

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

<i>Identification for follow-up purposes:</i>	
NAME of STATE or territorial unit:	Republic of Paraguay
Name of contact person:	Dr. José Pereira
Name of Authority / Office:	Acting Legal Advisor / Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Telephone number:	+595 21 414 8026
E-mail address:	ajuridica@mre.gov.py

I. OVERARCHING QUESTIONS	
	<u>Both States of origin and receiving States</u>
1.	<p>In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, has your State modified intercountry adoption procedures under the 1993 Adoption Convention? If so, what has your State done to ensure that the safeguards and procedures of the Convention have been, and continue to be, respected?</p> <p>N/A</p>
II. OUTBREAK OF COVID-19 (cases in transition only)	
	<u>Both States of origin and receiving States</u>
2.	<p>What measures, if any, did your State take to deal with cases where the child had already been matched with prospective adoptive parents, but no adoption decision had been issued at the time of the COVID-19 outbreak in your State? How many children were in such a situation?</p> <p>N/A</p>
3.	<p>What measures, if any, did your State take to deal with cases where the adoption decision had already been issued, but the child was still in the State of origin at the time of the COVID-19 outbreak in your State? How many children were in such a situation?</p> <p>N/A</p>
III. DURING COVID-19 (cases in transition and new cases)	
	<u>States of origin only</u>
4.	<p>Has your State adapted, and if so how, the following stages of the adoption procedure:</p> <p>a) Declaration of adoptability of the child:</p> <p>N/A</p>

	<p>b) Matching:</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>c) Socialisation period:</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>d) Support and counselling to adoptable children:</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>e) Adoption decision:</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>f) Other stages:</p> <p>N/A</p>
	<u>Receiving States only</u>
5.	<p>Has your State adapted, and if so how, the following stages of the adoption procedure:</p> <p>a) Eligibility and suitability of prospective adoptive parents:</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>b) Support and counselling to prospective adoptive parents:</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>c) Other stages:</p> <p>N/A</p>
IV. USE OF TECHNOLOGY	
	<u>Both States of origin and receiving States</u>
6.	<p>Has the use of technologies (e.g, videoconferencing) evolved in the adoption procedures in place in your State since the outbreak of COVID-19 in your State? Please specify:</p> <p>a) any benefits and challenges:</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>b) if your response to question 72 (“Use of new technologies”) of the 2020 Questionnaire on the practical operation of the 1993 Adoption Convention (Prel. Doc. No 3) has changed:</p> <p>N/A</p>
V. POST COVID-19: LOOKING AHEAD	
	<u>Both States of origin and receiving States</u>
7.	<p>Has your State developed any practices during this pandemic period that would be useful to mainstream into regular work practices? If so, please elaborate on what those practices are</p>

	and how you plan to go about mainstreaming them into regular work practices: N/A
8.	Please share any good practices and lessons learned by your State which may be applied in the event of another pandemic or similar state of emergency : N/A
VI. ANY OTHER COMMENTS	
	<u>Both States of origin and receiving States</u>
9.	Please insert here any other comments you may have: Currently in Paraguay, international adoption processes are not being carried out. Although the new Law No. 6486/2020 provides for the international adoption process, we are currently in the stage of preparing protocols and procedure manuals. On the other hand, in the national adoption processes, the Technical Team has worked during this time of the COVID-19 Pandemic through telematic means (calls, video calls, virtual meetings by zoom), carrying out legal advice, monitoring and accompaniment to children and adolescents declared in a state of adoption. Likewise, in the meetings of the Technical Teams and in the judicial processes, various procedures were carried out by telematic means to continue with the administrative and judicial procedures to give definitive answers to the life situation of those children and adolescents.