

# Questionnaire in preparation of the Experts' Group meeting of 7 to 10 February 2022 on international transfers of maintenance funds

## Survey response 1

### Identification

For follow-up purposes. This information will not be published as part of the questionnaire response. The term "State" in this Questionnaire includes a territorial unit, where relevant. [Name of State or territorial unit:]

Norway

### Questionnaire

a. Developments in general regarding the international transfer of maintenance funds

There have been no big developments, but we are still working on eliminating checks, and on moving on to standard XML – ISO 20022 files.

b. Elimination of the use of cheques (see C&R 2019 No 1; aide-mémoire 2021, paras 11-14)

Is being considered.

Please explain:

We are still working on this, and we are no longer receiving checks from the UK, New Zealand, Sweden, Alberta, or British Columbia. We are still receiving some checks from 3 US states and Ontario (as well as checks sent to our US Lockbox, but these are transferred to our Norwegian bank account from the US). For outgoing payments, we are only sending checks to the US, and only in some cases.

c. Solutions with regard to increased transparency and cost reduction of transfers and currency conversion (see C&R 2019 Nos 2 and 10; aide-mémoire 2021, paras 24-25)

Is being considered.

Please explain:

This is part of the framework agreement our bank must have with the Norwegian Government Agency for Financial Management (DFØ). They are now considering implementing the use of Swift GPI tracker. This will improve the traceability of payments, and thusly increase transparency. Transparency is an important part of the framework agreement.

d. Solutions where creditors would not bear the costs related to the transfer of funds (see C&R 2019 No 2; aide-mémoire 2021, paras 26-29)

Has already been implemented.

Please explain:

We are responsible for the costs incurred by our bank in Norway. We have no control over the potential costs in the creditor's bank abroad.

e. Requested Central Authority arrangements with their bank to cover transfer fees or other arrangements to that effect (see C&R 2019 No 3; aide-mémoire 2021, para. 32)

Has already been implemented.

Please explain:

We cover all the costs incurred by the bank in Norway.

f. Requesting Central Authority providing confirmation to the requested Central Authority that the amounts received are the same as the amounts sent and, where applicable, information on the reasons for any difference (see C&R 2019 No 3; aide-mémoire 2021, paras 15-17)

Not being considered.

Please explain:

Even if we can identify the costs, it is not likely that we would be able to do something about it.

g. Establishment of a centralised point (e.g., bank account, central bank) for international transfers dedicated to both incoming and outgoing transfer of funds (see C&R 2019 Nos 4 and 5; aide-mémoire 2021, paras 33-35)

Has already been implemented.

Please explain:

We already have this in place. We have one bank account for incoming payments, and one bank account for outgoing payments.

h. Provision of payment transfer services to any debtors transferring payments within the scope of the HCCH 2007 Child Support Convention (see C&R 2019 No 5; aide-mémoire 2021, para. 18)

Has already been implemented.

Please explain:

All debtors and creditors can, at any given point, have the case through the Collection Agency and benefit from the payment services. However, if payments are not received, enforcement proceedings will be initiated against the debtor.

i. Implementation of payment transfer monitoring systems (see C&R 2019 No 6; aide-mémoire 2021, paras 36-37)

Has already been implemented.

Please explain:

We already have this. We monitor all incoming and outgoing payments.

j. Implementation of unique case references, known to both the requesting and requested State, attached to each transfer of funds (see C&R 2019 No 7; aide-mémoire 2021, para. 20)

Is being considered.

Please explain:

The use of Swift GPI tracker is being considered, but this requires that the other bank is using it as well. We are also considering using the iSupport reference numbers when we start using iSupport.

k. Implementation of currency conversion of payments done by the relevant authority in the requested State at the time of transfer (see C&R 2019 No 8; aide-mémoire 2021, paras 21-23)

Has already been implemented.

Please explain:

In our agreement with the bank, it is stated that these conversions are made at the point of transfer from the bank to the creditor.

l. Implementation of bundled payments to reduce costs of transfers (see C&R 2019 No 11; aide-mémoire 2021, paras 38-40)

Has already been implemented.

Please explain:

We do this daily, when possible. We can also receive bundled payments.

m. Any other developments including bilateral solutions put in place between States and ongoing trials between States: