS OF CENTRAL AUTHORITIES (Arts 5 and 6 of the Convention)	
a. Can the functions of the Central Authorities be performed by public bodies, or other bodies subject to the supervision of the competent authorities of your State? (Art. 6(3) of the Convention)	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, please complete question 4.b. below.
b. Designation and contact details of any such public bodies, other bodies and the extent of their functions. (Art. 6(3) of the Convention)	Name Address Territorial and / or personal extent of functions Telephone Fax E-mail Website Contact person(s)

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<p>c. Do you have an agreement with another Contracting State for the purpose of improving the application of the Convention between yourself and that other Contracting State?</p> <p>(Art. 51 of the Convention)</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Bilateral agreement (please provide a link to a website or a copy to that agreement);</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other (please provide a link to a website or a copy to that agreement).</p>
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<p>5. SPECIFIC FUNCTIONS OF THE CENTRAL AUTHORITIES IN RELATION TO APPLICATIONS UNDER CHAPTER III (Art. 6(2) of the Convention)</p>	
<p>a. How do you provide or facilitate the provision of legal assistance in your State?</p> <p>(Art. 6(2) <i>a</i>) of the Convention and for the definition of "legal assistance" see Art. 3 <i>c</i>) of the Convention)</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Legal assistance is not required. Administrative assistance is provided;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Legal assistance is not required in most cases. Administrative assistance is provided. Legal assistance is provided where required;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Legal assistance is provided in all proceedings, including appeals;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Legal assistance is provided in all proceedings, excluding appeals;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Legal assistance is provided by lawyers employed by the Central Authority;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Legal assistance is provided by lawyers employed in State legal assistance bodies;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Legal assistance is are provided by private lawyers and funded by the State;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other, please explain.</p>
<p>b. How do you help locate a debtor or creditor resident in your State?</p> <p>(Art. 6(2) <i>b</i>) of the Convention)</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> The Central Authority conducts a manual search, using the following publicly available directories:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Telephone directory;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Electoral roll;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other, please identify.</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The Central Authority conducts an automated search, using the following government databases: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Social security database; <input type="checkbox"/> Taxation database; <input type="checkbox"/> Employment database; <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation database; <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify. <input type="checkbox"/> The Central Authority refers a locate request to an appropriate public body, which provides locate services. Please specify. <input type="checkbox"/> The Central Authority refers a locate request to a private entity, which provides locate services. Please specify. <input type="checkbox"/> Population registry database. <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify.
<p>c. How do you help obtain relevant information concerning the income and if necessary other financial circumstances of the debtor or creditor resident in your State, including the location of assets? (Art. 6(2) c) of the Convention)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The Central Authority has access to the following information through available databases: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Wages; <input type="checkbox"/> Other income; <input type="checkbox"/> Tax information; <input type="checkbox"/> Receipt of public assistance; <input type="checkbox"/> Financial institution records; <input type="checkbox"/> Ownership of motor vehicles; <input type="checkbox"/> Land and title registry; <input type="checkbox"/> Moveable property registry; <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify. <input type="checkbox"/> The Central Authority refers the application to the appropriate public body that can obtain relevant financial and asset information. Please specify. <input type="checkbox"/> The Central Authority will contact the debtor or creditor and request that the individual provide information about his or her financial circumstances. <input type="checkbox"/> The Central Authority will exercise legal powers to require that information be provided by persons or bodies, where applicable. <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify.

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<p>d. How do you encourage amicable solutions with a view to obtaining voluntary payment of child maintenance, where suitable by use of mediation, conciliation, or similar processes? (Art. 6(2) <i>d</i>) of the Convention)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The use of mediation, conciliation, or similar processes is mandatory in every child maintenance case; <input type="checkbox"/> The Central Authority encourages the use of mediation, conciliation, or similar processes in every child maintenance case; <input type="checkbox"/> The use of mediation, conciliation, or similar processes depends upon the facts of the case. Please specify; <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify.
<p>e. How do you facilitate the ongoing enforcement of child maintenance decisions including any arrears? (Art. 6(2) <i>e</i>) of the Convention)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The Central Authority has enforcement responsibility. Enforcement remedies are listed in Stage I, question IV.4.a.; <input type="checkbox"/> The Central Authority refers an application requiring ongoing enforcement to the appropriate public body. Enforcement remedies are listed in Stage I, question IV.4.a.; <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify.
<p>f. How do you facilitate the collection and expeditious transfer of child maintenance payments? (Art. 6(2) <i>f</i>) of the Convention)</p>	<p>Collection of payments within the requested State</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The Central Authority is responsible for the collection of child maintenance payments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Payments must be made to a central location; <input type="checkbox"/> Payments may be made at local locations; <input type="checkbox"/> Payment may be made by preauthorised withdrawal from a financial institution account; <input type="checkbox"/> Payments may be made by payroll deductions; <input type="checkbox"/> Payments may be made by cheque or warrant; <input type="checkbox"/> Payments may be made by credit card; <input type="checkbox"/> Payments may be made by electronic funds transfer; <input type="checkbox"/> Payment may be made by cash; <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The Central Authority is not responsible for the collection of child maintenance. It refers an application requiring ongoing collection to the appropriate public body for collection of payments. <input type="checkbox"/> The Central Authority is not responsible for the collection of child maintenance payments. This collection is handled privately. <p>Transfer of payments to the requesting State</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The Central Authority or public body is responsible for transferring child maintenance payments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Payments may be transferred by cheque; <input type="checkbox"/> Payments may be transferred by electronic funds transfer. <input type="checkbox"/> Upon request from a Central Authority in the requesting State, the Central Authority will obtain and provide information from the appropriate public body concerning the transfer of child maintenance payments. <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify.
<p>g. How do you facilitate the obtaining of documentary or other evidence? (Art. 6(2) <i>g</i>) of the Convention)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The Central Authority applies the following treaties or Conventions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> 1970 Evidence Convention <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify. <input type="checkbox"/> The Central Authority applies domestic law to obtain documentary or other evidence. <input type="checkbox"/> Under the above treaties, Conventions, or laws, the Central Authority is responsible for the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Issuing an administrative subpoena to obtain documentary or other evidence; <input type="checkbox"/> Referring the matter to the appropriate competent authority to obtain documentary or other evidence; <input type="checkbox"/> Seeking the voluntary submission of documentary or other evidence; <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify.

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<p>h. How do you provide assistance in establishing parentage where necessary for the recovery of maintenance? (Art. 6(2) <i>h</i>) of the Convention)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The Central Authority will provide the following assistance, if necessary: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Co-ordinate genetic testing; <input type="checkbox"/> Seek a voluntary acknowledgment of parentage; <input type="checkbox"/> Seek a legal determination of parentage through a judicial proceeding; <input type="checkbox"/> Seek a legal determination of parentage through an administrative proceeding; <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify. <input type="checkbox"/> The Central Authority will refer an application, where the establishment of parentage is necessary for the recovery of maintenance, to the appropriate competent authority. Please specify. <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify.
<p>i. How do you initiate or facilitate the institution of proceedings to obtain any necessary provisional measures that are territorial in nature and the purpose of which is to secure the outcome of a pending child maintenance application (<i>e.g.</i>, freezing or attaching an asset)? (Art. 6(2) <i>i</i>) of the Convention)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The Central Authority has authority to initiate such proceedings; <input type="checkbox"/> The Central Authority lacks authority to initiate such proceedings. It will refer the matter to the appropriate public body to initiate such proceedings; <input type="checkbox"/> Such provisional measures are not available under domestic law; <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify.
<p>j. How do you facilitate service of documents? (Art. 6(2) <i>j</i>) of the Convention)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The Central Authority complies with the requirements of the following treaties or Conventions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> 1965 Service Convention; <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify. <input type="checkbox"/> The Central Authority complies with domestic law that governs the service of documents. <input type="checkbox"/> Under the above treaties, Conventions, or laws, the Central Authority is responsible for the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Service of documents for a fee; <input type="checkbox"/> Service of documents at no cost to the applicant; <input type="checkbox"/> Forwarding the documents needing to be served to the appropriate public body; <input type="checkbox"/> Forwarding the documents needing to be served to a private contractor; <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify.

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II – INFORMATION CONCERNING APPLICATIONS UNDER THE CONVENTION	
1. APPLICATIONS FOR RECOGNITION OR RECOGNITION AND ENFORCEMENT OF A DECISION MADE IN A CONTRACTING STATE (Art. 10(1) <i>a</i>) of the Convention)	
<p>a. Has your State made a reservation to a basis for recognition and enforcement under Article 20(1) <i>c</i>), <i>e</i>), <i>f</i>) of the Convention? Please check all that apply.</p> <p>(Art. 20(1) <i>c</i>), <i>e</i>), <i>f</i>) of the Convention)</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The creditor was habitually resident in the State of origin at the time proceedings were instituted;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Except in disputes relating to maintenance obligations in respect of children, there has been agreement to the jurisdiction in writing by the parties;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The decision was made by an authority exercising jurisdiction on a matter of personal status or parental responsibility, unless that jurisdiction was based solely on the nationality of one of the parties.</p>
<p>b. The following is information required by Articles 11 and 25 to be included in an application for recognition or recognition and enforcement of a maintenance decision made in another Contracting State.</p> <p>** It is important to note that provisions on the protection of personal data, confidentiality and non-disclosure of information to protect the health, safety or liberty of a person are contained in Articles 38, 39 and 40 of the Convention.</p> <p>(Arts 11, 25, 38, 39 and 40 of the Convention)</p>	<p><u>About the creditor:</u></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full name(required);</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Date of birth (required);</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Address (required);</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contact details (required);</p> <p><u>About the debtor:</u></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full name (required);</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Date of birth, if known (required);</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Address, if known (required);</p> <p><u>About the person for whom maintenance is sought:</u></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full name (required);</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Date of birth (required);</p> <p><u>Other information:</u></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nature of the application (required);</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The grounds upon which the application is based (required);</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If the applicant is the creditor, information concerning where the maintenance payment should be sent or electronically transmitted (required);</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information or document specified by declaration in accordance with Article 63 (required);</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The name and contact details of the person or unit from the Central Authority responsible for processing the application (required).</p>

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<p>c. According to Articles 11(3) and 25, the following documents are the only documents that a State can require for recognition or recognition and enforcement of a maintenance decision made in another Contracting State. Please check all that apply.</p> <p>(Arts 11(3) and 25 of the Convention)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A complete text of the decision or decisions (required); <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A document stating that the decision is enforceable in the State of origin and, in the case of a decision by an administrative authority, a document stating that the requirements of Article 19(3) are met unless that State has specified in accordance with Article 57 that decisions of its administrative authorities always meet those requirements (required); <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If the respondent did not appear and was not represented in the proceedings in the State of origin, a document or documents attesting, as appropriate, either that the respondent had proper notice of the proceedings and an opportunity to be heard, or that the respondent had proper notice of the decision and the opportunity to challenge or to appeal it on fact and law (required); <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A document showing the amount of any arrears and the date such amount was calculated (required); <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In the case of a decision providing for automatic adjustment by indexation, a document providing the information necessary to make the appropriate calculations (required); <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Documentation showing the extent to which the applicant received free legal assistance in the State of origin (required); <input type="checkbox"/> An abstract or extract of the decision drawn up by the competent authority of the state of origin, in lieu of the complete text of the decision or decisions.
<p>d. Do you have a prescribed or preferred form for an application to recognise and enforce a decision? If so, please attach a copy, a website or both.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes – the standard form recommended and published by the Hague Conference; <input type="checkbox"/> Yes – the form is attached or available through a linked website (please provide) or both.

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<p>e. Are there any differences to the information above when the application is made by a public body acting in place of an individual to whom maintenance is owed or a public body which claims reimbursement of benefits provided in place of maintenance? If so, please specify.</p> <p>(Art. 36 of the Convention)</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, please specify.</p>
<p>f. Are there any differences compared to the above if the application is for a maintenance obligation other than child maintenance? If so, please specify.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, please specify.</p>

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<p>2. APPLICATIONS FOR ENFORCEMENT OF A DECISION MADE OR RECOGNISED IN YOUR STATE (Art. 10(1) <i>b</i>) of the Convention)</p>	
<p>a. In addition to pre-checked application contents required by Article 11, what <u>information</u> do you need in order to process an application for enforcement of a child maintenance decision made or recognised in your State?</p> <p>** It is important to note that provisions on the protection of personal data, confidentiality and non-disclosure of information to protect the health, safety or liberty of a person are contained in Articles 38, 39 and 40 of the Convention.</p> <p>(Arts 11, 38, 39 and 40 of the Convention)</p>	<p><u>About the creditor:</u></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full name(required);</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Date of birth (required);</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Address (required);</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contact details (required);</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Personal identification number (such as the social security number);</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify.</p> <p><u>About the debtor:</u></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full name (required);</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Date of birth, if known (required);</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Address, if known (required);</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Telephone number, if known;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Financial circumstances, if known;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Name and address of employer, if known;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Nature and location of assets, if known;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Any other information that may assist in location of debtor;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Personal identification number (such as the social security number);</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify.</p>

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	<p><u>About the person for whom maintenance is sought:</u></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full name (required);</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Date of birth (required);</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Care arrangements;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Personal identification number (such as the social security number);</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify.</p> <p><u>Other information:</u></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nature of the application (required);</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The grounds upon which the application is based (required);</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If the applicant is the creditor, information concerning where the child maintenance payment should be sent or electronically transmitted (required);</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The name and contact details of the person or unit from the Central Authority responsible for processing the application. (required);</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify.</p>
<p>b. What <u>documents</u> do you require to accept an application to enforce a child maintenance decision made or recognised in your State? Please specify if any documents must be original and if certification is required for copies.</p> <p>(Art. 25 of the Convention)</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> A complete text of the decision or decisions;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A document showing the amount of any arrears and the date such amount was calculated;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> In the case of a decision providing for automatic adjustment by indexation, a document providing the information necessary to make the appropriate calculations;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Documentation showing the extent to which the applicant received free legal assistance in the State of origin;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify.</p>
<p>c. Can you accept an application to enforce a decision for a prior period only?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, please specify</p>
<p>d. Do you have a prescribed or preferred form for an application to enforce a child maintenance decision made or recognised in your State? If so, please attach a copy.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes – the standard form recommended and published by the Hague Conference;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes – the form is attached or available through a linked website (please provide) or both.</p>

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<p>e. Are there any differences to the information above when the application is made by a public body acting in place of an individual to whom maintenance is owed or a public body which claims reimbursement of benefits provided in place of maintenance? If so, please specify.</p> <p>(Art. 36 of the Convention)</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, please specify.</p>
<p>f. Are there any differences compared to the above if the application is for a maintenance obligation other than child maintenance? If so, please specify.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, please specify.</p>

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<p>3. APPLICATIONS TO ESTABLISH A DECISION IN YOUR STATE (Art. 10(1) <i>c</i>) and <i>d</i>) of the Convention)</p>	
<p>Add in the electronic version of the Profile something that will allow repeating the answers given in response to the questions under section II.3 to similar questions asked under section II.4 and II.5.</p>	
<p>a. In any action to establish support, including Article 10(1) <i>c</i>) and <i>d</i>) applications, what are the jurisdictional bases in your State for establishing child maintenance obligations? Please check all that apply.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> The debtor was habitually resident in the State of origin at the time proceedings were instituted;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The debtor has submitted to the jurisdiction either expressly or by defending on the merits of the case without objecting to the jurisdiction at the first available opportunity;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The creditor was habitually resident in the State of origin at the time proceedings were instituted;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The child for whom maintenance was ordered was habitually resident in the State of origin at the time proceedings were instituted, provided that the debtor has lived with the child in that State or has resided in that State and provided maintenance for the child there;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Except in disputes relating to maintenance obligations in respect of children, there has been agreement to the jurisdiction in writing by the parties;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The authority has jurisdiction on a matter of personal status or parental responsibility that is not based solely on the nationality of one of the parties;</p>

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	<input type="checkbox"/> Nationality of the creditor; <input type="checkbox"/> Nationality of the person for whom maintenance is sought; <input type="checkbox"/> Nationality of the debtor; <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify.
<p>b. Is it possible to seek enforcement of a decision by indicating so in the application for establishment?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, another application is not needed if enforcement is requested in the application for establishment; <input type="checkbox"/> No, a separate application for enforcement is required.
<p>c. In addition to pre-checked application contents required by Article 11, what <u>information</u> do you need in order to process an application to establish a child maintenance decision?</p> <p>** It is important to note that provisions on the protection of personal data, confidentiality and non-disclosure of information to protect the health, safety or liberty of a person are contained in Articles 38, 39 and 40 of the Convention.</p> <p>(Arts 11, 38, 39 and 40 of the Convention)</p>	<p><u>About the creditor:</u></p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full name (required); <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Date of birth (required); <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Address (required); <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contact details (required); <input type="checkbox"/> Financial circumstances; <input type="checkbox"/> Assets and liabilities, if known; <input type="checkbox"/> Personal identification number (such as the Social security number); <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify. <p><u>About the debtor:</u></p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full name (required); <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Date of birth, if known (required); <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Address, if known (required); <input type="checkbox"/> Telephone number, if known; <input type="checkbox"/> Financial circumstances, if known; <input type="checkbox"/> Name and address of employer, if known; <input type="checkbox"/> Nature and location of assets, if known; <input type="checkbox"/> Any other information that may assist in location of debtor; <input type="checkbox"/> Personal identification number (such as the social security number); <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify.

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	<p><u>About the person for whom maintenance is sought:</u></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full name (required);</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Date of birth (required);</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Identification of parents;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Care arrangements;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Personal identification number (such as the social security number);</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify.</p> <p><u>Other information:</u></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nature of the application (required);</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The grounds upon which the application is based (required);</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If the applicant is the creditor, information concerning where the child maintenance payment should be sent or electronically transmitted (required);</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The name and contact details of the person or unit from the Central Authority responsible for processing the application. (required);</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Case history, please specify (<i>i.e.</i>, if there is an agreement between the parties or not);</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Family history, please specify (<i>i.e.</i>, if the parties were married, how many children);</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The date from which maintenance is requested;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The applicant's view of the appropriate amount of maintenance;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify.</p>
<p>d. What <u>documents</u> do you require to accompany an application to establish a child maintenance decision? Please specify if any documents must be original and if certification is required for copies.</p> <p>(Art. 11(3) of the Convention)</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Evidence of birth (birth certificate);</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Evidence of obligation to provide maintenance;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, please see question II.3.g.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Financial statement:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Creditor;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Child;</p>

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	<input type="checkbox"/> Child status: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Evidence of attendance at secondary or post-secondary educational institution; <input type="checkbox"/> Evidence of disability; <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify. <input type="checkbox"/> Any existing child maintenance orders or written agreements between the parties, or relating to any child for whom maintenance is claimed;
<p>e. Is there a time limit before which an applicant must seek a decision establishing a child maintenance obligation? If so, please indicate the time limit that applies.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Before ___ years after the parents separate. Please specify number of years; <input type="checkbox"/> Before expiration of the normal duration of support (see III.1.g); <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify.
<p>f. Is it necessary for an applicant to prove that an obligation to provide maintenance exists when an application is made to establish a child maintenance decision?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
<p>g. If so, by what means can an applicant prove that an obligation to provide maintenance exists?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant provides a marriage certificate showing that the debtor was married to a parent of the child when the child was born;
	<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant provides a civil union certificate showing that the debtor was in a civil union with a parent of the child when the child was born;
	<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant provides an affidavit stating that the debtor was living with the parent of the child when the child was born;
	<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant provides a marriage certificate showing that the debtor was married to a parent of the child when the child was conceived;
	<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant provides a civil union certificate showing that the debtor was in a registered civil union with a parent of the child when the child was conceived;

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant provides an affidavit stating that the debtor was living with a parent of the child when the child was conceived; <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant provides a copy of a birth certificate showing that the debtor is listed as a parent of the child; <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant provides a copy of an entry in a birth registry showing that the debtor is listed as a parent of the child; <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant provides a copy of a writing in which the alleged debtor has acknowledged parentage; <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant provides a copy of an adoption certificate stating that the debtor has legally adopted the child; <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant provides a copy of genetic test results that indicate a high probability that the debtor is a parent of the child; <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant provides an affidavit stating that for the first two years of the child's life, the debtor resided in the same household with the child and openly held the child out as the party's own; <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant provides a copy of a decision in which a competent authority has established parentage; <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify.
<p>h. Is there any time limit for establishing parentage or an obligation to provide maintenance? If so, please indicate the time limit that applies.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Before expiration of the normal duration of support (see III.1.g); <input type="checkbox"/> Child is aged 2; <input type="checkbox"/> Child is aged 5; <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify.
<p>i. What costs arise in your State for the creditor when obtaining a maintenance decision, including appeal procedures? Please include all costs arising in practice (<i>e.g.</i>, court costs, fees for an administrative authority, costs for experts, legal costs).</p>	

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j. Can the creditor claim reimbursement of expenses incurred from the debtor (<i>e.g.</i> , for a lawyer)?	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, please specify.
k. Do you have a prescribed or preferred form for an application to establish a decision? If so, please attach a copy, a link to a website or both.	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, the standard form recommended and published by the Hague Conference; <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, the form is attached or available through a linked website (please provide) or both.
l. Are there any differences to the information above when the application is made by a public body acting in place of an individual to whom maintenance is owed or a public body which claims reimbursement of benefits provided in place of maintenance? If so, please specify. (Art. 36 of the Convention)	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, please specify.
m. Are there any differences compared to the above if the application is for a maintenance obligation other than child maintenance? If so, please specify.	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, please specify.

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4. APPLICATIONS TO MODIFY A CHILD MAINTENANCE DECISION MADE IN YOUR STATE (Art. 10(1) <i>e</i>) and 10(2) <i>b</i>) of the Convention)	
a. In addition to pre-checked application contents required by Article 11, what <u>information</u> do you need in order to process an application to modify a child maintenance decision made in your State? ** It is important to note that provisions on the protection of personal data, confidentiality and non-disclosure of information to protect the health, safety or liberty of a person are contained in Articles 38, 39 and 40 of the Convention. (Arts 11, 38, 39 and 40 of the Convention)	<u>About the creditor:</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full name (required); <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Date of birth (required); <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Address (required); <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contact details (required); <input type="checkbox"/> Telephone number, if known; <input type="checkbox"/> Financial circumstances, if known; <input type="checkbox"/> Assets and liabilities, if known; <input type="checkbox"/> Any other information that may assist with location of creditor; <input type="checkbox"/> Personal identification number (such as the social security number); <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify.

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	<p><u>About the debtor:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full name (required); <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Date of birth, if known (required); <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Address, if known (required); <input type="checkbox"/> Telephone number, if known; <input type="checkbox"/> Financial circumstances, if known; <input type="checkbox"/> Name and address of employer, if known; <input type="checkbox"/> Nature and location of assets, if known; <input type="checkbox"/> Any other information that may assist with location of debtor; <input type="checkbox"/> Personal identification number (such as the social security number); <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify. <p><u>About the person for whom maintenance is sought:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full name (required); <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Date of birth (required); <input type="checkbox"/> Care arrangements; <input type="checkbox"/> Personal identification number (such as the social security number); <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify. <p><u>Other information:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nature of the application (required); <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The grounds upon which the application is based (required); <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If the applicant is the creditor, information concerning where the child maintenance payment should be sent or electronically transmitted (required); <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The name and contact details of the person or unit from the Central Authority responsible for processing the application (required); <input type="checkbox"/> The applicant's view of the appropriate amount of modified maintenance; <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify.
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<p>b. What <u>documents</u> do you <u>require</u> to accompany an application to modify a child maintenance decision made in your State? Please specify if any documents must be original and if certification is required for copies.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Special expense claim; <input type="checkbox"/> Pay stubs or wage statements establishing a change in income; <input type="checkbox"/> Written agreement between the parties related to modification of the child maintenance; <input type="checkbox"/> The information identifying the decision to be modified; <input type="checkbox"/> The latest tax certificate of the applicant, if possible; <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify.
<p>c. In what circumstances can an application be made for modification of a child maintenance decision made in your State?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The circumstances of the child have changed so as to justify the modification; <input type="checkbox"/> The circumstances of the debtor have changed so as to justify the modification; <input type="checkbox"/> The circumstances of the creditor have changed so as to justify the modification; <input type="checkbox"/> The care arrangements for the child have changed so as to justify the modification; <input type="checkbox"/> The cost of living has changed to such an extent as to justify the modification; <input type="checkbox"/> If the order was made by consent, the amount ordered to be paid is not proper or adequate; <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify.
<p>d. Can the modification be made retroactively? If so, please specify the basis and any limitations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Please specify the basis; – Please specify any limitations.
<p>e. Do you have a prescribed or preferred form for an application to modify a child maintenance decision made in your State? If so, please attach a copy or link to a website or both.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes – the standard form recommended and published by the Hague Conference; <input type="checkbox"/> Yes – the form is attached or available through a linked website (please provide) or both.
<p>f. Are there any differences compared to the above if the application is for a maintenance obligation other than child maintenance? If so, please specify.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, please specify.

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5. APPLICATIONS TO MODIFY A CHILD MAINTENANCE DECISION MADE IN A STATE OTHER THAN YOUR STATE (Art. 10(1) *f*) and 10(2) *c*) of the Convention)

a. In addition to application contents required by Article 11, what information do you need in order to process an application to modify a child maintenance decision made in a State other than your State?

** It is important to note that provisions on the protection of personal data, confidentiality and non-disclosure of information to protect the health, safety or liberty of a person are contained in Articles 38, 39 and 40 of the Convention.

(Arts 11, 38, 39 and 40 of the Convention)

About the creditor:

- Full name (required);
- Date of birth (required);
- Address (required);
- Telephone number, if known;
- Financial circumstances, if known;
- Assets and liabilities, if known;
- Any other information that may assist with location of creditor;
- Personal identification number (such as the social security number);
- Other, please specify.

About the debtor:

- Full name (required);
- Date of birth, if known (required);
- Address, if known (required);
- Telephone number, if known;
- Financial circumstances, if known;
- Name and address of employer, if known;
- Nature and location of assets, if known;
- Any other information that may assist with location of debtor;
- Personal identification number (such as the social security number);
- Other, please specify.

About the person for whom maintenance is sought:

- Full name (required);
- Date of birth (required);
- Care arrangements;
- Personal identification number (such as the social security number);
- Other, please specify.

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	<p><u>Other information:</u></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nature of the application (required);</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The grounds upon which the application is based (required);</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If the applicant is the creditor, information concerning where the child maintenance payment should be sent or electronically transmitted (required);</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The name and contact details of the person or unit from the Central Authority responsible for processing the application (required);</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The applicant's view of the appropriate modified maintenance;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify.</p>
<p>b. What <u>documents</u> do you <u>require</u> to accompany an application to modify a child maintenance decision made in a State other than your State? Please specify if any documents must be original and if certification is required for copies.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> A complete text of the decision or decisions;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Special expense claim;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Pay stubs or wage statements establishing a change in income;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Written agreement between the parties related to modification of the child maintenance;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The latest tax certificate of the applicant, if possible;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify.</p>
<p>c. Are the circumstances in which a child maintenance decision made by another State can be modified in your State the same as the circumstances in which a decision made by your own State can be modified?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> No. Please specify the difference.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. See reply to question II.4.c. above.</p>
<p>d. Do you have a prescribed or preferred form for an application to modify a child maintenance decision made in a State other than your State? If so, please attach a copy or link to a website or both.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes – the standard form recommended and published by the Hague Conference;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes – the form is attached or available through a linked website (please provide) or both.</p>

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e. Can the modification be made retroactively? If so, please specify the basis and any limitations.	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, – Specify the basis; – Please specify any limitations.
f. If the State of origin modifies a child maintenance decision after you have recognised it, can you recognise the modification? If so, please specify any limitations and outline the key steps or requirements.	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes – Key steps or requirements; – Please specify any limitations.
g. Are there any differences compared to the above if the application is for a maintenance obligation other than child maintenance? If so, please specify.	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, please specify

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III - INFORMATION AS TO THE LAWS AND PROCEDURES CONCERNING MAINTENANCE OBLIGATIONS IN YOUR STATE (Art. 57(1) a) of the Convention)

1. MAINTENANCE OBLIGATIONS IN RESPECT OF A CHILD

a. What legislation applies to child maintenance obligations in your State? Provide a link to a website if possible.	
b. Who is eligible to benefit from child maintenance?	<input type="checkbox"/> For any child regardless of status; <input type="checkbox"/> Child born in wedlock; <input type="checkbox"/> Child born out of wedlock: <input type="checkbox"/> Acknowledged by the father; <input type="checkbox"/> Not yet acknowledged by the father. <input type="checkbox"/> Adopted child; <input type="checkbox"/> Any child for whom a person stands in place of a parent (<i>in loco parentis</i>); <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify.
c. Who is the creditor in a child maintenance matter?	<input type="checkbox"/> Child; <input type="checkbox"/> Custodial parent or other person responsible for the child; <input type="checkbox"/> Public bodies; <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify.

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<p>d. What can be included in a child maintenance decision? Please specify.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Periodic payments for child maintenance; <input type="checkbox"/> Lump sum payments; <input type="checkbox"/> Child care expenses; <input type="checkbox"/> Extra-curricular activities; <input type="checkbox"/> Dental or medical expenses; <input type="checkbox"/> Attorney's fees; <input type="checkbox"/> Extraordinary expenses, please specify; <input type="checkbox"/> Other court costs, please specify; <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify.
<p>e. Can child maintenance be subject to automatic adjustment? If so, by what mechanism and with what frequency?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – List the mechanisms: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> By indexation; <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify. – How frequently?
<p>f. Can a child maintenance decision be made retroactively? If so, what is the earliest date from which a decision can apply? Please specify any limitations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Date that proceedings are initiated; <input type="checkbox"/> Date of separation; <input type="checkbox"/> Date of the voluntarily suspension of payments; <input type="checkbox"/> A certain amount of time from the initiation of the proceedings, please specify. <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify. <input type="checkbox"/> Any limitations, please specify.
<p>g. Until what age can a child maintenance obligation be established? Please provide a citation to the laws of your State. (Art. 32(4) of the Convention)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Until 18 years of age; <input type="checkbox"/> Until 19 years of age; <input type="checkbox"/> Until 21 years of age; <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify.
<p>h. In what circumstances can child maintenance end before the normal duration? (Art. 32(4) of the Convention)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The child emancipates before the normal duration; <input type="checkbox"/> The child marries; <input type="checkbox"/> The child is adopted by someone other than the debtor; <input type="checkbox"/> The child has been removed from the family and is a civil ward of the State;

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	<input type="checkbox"/> The maintenance decision states that child maintenance ceases prior to the normal duration; <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify.
<p>i. Can child maintenance extend beyond the normal duration? If so, in what circumstances? (Art. 32(4) of the Convention)</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> To enable the child to complete secondary education; <input type="checkbox"/> To enable a child to complete post secondary education; <input type="checkbox"/> If a child is past the normal duration and under the parent's charge but unable, by reason of illness, disability or other cause, to withdraw from that charge or to obtain the necessities of life; <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify.
<p>j. Must other matters be initiated or finalised before a child maintenance decision can be made in your State?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, please specify <p><u>If parties are married:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Divorce proceedings must be initiated; <input type="checkbox"/> Divorce proceedings must be finalised; <input type="checkbox"/> Spousal property proceedings must be initiated; <input type="checkbox"/> Spousal property proceedings must be finalised. <p><u>If parties are / were married:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Child custody proceedings must be initiated; <input type="checkbox"/> Child custody proceedings must be finalised. <p><u>If child was born outside of marriage:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Paternity proceedings must be initiated; <input type="checkbox"/> Paternity proceedings must be finalised.

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2. MAINTENANCE OBLIGATIONS IN RESPECT OF OTHER FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS	
a. From what other relationships can a maintenance obligation arise in your State?	<input type="checkbox"/> Marriage; <input type="checkbox"/> Cohabitation; <input type="checkbox"/> Same sex relationship; <input type="checkbox"/> Siblings; <input type="checkbox"/> Dependent parent; <input type="checkbox"/> Dependent grandparent; <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify.
b. For each different relationship specified in item a above, what legislation applies to a maintenance obligation in your State? Provide a link to a website if possible.	
c. For each different relationship specified in item a. above, what can be included in a maintenance decision?	<input type="checkbox"/> Periodic payments for maintenance; <input type="checkbox"/> Lump sum payments; <input type="checkbox"/> Attorney's fees; <input type="checkbox"/> Extraordinary expenses, please specify; <input type="checkbox"/> Other court costs, please specify; <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify.
d. For each different relationship specified in item a. above, can maintenance be subject to automatic adjustment? If so, by what mechanism and with what frequency?	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes – List the mechanisms: <input type="checkbox"/> By indexation; <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify. – How frequently?
e. For each different relationship specified in item a. above, can a maintenance decision be made retroactively? If so, what is the earliest date from which a decision can apply? Please specify any limitations.	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Date that proceedings are initiated; <input type="checkbox"/> Date of separation of the parties; <input type="checkbox"/> Date of the voluntarily suspension of payments; <input type="checkbox"/> A certain amount of time from the initiation of the proceedings, please specify; <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify. <input type="checkbox"/> Any limitations, please specify.

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f. Must other matters be initiated or concluded before a maintenance decision can be made in your State?	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, please specify <u>If parties are married:</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Divorce proceedings must be initiated; <input type="checkbox"/> Divorce proceedings must be finalised; <input type="checkbox"/> Spousal property proceedings must be initiated; <input type="checkbox"/> Spousal property proceedings must be finalised.
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3. INFORMATION REGARDING SYSTEMS FOR PROVIDING BENEFITS IN PLACE OF MAINTENANCE (Art. 36 of the Convention)	
a. Does your State have any public bodies that pay <u>maintenance</u> to the person entitled to maintenance in lieu of the debtor?	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
b. If so, please give a brief outline of the system.	

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4. INFORMATION REGARDING PROCEDURES FOR SERVICE	
a. Which treaties on service that are applicable to maintenance decisions has your state acceded to?	<input type="checkbox"/> Specify relevant multilateral treaties. <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify.
b. Please provide contact details for the relevant central authorities for each of the treaties noted in question 4.a.	
c. When a maintenance decision is made in your state, what are the legal requirements to provide proper notice to the debtor, including when the debtor is in a foreign country?	<input type="checkbox"/> Personal service; <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify.

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IV – INFORMATION CONCERNING ENFORCEMENT RULES AND PROCEDURES IN YOUR STATE (Art. 57(1) <i>d</i>) of the Convention)	
1. GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT ENFORCEMENT IN YOUR STATE	
a. Is there a time limitation for enforcement of child maintenance? (Art. 57(1) <i>d</i>) of the Convention)	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, please specify.
b. Are there other limitations to enforcement?	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, please specify.
c. Can a debtor claim forfeiture of a maintenance claim due for a creditor's inaction? If so, please specify.	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, please specify.
d. Is a ranking applied to creditors where there are several maintenance obligations from different previous relationships?	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, please specify.
e. Is a proportional distribution applied to creditors where there are several maintenance obligations from different previous relationships?	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, please specify.

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2. DEBTOR PROTECTION RULES	
a. Please specify any debtor protection rules that apply to the enforcement of maintenance in your state.	

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3. OVERVIEW OF ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURES IN YOUR STATE	
a. Please provide a short overview of the process(es) that occurs when you enforce a decision in your State. Please include timeframes.	

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4. MEASURES AVAILABLE FOR ENFORCEMENT OF CHILD MAINTENANCE DECISIONS (Art. 34 of the Convention)	
<p>a. What methods are available in your State for the enforcement of child maintenance decisions? (Art. 34 of the Convention)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Wage withholding; <input type="checkbox"/> Garnishment or attachment from bank accounts and other sources; <input type="checkbox"/> Seizure and sale of assets; <input type="checkbox"/> Deductions from social security payments; <input type="checkbox"/> Lien on or forced sale of property; <input type="checkbox"/> Withholding or attachment of tax refund; <input type="checkbox"/> Withholding or attachment of pension benefits; <input type="checkbox"/> Seizure of lump sum payments; <input type="checkbox"/> Credit bureau reporting; <input type="checkbox"/> Denial, suspension or revocation of various licenses (for example, passport, driving licenses); <input type="checkbox"/> Incarceration; <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing regarding a default in payment; <input type="checkbox"/> The power to prohibit a debtor from leaving your State; <input type="checkbox"/> Seizure of lottery or gambling winnings; <input type="checkbox"/> Criminal prosecution on account of failure to comply with duty to pay maintenance; <input type="checkbox"/> The use of mediation, conciliation or similar processes to bring about voluntary compliance; <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify.

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V – OTHER INFORMATION	
1. PAYMENT INFORMATION (WHERE PAYMENTS SHOULD BE SENT) (Art. 11(1) <i>f</i>) of the Convention)	
a. When you are the requesting State, where should maintenance payments be sent?	<input type="checkbox"/> Directly to the creditor; <input type="checkbox"/> To the creditor's representative; <input type="checkbox"/> To the Central Authority; <input type="checkbox"/> To a centralised location other than the Central Authority; <input type="checkbox"/> If multiple options apply, please specify.
b. When you are the requesting State and receive maintenance payments at a centralised location other than the Central Authority, please provide the following information.	Name of centralised location Address Telephone Fax E-mail Website Contact person(s) Name and address of the bank:
c. When you are the requesting State, in what form can maintenance payments be received in your State? Please check all that apply. If the answer depends upon who is receiving the payment, please also check "Other" and specify.	<input type="checkbox"/> Cash; <input type="checkbox"/> Cheque or warrant; <input type="checkbox"/> Electronic funds transfer. Please provide details; <input type="checkbox"/> Credit card; <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify.
d. When you are the requested State, in what form can maintenance payments be made in your State? Please check all that apply. If the answer depends upon who is receiving the payment, please also check "Other" and specify.	<input type="checkbox"/> Cash; <input type="checkbox"/> Cheque or warrant; <input type="checkbox"/> Electronic funds transfer. Please provide details; <input type="checkbox"/> Payroll deductions; <input type="checkbox"/> Preauthorised withdrawal from a financial institution account; <input type="checkbox"/> Credit card; <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify.

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e. What actions does your State take to reduce the costs and fees associated with international payment processing? Please check all that will apply.

- All payments are processed through a designated authority.
- All payments are processed upon receipt.
- Payments under a certain amount are not processed. Please specify the minimum amount processed _____ and currency.
- Payments under a certain amount are collected, banked and combined into one payment sent at intervals agreed with the creditor. Please specify the amount and currency.
- Other, please specify.

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END OF STAGE 1

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STAGE 2

I – GENERAL INFORMATION	
1. OVERVIEW OF THE PROCESS THAT OCCURS WHEN MAKING AN APPLICATION UNDER ARTICLE 10 OF THE CONVENTION	
<p>a. Please provide a short overview of the process(es) that occurs when your State receives an application to recognise or to recognise and enforce a child maintenance decision made in a Contracting State. Please indicate which authority receives the application, where the application is sent for processing, the steps that occur, and what happens if recognition is contested. The purpose of this question is to provide the caseworker in the requesting State a general understanding of the steps that will take place in working the case. Please include time frames.</p>	
<p>b. Please provide a short overview of the process(es) that occurs when your State receives an application to enforce a child maintenance decision made or recognised in your State. Please indicate which authority receives the application, where the application is sent for processing and the steps that occur, and what happens if enforcement is contested. The purpose of this question is to provide the caseworker in the requesting State a general understanding of the steps that will take place in working the case. Please include time frames.</p>	
<p>c. Please provide a short overview of the process(es) that occurs when an application to establish a decision is received in your State. Please indicate which authority receives the application, where the application is sent for processing, and the steps that occur. The purpose of this question is to provide the caseworker in the requesting State a general understanding of the steps that will take place in working the case. Please include time frames.</p>	

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<p>d. Please provide a short overview of the process(es) that occurs when you receive an application to modify a child maintenance decision made in your State. Please indicate which authority receives the application, where the application is sent for processing, and the steps that occur. The purpose of this question is to provide the caseworker in the requesting State a general understanding of the steps that will take place in working the case. Please include time frames.</p>	
<p>e. Please provide a short overview of the process(es) that occurs when your State receives an application to modify a child maintenance decision made in a State other than your State. Please indicate which authority receives the application, where the application is sent for processing, and the steps that occur. The purpose of this question is to provide the caseworker in the requesting State a general understanding of the steps that will take place in working the case. Please include time frames.</p>	

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<p>2. METHODS OF CALCULATING CHILD MAINTENANCE IN YOUR STATE</p>	
<p>a. Is the assessment of child maintenance based on a formula, guidelines, or other criteria? Please outline the principal elements involved in making an assessment.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, please outline the principal elements.</p>
<p>b. What legislation applies to the assessment of child maintenance? Provide a link to a website if possible.</p>	

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3. ESTABLISHING PARENTAGE	
a. What legislation applies to establish parentage in the context of child maintenance proceedings? Provide a link to a website if possible.	
b. What are the legal methods for establishing parentage in the context of child maintenance proceedings?	<input type="checkbox"/> Establishment of parentage by presumption; <input type="checkbox"/> Establishment of parentage by acknowledgement; <input type="checkbox"/> Establishment of parentage by judicial decision; <input type="checkbox"/> Establishment of parentage by administrative decision; <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify.
c. Please provide a short overview of how the above method(s) for establishing parentage are applied in the context of child maintenance proceedings.	
d. Please describe the scientific or medical methods (DNA testing) used for establishing parentage, including requirements and restrictions, and how they apply in the context of child maintenance proceedings.	
e. Please indicate the costs that typically would be involved in the establishment of parentage in your State, who would bear these costs, whether the costs are capable of being covered by legal aid, and whether any distinction is made between residents and non-residents in these matters.	

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4. FOLLOWING RECOGNITION OF A DECISION BY ANOTHER STATE	
a. Following recognition of the child maintenance decision in the other State, do you require notification of the recognition?	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
b. Does the recognition in the other State affect the status of the original decision in your State? If so, please specify.	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, please specify.

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5. OTHER INFORMATION THAT MIGHT BE USEFUL	
a. Please describe, in the form of a flow chart, the process followed for establishment in your State.	
b. Are there any limitations on the period for which arrears may be enforced? Please provide the limitation period and the citation to the laws of your State. (Art. 32(5) of the Convention)	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, please provide limitation period and the citation to the laws of your State.
c. What happens when the debtor pays a monthly amount, but this amount does not cover the current child maintenance as well as the arrears? How is it determined which debt is paid first and who makes such a decision?	
d. When there are multiple garnishments / withholdings against income due to a debtor, does child support have priority over the other debts?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, in certain circumstances. Please explain; <input type="checkbox"/> No, please specify order of priority.
e. Is it possible to collect interest on arrears in your State? Are there limitations? If so, please specify.	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, please specify any limitations.
f. What happens with a child maintenance claim under your insolvency laws? (<i>E.g.</i> , does it make a difference whether there is an order for child maintenance?)	
g. What are the procedures when a debtor leaves your State?	<input type="checkbox"/> Notify original requesting State; <input type="checkbox"/> End the proceedings; <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify.
h. Please provide a short overview of the process that occurs when the creditor or the debtor wants to appeal a decision in your State.	

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END OF STAGE 2