ENLÈVEMENT D'ENFANTS / PROTECTION DES ENFANTS CHILD ABDUCTION / PROTECTION OF CHILDREN

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Convention de La Haye du 25 octobre 1980 sur les aspects civils de l'enlèvement international d'enfants

Profil des États

établi par le Bureau Permanent

* * *

Hague Convention of 25 October 1980 on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction

Country Profile

drawn up by the Permanent Bureau

Document d'information No 2 de mars 2011 à l'intention de la Commission spéciale de juin 2011 sur le fonctionnement pratique de la Convention Enlèvement d'enfants de 1980 et de la Convention Protection des enfants de 1996

Information Document No 2 of March 2011 for the attention of the Special Commission of June 2011 on the practical operation of the 1980 Hague Child Abduction Convention and the 1996 Hague Child Protection Convention

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Convention de La Haye du 25 octobre 1980 sur les aspects civils de l'enlèvement international d'enfants

Profil des États

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Hague Convention of 25 October 1980 on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction

Country Profile

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FOREWORD TO THE COUNTRY PROFILE

This Country Profile should be used by Contracting States¹ to assist with fulfilment of the obligations contained within Article 7 of the *Hague Convention of 25 October 1980 on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction*.² In particular, it is anticipated that the Country Profile will help Contracting States fulfil their obligations under Article 7(2) *e*) and 7(2) *i*) of the Convention, that is:

- > To provide information of a general character on the law of their State in connection with the application of the Convention; and
- > To keep other Central Authorities informed regarding the operation of the Convention in their State and to eliminate any obstacles to the Convention's application.

The Country Profile is intended to assist with the practical operation of the Convention. It is hoped that it will facilitate:

- a) information exchanges between Contracting States;
- b) knowledgeable service by Central Authorities under the 1980 Hague Child Abduction Convention;
- c) cost-effective translation of the information provided by Contracting States into English, French, Spanish, and other languages as required by Contracting States; and
- d) prompt updates of the information provided.

NEWLY ACCEDING STATES:

It should be noted that the Country Profile does not replace the "Standard questionnaire for newly acceding States" (available at < <u>www.hcch.net</u> > under "Child Abduction Section" then "Questionnaires and responses"). The Standard Questionnaire provides a means for newly acceding States to describe promptly, and in brief, the measures taken in their State to ensure compliance with their Convention obligations and to ensure the effective practical operation of the Convention in their State. It thereby assists States already Party to the Convention with their decision as to whether to accept an accession.

Newly acceding States are encouraged to complete this full Country Profile as soon as is practicable.

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Please mark the box which best represents the arrangements in your State:
 - Where the response requires either "Yes" or "No", please mark <u>one</u> box only.
 - For all other questions, it may be necessary to mark more than one box.
- Where applicable, please specify the relevant provision(s) of your domestic legislation and indicate how the legislation may be accessed, *e.g.*, website, or provide a copy of the legislation.
- Please complete a separate profile for each territorial unit if there are significant differences in the substance and operation of the laws in each.
- Please note: the information contained in the Country Profile **is of a general nature only**. The purpose of the Country Profile is to assist with the practical operation of the Convention and not to provide a comprehensive picture of the legal system of each Contracting State. Please consider this when completing the Country Profile and when using the Country Profile of other Contracting States. Please contact the relevant Central Authority for clarification or specific advice.
- Contracting States are exclusively responsible for updating the information contained in their Country Profile. However, reminders for updates will be provided by the Permanent Bureau of the Hague Conference on Private International Law.

¹ Any reference to a Contracting State in this Country Profile is a reference to a Contracting State of the *Hague Convention of 25 October 1980 on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction*

² Hereinafter, "the 1980 Hague Child Abduction Convention", or simply "the Convention".

1980 Hague Child Abduction Convention Country Profile

- Completed Country Profiles will be published on the website of the Hague Conference on Private International Law < <u>www.hcch.net</u> >.
- The Permanent Bureau of the Hague Conference has prepared a number of resources which may assist States in the effective implementation and operation of the Convention, in particular Guides to Good Practice. See < <u>www.hcch.net</u> > under "Child Abduction Section" for further information in this regard.

TERMINOLOGY:

- Whilst it is acknowledged that in some Contracting States the formal applicant to a return or access application under the Convention may be a State authority (see question 10.3 b) below), please note that the term "**applicant**" is used in the Country Profile as follows:
 - (a) In relation to a *return* application, the term "applicant" denotes the person, institution or other body alleging that their actually exercised rights of custody in relation to a child have been breached by the removal or retention of the child, in accordance with Article 3 of the Convention; and
 - (b) In relation to an *access* application, the term "applicant" denotes the person, institution or other body seeking to establish and / or exercise rights of access in relation to a child under Article 21 of the Convention.
- The term "**abducting party**" or "**alleged abducting party**" in the Country Profile refers to the person, institution or other body who has, or is alleged to have, wrongfully removed or retained a child in accordance with Article 3 of the Convention.

Hague Convention of 25 October 1980 on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction

Table of contents

Par	t I: Ce	ntral Authorities	7
1	Centra	l Authority contact details	7
2	Langua	age requirements	3
3	Centra	I Authority operations	3
Par	t II: R	elevant legislation	Э
4	Interna	ational Child Abduction	9
	4.1	1980 Hague Child Abduction Convention	9
	4.2 0	Other agreements on international child abduction	Э
5	1996 H	Hague Child Protection Convention	Э
Par	t III: /	Applications for return11	L
6	Applica	ations through Central Authorities1	1
		Outgoing applications (requesting State)1 Incoming applications (requested State)1	
7	Locatir	ng a child and preventing removal14	4
8	Legal r	representation and assistance1	5
		General1!	
		Free or reduced rate legal assistance16	
9	•	of custody18	
		Acquisition and exercise of rights of custody18	
10		dings for Return18	
	10.2 /	Organisation of competent authorities	9
	10.4 I	Procedures	1
		Protective measures	
		Contact or access during return proceedings22 Appeals	
11		of the child	
		Arrangements for return and the costs of return24	
	11.2 I	Provisions for safe return	5
	-	Criminal law and the return of the child26	-
		ement of return orders22	
		pplications relating to access	
13	•••	ations through Central Authorities28	
	13.2	Outgoing applications (requesting State) 28 Incoming applications (requested State) 28	8
		ng a child and preventing removal3:	
15	-	representation and assistance	
	15.1 (15.2	General	1 2
16		of access	
	-	Determining rights of access	
	16.2 I	Exercising rights of access	4
17		Supervised access	
τ/	Procee	currys for access / contact	כ

1980 Hague Child Abduction Convention Country Profile

18	17.3 17.4	Organisation of competent authorities Procedures Participation of the child Appeals cement of rights of access	35 36 37
Par	t V:	Mediation and other forms of alternative dispute resolution	40
19	Media	ition	40
	19.1	Mediation services	
	19.2	Legislation and / or rules on mediation Access to mediation	41 41
		The mediation process	
	19.5	The enforceability of mediated agreements	44
		Agreements mediated in another State	
20	Other	forms of alternative dispute resolution ("ADR")	45
Par	t VI:	Direct judicial communications	46
21	Direct	t judicial communications	46
Par	t VII:	Other information	47
22	Traini	ng	47
23		· implementing measures	
24		services	

Hague Convention of 25 October 1980 on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction

COUNTRY PROFILE

Country Name: Montenegro

Territorial Unit (where applicable):

Last updated:

Part I: Central Authorities

1 Central Authority contact details						
Provide the designation and contact details of the Central Authority to which communications may be addressed. Always check < <u>www.hcch.net</u> > then "Child Abduction Section" and "Central Authorities" for the most current contact details.						
Organisation:	Ministry of Justice of Montenegro					
Address:	Vuka Karadzica 3, Podgorica					
Territorial and personal extent of functions, if applicable:						
Telephone:	00 382 20 407 520					
Fax:	00 382 20 407 515					
E-mail:						
Website:	www.mpa.gov.me					
Contact person(s) and direct contact details (please indicate language(s) of communication):	Dara Tomcic, e-mail: dara.tomcic@mpa.gov.me, tel/fax: 00382 20 407 510, montenegrin language					
Preferred method of	I Telephone					
communication:	🖾 Fax					
	🖾 E-mail					
	🖾 Post					
	Other (<i>please specify</i>):					
OTHER DESIGNATED CENTRAL	AUTHORITIES (IF APPLICABLE)					
Please attach additional pages if there i	is more than one designated Central Authority in your State.					
Organisation:						
Address:						
Territorial and personal extent of functions, if applicable:						
Telephone:						
Fax:						
E-mail:						
Website:						

Contact person(s) and direct contact details (please indicate language(s) of communication):	
Preferred method of	Telephone
communication:	🗌 Fax
	E-mail
	Post
	Other (<i>please specify</i>):

2	Language requirements	
a)	Does the Central Authority prefer applications, communications and other documents sent to them to be accompanied by a translation into the official language(s) of the State? See Article 24 See questions 10.3 c) and 17.2 b) below regarding any translation(s) required by the court / administrative authority	Yes, for all communications, applications and other documents. Please specify the official language(s) of the State: Montenegrin Not for informal communications No
b)	Has your State made a reservation in respect of the use of French or English for communications, applications and other documents sent to the Central Authority? See Article 42	Yes, object to English Yes, object to French No

3	Central Authority operations	
a)	What are the working days and hours of the Central Authority?	Days of the week open:Monday to FridayOpening time:9.00Closing time:17.00Shut down periods (e.g., public holidays, court closures):August
b)	Can assistance be accessed outside of working hours?	 Yes (please specify contact details, if different from above): For persons in other Convention States: For persons in your State: No
c)	Does the Central Authority have a dedicated staff who deals <i>only</i> with 1980 Hague Child Abduction Convention applications and related issues?	□ Yes ⊠ No
d)	Please indicate the professions represented in the Central Authority: Please note that some individual staff members may fall under more than one category. This question should not be interpreted as an indication of the number of staff members in the Central Authority	 Civil servants Civil servants (legal advisors) Lawyers Social workers Mediators Other (<i>please specify</i>):

Part II: Relevant legislation

4	4 International Child Abduction						
4.1 1980 Hague Child Abduction Convention							
a)	When did the 1980 Hague Child Abduction Convention enter into force in your State?	Dat	e: 03.06.2006.				
b)	Was implementing legislation necessary for the 1980 Hague Child Abduction Convention to enter into force in your domestic law?		Yes, please specify:The date that the legislation entered into force:				
	<i>Please specify how legislation can be accessed (e.g., website) or attach a copy</i>		 The legislative provision(s) or implementing legislation: 				
		\bowtie	No				
c)	Whether implementing legislation was necessary in your State or not, have any (other) legislative provisions or procedural rules been enacted to assist with the effective operation of the 1980 Hague Child Abduction Convention?		 Yes, please specify: The date that the legislation or procedural rules entered into force or effect: The legislative provision(s) or procedural rules: 				
	<i>Please specify how legislation can be accessed</i> (e.g., website) or attach a copy	\boxtimes	No				
4.	2 Other agreements on internation	al c	hild abduction				
a)	Is your State party to any other international agreements which relate to international child abduction?		 Yes: Brussels II a Regulation (Council Regulation (EC) No 2201/2003 of 27 November 2003) Inter-American Convention of 15 July 1989 on the International Return of Children Bilateral agreements (<i>please specify</i>): Non-binding memoranda of understanding (<i>please specify</i>): Other (<i>please specify</i>): No 				

5	1996 Hague Child Protection Convention				
a)	Is your State a Contracting State to the 1996 Hague Child Protection Convention?	Yes, if so, on what date did the 1996 Hague Child Protection Convention enter into force in your State:			
	<i>Refer to < <u>www.hcch.net</u> > for the status table of the</i> 1996 Hague Child Protection Convention	🖂 No			
b)	Was implementing legislation necessary for the 1996 Hague Child Protection Convention to enter into force in your domestic law?	 Yes, please specify: The date that the legislation entered into force: 			
	<i>Please specify how legislation can be accessed (e.g., website) or attach a copy</i>	 The legislative provision(s) or implementing legislation: 			
		🛛 No			

in your State or provisions or pr assist with the e	nenting legislation was necessary not, have any (other) legislative ocedural rules been enacted to effective operation of the 1996 tection Convention?	•	 Yes, please specify: The date that the legislation or procedural rules entered into force or effect: The legislative provision(s) or procedural rules:
Please specify how website) or attach	v legislation can be accessed (e.g., a copy	⊠ I	No

Part III: Applications for return

6	6 Applications through Central Authorities				
6.1 Outgoing applications (requesting State)					
a)	What type of assistance is provided to applicants in your State when completing an application for return under the Convention? <i>See Articles 7 and 8</i>		Assistance from the Central Authority Assistance from another authority Referral to a legal representative Other (<i>please specify</i>):		
6.	2 Incoming applications (requested	d Sl	tate)		
a)	What form of application does your State require for an incoming application?		 (1) Model Application Form Available at < <u>www.hcch.net</u> > under "Child Abduction Section" Go to question c) (2) Form developed by your State Please specify how this form can be accessed (<i>e.g.</i>, website) or attach a copy: Go to question c) Both (1) and (2), go to question c) The form of the requesting State is accepted, go to question c) No particular form is required, go to question b) Other, go to question b) 		
b)	If your State does not require a particular form of application, what information or documents does your State request? See Article 8 Please note that the only information actually required by the Convention (Art. 8) is indicated by a cross in the relevant box		 Information concerning the identity of the child: Name and previous name/s Date of birth, where available Address Telephone number Nationality / nationalities Passport number(s) Physical description (height, eye and hair colour) Photograph (as recent as possible) Information identifying the child's parents <i>e.g.</i>, nationalities – where a parent is not the applicant or respondent to proceedings (<i>please specify</i>): Other (<i>please specify</i>): Information concerning the identity of the applicant: Name and previous name/s Date of birth Address Telephone number Nationality / nationalities Passport number(s) Relationship of the applicant to the child Name(s) of legal adviser, if any Other (<i>please specify</i>): 		

		 Information concerning the identity of the person alleged to have removed or retained the child: Name and previous name/s Date of birth Address Telephone number Nationality / nationalities Passport number(s) Physical description (height, eye and hair colour) Photograph (as recent as possible) Relationship of the person to the child Other (<i>please specify</i>):
		 The grounds upon which the applicant's claim for return of the child is based Evidence of the applicant's rights of custody An authenticated copy of any relevant decision or agreement A certificate or an affidavit emanating from the Central Authority, or other competent authority of the State of the child's habitual residence, or from a qualified person, concerning the relevant law of that State The alleged habitual residence of the child, with supporting information Other (<i>please specify</i>):
		All available information relating to the whereabouts of the child and the identity of the person with whom the child is presumed to be
		 Any other relevant document / information ☑ Concerning any child protection issues ☑ Marriage certificate (if applicable) ☑ Divorce decree (if applicable) ☑ Civil and / or criminal proceedings in progress (if applicable) □ Evidence of child or other relevant person's right to re-enter the State of the child's habitual residence □ Other (<i>please specify</i>):
c)	Does your Central Authority accept an application and accompanying documentation transmitted by electronic means?	Yes, please specify any requirements for electronically transmitted applications / documentation: Yes, but any documentation sent electronically is not accepted by the court / administrative authority (<i>please specify</i>): No

d)	Does the Central Authority require a written authorisation empowering it or a designated representative (e.g., <i>lawyer</i>) to act on behalf of the applicant? <i>See Article 28</i>		 Yes, the authorisation should be provided: On the application form In a signed statement or declaration Other (<i>please specify</i>): No
e)	Does the Central Authority acknowledge receipt of the application?		 Yes, acknowledgment generally is provided by: E-mail Facsimile Post Other (<i>please specify</i>): No
f)	Can the Central Authority proceed with an application where the information provided is incomplete?		 Yes, the Central Authority will begin processing the application and will immediately inform the requesting Central Authority of what additional information is required to complete the request No: The Central Authority will not process an application without all of the necessary supporting documentation The Central Authority is unable to process the application but will immediately inform the requesting Central Authority of what additional information is required before further action can be taken It depends upon what type of information is missing (<i>please specify</i>): Other (<i>please explain</i>):
g)	Who does the Central Authority prefer to communicate with in incoming applications?	$\square \square \square \square$	The requesting Central Authority The applicant The applicant's legal representative All of the above Other (<i>please specify</i>):
h)	What measures are taken by the Central Authority (directly, or through an intermediary) to attempt to secure the voluntary return of a child allegedly wrongfully removed or retained in accordance with Article 3 of the Convention (hereinafter, simply "the child")? <i>Please explain where necessary</i> <i>See Article 7</i> c) <i>and Article 10</i> <i>See also Part V: Mediation and other forms of</i> <i>alternative dispute resolution below</i>		Contact is made with the alleged abducting party to seek a voluntary return Mediation and / or other forms of alternative dispute resolution are offered to the parties (see Part V: Mediation and other forms of alternative dispute resolution) Other (<i>please specify</i>): competent Court
i)	How is it ensured that no undue delay results from the measures taken, or attempted, to secure the voluntary return of the child (see question h) above)?	Ple	ase explain: <i>competent Court</i>

j)	What is the role of the Central Authority in taking or causing to be taken provisional measures to prevent further harm to the child? See Article 7(2) b) Refer also to sections 10.5 and 11.2 below		Alert appropriate agencies where there are concerns that a child is at risk Apply directly to authorities for protection orders Refer parties to appropriate agencies Other (<i>please specify</i>): Competent Court
k)	Can an applicant commence proceedings in your State for the return of the child under the Convention without using the Central Authority channel? See Article 3 and Article 29	_	 Yes, if so, please explain: Where the applicant can obtain information about commencing proceedings: Central Authority What role, if any, the Central Authority has in these proceedings: No

7 Locating a child and preventing removal

For best practice on locating a child and preventing removal, see the Guides to Good Practice under the 1980 Hague Child Abduction Convention available at < <u>www.hcch.net</u> >under "Child Abduction Section" then "Guides to Good Practice". In particular, in relation to preventing removal, see Part III of the Guide to Good Practice on Preventive Measures.

a)	Can return proceedings commence before the child is located?	YesYes, in certain circumstances (<i>please specify</i>):
		□ No
b)	What evidence / information does your State require regarding the child's whereabouts to begin to assist with locating the child? Please explain where necessary	 Evidence that the child entered your State (<i>e.g.</i>, evidence that the child boarded an aeroplane bound for your State): Information from the applicant as to why he / she believes the child is in your State: No information or evidence is required; searches for the child can begin upon request: Other (<i>please explain</i>):
c)	What mechanisms or sources of information are available in your State to discover the whereabouts of the child? <i>Please indicate in the space provided any associated</i> <i>costs for an applicant or any other necessary</i> <i>information</i> <i>See Article 7(2)</i> a)	 (1) Private location services: (2) Population register: (3) Employment register: (4) Information maintained by other government agencies (e.g., <i>immigration, social welfare</i>): (5) Police: (6) INTERPOL: (7) Court orders to compel the production of information on the whereabouts of the child: (8) Other (<i>please specify</i>):
d)	Please indicate who is responsible for arranging the measures listed above in question c) by inserting the relevant number next to the responsible person or authority <i>E.g.</i> , Central Authority: 2, 3 The applicant's representative: 7	Central Authority: 7 The applicant: The applicant's representative: Other (<i>please specify</i>):

e)	Please indicate, by inserting the relevant numbers, which of the measures listed above in question c) need an order from a competent authority?	7
f)	What measures can be taken in your State to deter the removal or re-abduction of the child? <i>Please explain where necessary</i> <i>Refer also to the Guide To Good Practice, Part III –</i> <i>Preventive Measures, available at < www.hcch.net >,</i> <i>particularly to paragraph 3.1 on barriers to</i> <i>international travel</i>	 (1) Child's passport(s) to be deposited with authorities (2) Alleged abductor's passport to be deposited with authorities (3) Obtain orders to prevent the removal of the child (4) Issuing border and / or port alerts (5) Requiring the alleged abductor to report periodically to authorities (6) Requiring the alleged abductor to pay a bond / deposit (7) Temporary placement of child in institutional care (8) Other (<i>please specify</i>): Court decision
	Please indicate who may apply for the measures listed above in question f) by inserting the relevant number next to the responsible person or authority Please indicate, by inserting the relevant numbers, which of the measures above in question f) need an order from a competent	Central Authority: 8 The applicant: 8 The applicant's representative: Other (<i>please specify</i>): 8

8 Lega	8 Legal representation and assistance			
8.1 Gei	neral			
	State made a reservation to Article 26 nvention?	□ Yes ⊠ No		
	Central Authority provide legal advice preturn applications?	 Yes No No, however: The Central Authority will refer the applicant to the appropriate person or authority to obtain legal advice The Central Authority will provide information that is of a general nature about laws and procedures Other (<i>please specify</i>): 		
proceedin See Article	5	 ☐ Yes ⊠ No ☐ No, but recommended 		

d)	What is the role of the Central Authority in arranging legal representation? See Article 7(2) g)		The applicant is required to make his / her own arrangements for legal representation, but the Central Authority will: Provide the applicant with a list of lawyers Provide the applicant with a list of free or reduced rate lawyers Other (<i>please specify</i>): Legal representation is not required. The Central Authority ensures the application is forwarded to the competent authority for action. Please provide additional information if necessary: Legal representation is arranged by the Central Authority. Representation is provided by: Central Authority lawyers Private lawyers Other (<i>please specify</i>):
8.2	2 Free or reduced rate legal assista		Other (<i>please specify</i>):
	5		
a)	Is free or reduced rate legal assistance available to an applicant in return proceedings in your State?		Yes, free legal assistance. Go to question c) Yes, reduced rate legal assistance. Go to question c) No, go to question b)
b)	If free or reduced rate legal assistance is <u>not</u> available, in what other ways can your State assist an applicant financially?		There is a system of costs ordering the respondent to pay <i>Pro bono</i> legal assistance Other (<i>please specify</i>): Not at all Go to section 9
c)	Is the applicant required to complete an application form for free or reduced rate legal assistance?	\square	Yes, please specify how application forms can be obtained (<i>e.g.</i> , website) or attach a copy: No
d)	Please indicate on what basis free or reduced rate legal assistance may be available <i>Please explain where necessary</i>		Income of the applicant Assets of the applicant Country of residence of the applicant Likelihood of success of the proceedings Other (<i>please specify</i>):
e)	Which costs are covered by free or reduced rate legal assistance? Please explain where necessary		 Mediation Translation Interpreters Service of documents Costs associated with locating the child Court fees Travel costs for the return of the child (see question 11.1 c)) Other (<i>please specify</i>):

f)	Please indicate which costs, if any, are covered by the Central Authority by listing the numbers set out in question e) above?	2, 4, 5
g)	Is free or reduced rate legal assistance available for the appeal of decisions?	No, go to question i)
		 Yes, free legal assistance; go to question h) Yes, reduced rate legal assistance; go to question h)
		 It depends upon an assessment of the merits of the case and / or the means of the individual concerned (<i>please specify</i>): Go to question h)
h)	Is a new application for free or reduced rate legal assistance required for appeals?	□ Yes ⊠ No
i)	Is free or reduced rate legal assistance available for proceedings needed to enforce a return	No, go to question k)
	order?	 Yes, free legal assistance; go to question j) Yes, reduced rate legal assistance; go to question j)
		 It depends upon an assessment of the merits of the case and / or the means of the individual concerned (<i>please specify</i>): Go to question j)
j)	Is a new application for free or reduced rate legal assistance required for enforcement applications?	Yes No
k)	Is free or reduced rate legal assistance available to an alleged abducting party located in your State?	 Yes, free legal assistance Yes, reduced rate legal assistance Please specify in what circumstances and on what basis legal assistance will be granted:
		□ No
I)	Where a child is returned to your State, is free or reduced rate legal assistance available to all parties in the custody proceedings in your State?	 Yes, free legal assistance is available to all parties Yes, reduced rate legal assistance is available to all parties
		Please specify in what circumstances and on what basis legal assistance will be granted:
		Free legal assistance is only available to certain persons (<i>please specify</i>):
		Reduced rate legal assistance is only available to certain persons (<i>please specify</i>):
		Please specify in what circumstances and on what basis legal assistance will be granted:
		No, free and / or reduced rate legal assistance is not available to any party
		Other (<i>please specify</i>):

9	9 Rights of custody				
9.	9.1 Acquisition and exercise of rights of custody				
	See Articles 3 and 5				
a)	Do rights of custody arise by operation of law in your State?	Yes, go to question b)No, go to question c)			
	Please specify the relevant legislation and provisions and indicate how the legislation may be accessed, e.g., website, or provide a copy				
b)	To whom are rights of custody attributed by operation of law?	Please explain: parents			
	See Articles 3 and 5				
	<i>Please specify the relevant legislation and provisions and indicate how the legislation may be accessed,</i> e.g., <i>website, or provide a copy</i>				
c)	By what other methods can a person or institution acquire rights of custody?	 Judicial decision Administrative decision Agreement having legal effect Other (<i>please specify</i>): 			
d)	How, if at all, can the attribution of rights of custody be modified?	 By order of a judicial or administrative authority By written agreement It depends upon how the rights of custody were acquired (<i>please specify</i>): Other (<i>please specify</i>): 			
e)	How, if at all, can rights of custody be terminated?	 By order of a judicial or administrative authority By written agreement It depends upon how the rights of custody were acquired (<i>please specify</i>): Other (<i>please specify</i>): 			
f)	Prior to any order determining the issue, who <i>generally</i> has the right to determine the child's residence?	Please explain: parents			

10 **Proceedings for Return** 10.1 **Organisation of competent authorities** a) Does your State limit the number of judicial or 🛛 Yes administrative authorities who can hear return 🗌 No applications under the Convention? (i.e., has your State "concentrated jurisdiction" in respect of applications under the Convention) b) If possible, please state exactly how many Courts / administrative authorities: 15 Basic Courts courts or administrative authorities and how Judges / decision-makers: there is no Judges/decisionmany judges or relevant decision-makers can makers specialised for that kind of subjects hear return applications under the Convention?

c)	Please list the judicial or administrative authorities that can make decisions in return applications under the Convention	
d)	Are the judges or administrative authorities who decide return applications in your State specialists in either family law or international child abduction? See also section 22 on Training below	 Yes, specialists in family law Yes, specialists in international child abduction No Other (<i>please specify</i>):
e)	In ascertaining whether there has been a wrongful removal or retention under the Convention, do judicial or administrative authorities in your State take judicial notice of foreign law and decisions without recourse to the specific procedures for the proof of that law or for the recognition of foreign decisions which would otherwise be applicable in ascertaining whether there has been a wrongful removal or wrongful retention? <i>See Article 14</i>	 Yes No Other (<i>please specify</i>):
10	.2 Articles 15 and 16 of the Convent	tion
a)	In your State is it possible for a decision or other determination to be made, in accordance with Article 15 of the Convention, that the removal or retention of a child was wrongful within the meaning of Article 3? See Article 3 and Article 15	 Yes, go to question b) No, go to question e)
b)	Which authorities in your State can issue Article 15 decisions / determinations? See Article 15	Please list: Court
c)	Who can apply for an Article 15 decision / determination?	 Central Authority The applicant in the return proceedings Other (<i>please specify</i>): Court
d)	Are Article 15 decisions / determinations of other States accepted by the judicial or administrative authorities in your State?	 Yes, please explain if necessary: No
e)	Who notifies the relevant judicial or administrative bodies that a decision on the merits of rights of custody should not be made until it has been determined that the child should not be returned? <i>See Article 16</i>	 Central Authority The applicant's legal representative Other (<i>please specify</i>):
f)	When does notification in accordance with Article 16 take place?	 Automatically upon receipt of a return application Upon request of either party Other (<i>please specify</i>):

10	10.3 Procedures				
a)	How does the Central Authority fulfil its obligation to initiate or facilitate the initiation of proceedings in your State? See Article 7(2) f) See also question 8.1 d) above	 The Central Authority itself initiates the proceedings for return The Central Authority sends the file to an appropriate lawyer The Central Authority sends the file to the Public Prosecutor Other (<i>please specify</i>): Central Authority sends the file to the Court 			
b)	Who is the formal applicant in return proceedings before the court / administrative authority in your State?	 The person, institution or other body which made the application under the Convention The Central Authority The Public Prosecutor Other (<i>please specify</i>): 			
c)	Does documentation submitted to the court / administrative authority have to be translated into the official language(s) of your State? See question 2 a) for the official language(s) of the State	 Yes, please state who is responsible for the organisation and cost of the translation: No It depends upon the type of documentation submitted (<i>please specify</i>): 			
d)	Have measures been taken to ensure that the judicial and administrative authorities in your State act expeditiously in return proceedings? See Article 11	 Yes, please explain briefly what the measures are: In the implementing legislation: In procedural rules: Other (<i>please specify</i>): measures for findig location of a child Please specify how the legislation or rules can be obtained (<i>e.g.</i>, website) or attach a copy: No 			
e)	Generally, what is the expected time from the commencement of the proceedings for return to a final order (excluding appeals)? See Article 11	 Up to 6 weeks 6 to 12 weeks More than 12 weeks (<i>please provide further information</i>): 			
f)	Is the applicant generally required to participate in the return proceedings? Please note that attendance in person is not required under the Convention (see paragraph 6.5.3 of the Guide to Good Practice, Part II - Implementing Measures)	 Yes, please specify in what circumstances: No, but advisable No 			
g)	Are facilities available to enable the applicant to participate in return proceedings from outside your State?	 Yes: Video-conference Telephone Through a legal representative Other (<i>please specify</i>): No 			
h)	If the applicant does participate in return proceedings in your State, is simultaneous interpretation available, where necessary?	 Yes No It depends upon the circumstances of the case (<i>please specify</i>): 			

i)	Where the facilities set out in question 10.3 g) and h) above are required, who is responsible for the cost of providing such facilities?	 The applicant The requesting Central Authority The requested Central Authority The court / administrative authority It depends upon the facility used (<i>please specify</i>): Other (<i>please specify</i>):
j)	Can special immigration arrangements (<i>e.g.</i> , visas) be made to enable the applicant to attend return proceedings in person if he / she so wishes?	 ☐ Yes (<i>please specify</i>): ☑ No
k)	Is it possible for a return application to be decided solely on the basis of the papers <i>i.e.</i> , with no court (or administrative authority) hearing at all?	 Yes Yes, but it is unlikely No, there will always be a hearing
1)	Can oral evidence (<i>i.e.</i> , in-person evidence) be received in return proceedings?	 Yes, oral evidence will always be received in return proceedings Yes, oral evidence can be received in return proceedings but in limited circumstances only (<i>please specify</i>): No, oral evidence can never be received in return proceedings
10	0.4 Participation of the child	
a)	Does the child have an opportunity to be heard in return proceedings in your State?	 Yes, in every case; go to question b) It depends upon the particular case and is always at the discretion of the judge / authority hearing the case. <i>Please explain if necessary</i>: Go to question b) Only where Article 13(2) is relied upon; go to question b) Other (<i>please specify</i>): Go to question b) No, never. Go to section 10.5
b)	How is the child heard in return proceedings?	 Direct interview with judge Report prepared for court by independent expert Child's own legal representative Other (<i>please specify</i>): The Center for Social Work
c)	How does your State ensure that no undue delay results from hearing the child in the course of return proceedings?	Please explain: Court to act.
d)	Can judicial or administrative authorities appoint a legal representative (attorney or <i>guardian ad</i> <i>litem</i>) to represent the child's best interests in return proceedings?	Yes, please specify under what circumstances:No

10	.5 Protective measures	
a)	Where there are concerns about the care being given to a child in your State, which authorities provide services for the assessment and protection of the child? <i>Please provide additional information if necessary</i> <i>On the role of the Central Authority in this respect, see</i> <i>also question 6.2 j) above</i>	 Government social / welfare agency: Non-governmental organisations / agencies: Central Authority: Police: Courts: Other (<i>please specify</i>):
b)	What measures are available to ensure the protection of a child in your State (both prior to the initiation of return proceedings and whilst return proceedings are ongoing)?	 Injunctive orders can be placed on the alleged abducting party prohibiting certain forms of conduct <i>e.g.</i>, violence, drinking <i>etc.</i> Placement of the child in foster care Placement of the child in State care Supervision of the alleged abducting party's care of the child by a social / welfare agency Other (<i>please specify</i>):
c)	Which of the above measures require a court order? Please list the relevant numbers from question 10.5 b) above	4
d)	Who is responsible for applying for any protective measure requiring a court order? Please list next to the relevant individual or body the number of the measure from question b) above, which they are required to apply for On the role of the Central Authority in this respect, see also question 6.2 j) above	 The applicant: The requesting Central Authority: The requested Central Authority: The Public Prosecutor: The judge (<i>ex officio</i>): A government social / welfare agency: The police: Other (<i>please specify</i>):
10	.6 Contact or access during return p	proceedings
a)	Can judicial or administrative authorities take provisional or interim measures to enable an applicant to exercise contact or access in respect of the child while return proceedings are pending?	∑ Yes □ No
10	.7 Appeals	
a)	Can a decision in return proceedings be appealed?	 Yes Only in certain circumstances (<i>please specify</i>): If either of the boxes above are ticked, please specify how many levels of appeal exist and to which court(s) / authority(ies) an appeal may be made: No, go to section 11

b)	Is there an expedited procedure or special process of appeal for Hague return cases? Please specify the legislation and / or rules which provide for this and how they can be obtained (e.g., website) or attach a copy	□ Ye ⊠ Ne	es, please specify: lo
c)	Who can initiate the appeal process?	□ Ce	ither party to the proceedings Central Authority ublic Prosecutor Other (<i>please specify</i>):
d)	Is leave to appeal required?		es lo n certain circumstances (<i>please specify</i>):
e)	If a return order is made, can it be suspended (<i>i.e.</i> , "stayed") pending an appeal?	pe Ve ap Ve ap	es, a return order is <i>automatically</i> suspended ending an appeal es, a return order can be suspended pending an ppeal at the request of either party es, a return order can be suspended pending an ppeal at the request of either party <u>and</u> after etermination by the judge / authority lo
f)	Is there a time limit by which an appeal must be filed in return proceedings?	Th Fr th fre	es, please specify: he time limit: 5 days rom when the time limit starts to run (<i>e.g.</i> , from ne date of judgment, from the date of the order, rom the date the decision was notified to the parties <i>tc.</i>): lo
g)	Generally, what is the expected time within which appeals are filed and decided?	3	p to 3 months to 6 months onger than 6 months
h)	Is the applicant generally required to participate in the appeal proceedings? Please note that attendance in person is not required under the Convention (see para. 6.5.3 of the Guide to Good Practice, Part II - Implementing Measures)		es, please specify in what circumstances: lo, but advisable lo
i)	Are facilities available to enable the applicant to attend appeal proceedings from outside your State?		 Through a legal representative Other (<i>please specify</i>):

j)	If the applicant does participate in appeal proceedings in your State, is simultaneous interpretation available, where necessary?	⊠ Yes □ No
k)	Where the facilities set out in questions i) and j) above are required, who is responsible for the cost of providing such facilities?	 The applicant The requesting Central Authority The requested Central Authority The court / administrative authority It depends upon the facility used (<i>please specify</i>): Other (<i>please specify</i>):
I)	Can special immigration arrangements (<i>e.g.,</i> visas) be made to enable the applicant to attend appeal proceedings in person if he / she so wishes?	☐ Yes (<i>please specify</i>):☑ No

11	Return of the child	
11.	1 Arrangements for return and the	costs of return
	Who is responsible for making travel arrangements for the return of the child?	 The abducting party The applicant The abducting party and the applicant The abducting central Authority The requested Central Authority The judicial or administrative authority will direct who is to make arrangements on a case-by-case basis. Please explain if necessary: Other (<i>please specify</i>):
	Who is responsible for the travel costs relating to the return of the child?	 The abducting party The applicant The abducting party and the applicant The abducting party and the applicant The requesting Central Authority The requested Central Authority The costs are decided by the judicial or administrative authority on a case-by-case basis. Please explain if necessary: Other (<i>please specify</i>):
	Is there financial assistance available in your State to assist with travel costs associated with the return of the child? See also question 8.2 e)	 Yes, please specify: No
	Can special immigration arrangements (<i>e.g.</i> , visas) be made, where necessary, to enable an applicant to travel to your State to collect a child (following a return order or a voluntary agreement to return the child)?	 ☐ Yes ☑ No Please explain, if necessary:

	special immigration arrangements (e.g.,	L Yes
) be made, where necessary, for	🖾 No
	cting parties and children returning to State?	Please explain, if necessary:
11.2	Provisions for safe return	
9	See also: Article 7(2) b)	
	Part VI: Direct judicial commun	ications
	Section 6: Applications through Cer	ntral Authorities
a) Does	the law in your State provide for the	\boxtimes Yes, please specify how legislation can be accessed
	ction of children from domestic violence or	(e.g., website) or attach a copy:
other	forms of abuse?	🔲 No
b) Does	the law in your State provide for the	Yes, please specify how legislation can be accessed
protec	ction of adults from domestic violence or	(e.g., website) or attach a copy:
other	forms of abuse?	🗌 No
c) Which	n authorities provide services for the	Government social / welfare agency:
	ction, if necessary, of the child?	Non-governmental organisations:
Please	provide additional information if necessary	Central Authority:
		Police:
		\boxtimes Courts:
		Other (<i>please specify</i>):
	action can the Central Authority in your	Please explain: competence of the court
	take, where necessary, to ensure the	
sare r	return of the child?	
See Ar	<i>rticle 7(2)</i> h)	
Reques	sted State	
e) Where	e a judge or administrative authority in	Make a protective order or other order designed to
your S	State is ordering the return of the child,	prevent harm occurring to the child
	can the authority do to create conditions	Accept undertakings from either party designed to
	safe return?	prevent harm occurring to the child
	explain where necessary	Please specify the subject-matter of, and any limitations on, the undertakings the authority can
Please	tick all boxes which apply	accept:
		Other (<i>please specify</i>):
f) Where	e a judge or administrative authority in	Please specify: can provide assistance to police
	State takes measures to create conditions	
	safe return, what can the authority do to	
00000	e compliance with those measures?	

Re	questing State	
g)	Can judicial or administrative authorities in your State:	
	 Recognise and enforce protective orders or other orders made in the requested State designed to prevent harm occurring to the child? 	 Yes No Please explain where necessary:
	ii. Insist upon undertakings given in the requested State being carried out?	 Yes No It depends upon the subject-matter of the undertakings given Please explain where necessary:
	iii. Make any "mirror orders" necessary as a result of protective measures taken in the requested State?	YesNoPlease explain where necessary:
11	.3 Criminal law and the return of th	e child
a)	Is the wrongful <i>removal</i> of a child by a parent from your State a criminal offence? See Article 3 Please specify the relevant legislation and provisions and indicate how the legislation may be accessed, e.g., website, or provide a copy of the legislation	 Yes It depends upon the circumstances of the case, please specify: No
b)	Is the wrongful <i>retention</i> of a child by a parent outside your State a criminal offence? See Article 3 Please specify the relevant legislation and provisions and indicate how the legislation may be accessed, e.g., website, or provide a copy of the legislation	 Yes It depends upon the circumstances of the case, please specify: No If the answer to both question 11.3 a) and b) is "no", go to section 12
c)	What penalties are available for the wrongful removal or wrongful retention of a child by a parent?	 (1) Pecuniary measures (2) Imprisonment (3) Other (<i>please specify</i>):
d)	Please indicate which of the penalties listed above are mandatory	
e)	Can criminal proceedings in your State proceed without a complaint being presented (<i>e.g.</i> , by the applicant to the return proceedings or any other concerned person / body)?	 Yes No, please specify:
f)	Once initiated, can criminal proceedings in your State be withdrawn or suspended to facilitate the return of a child?	 Yes, please specify: No, go to section 12
g)	Who is able to initiate the withdrawal or suspension of criminal proceedings relating to the wrongful removal or wrongful retention of a child?	 Prosecuting authority Police The person / body / institution alleging a wrongful removal or retention Judicial or administrative authority Other (<i>please specify</i>):

h)	Who will determine whether the criminal proceedings are to be withdrawn or suspended?	 Prosecuting authority Police The person / body / institution alleging a wrongful removal or retention Judicial or administrative authority Other (<i>please specify</i>):
i)	What assistance can the Central Authority provide regarding the suspension or withdrawal of criminal proceedings?	 None Refer the matter to prosecuting authority Other (<i>please specify</i>):

12	Enforcement of return orders		
		of return orders, see the Guide to Good Practice, Part IV – ler "Child Abduction Section" then "Guides to Good	
a)	What procedure may be used to enforce a return order?	 Directions by a judicial or administrative authority to make arrangements for return Measures for the immediate execution of final orders Issue of a warrant for the apprehension or detention of the child Authority for coercive detention or use of force Other (<i>please specify</i>): 	
b)	Who is generally responsible for exercising supervision over the process of enforcement?	 The applicant Central Authority Public Prosecutor The court / administrative authority Police No one body has general responsibility Other (<i>please specify</i>): 	
c)	Where parties do not voluntarily comply with a return order, is it necessary to commence additional proceedings to enforce the order?	 Yes, go to question d) It depends on the circumstances (<i>please specify</i>): Go to question d) No, go to Part IV: Applications relating to access 	
d)	What is the procedure to commence enforcement proceedings?	 The Central Authority will apply for enforcement The applicant must apply for enforcement Other (<i>please specify</i>): 	
e)	Can the merits of the proceedings for return be reviewed in enforcement proceedings?	□ Yes ⊠ No	
f)	What coercive measures, if any, are available to enforce a return order?	 Intervention by government agency (e.g., <i>police</i>, <i>social welfare</i>) Removal of the child from the abducting party Removal of the child from the State Criminal charges Imprisonment Pecuniary measures An order placing the child under supervision Other (<i>please specify</i>): 	

Part IV: Applications relating to access

13 Applications through Central Auth	norities
13.1 Outgoing applications (requestin	g State)
 a) What assistance is available to applicants in your State in the preparation of outgoing access applications? See Articles 7 and 21 	 Assistance from the Central Authority to apply under Article 21 Assistance from another authority or body to apply under Article 21 Referral to a legal representative for assistance to apply under Article 21
	Other (<i>please specify</i>):
13.2 Incoming applications (requeste	d State)
 a) Has your State developed a specific form for access applications under the Convention? 	 Yes Please specify how this form can be accessed (<i>e.g.</i>, website) or attach a copy: Go to question c) No, go to question b)
b) If your State does not require a particular form for access applications, what information or documents are requested?	Information concerning the identity of the child: □ Name and previous name/s □ Date of birth, where available □ Address □ Telephone number □ Nationality / nationalities □ Passport number(s) □ Photograph (as recent as possible) □ Information identifying the child's parents e.g., nationalities - where a parent is not the applicant or respondent to proceedings (<i>please specify</i>): name and surname, possible residence abductor. □ Other (<i>please specify</i>): □ Information concerning the identity of the applicant: ○ Name and previous name/s ○ Date of birth △ Address ○ Telephone number ○ Nationality / Nationalities □ Passport number(s) ○ Relationship of the applicant to the child ○ Name(s) of legal adviser, if any □ Other (<i>please specify</i>): □ Information concerning the identity of the person with whom the child is presumed to be (the proposed respondent to the application): ○ Name and previous name/s ○ Date of birth △ Address ○ Telephone number ○ Name and previous name/s ○ Date of birth ○ Address ○ Telephone number ○ Name

		 □ Passport number(s) ○ Physical description (height, eye and hair colour) ○ Photograph (as recent as possible) ○ Relationship of the person to the child □ Other (<i>please specify</i>): The grounds upon which the applicant's claim for access to the child is based ○ Evidence of the applicant's rights of access (whether obtained by operation of law, or otherwise) □ An authenticated copy of any relevant decision or agreement ○ A certificate or an affidavit emanating from the Central Authority, or other competent authority of the State of the child's habitual residence, or from a qualified person, concerning the relevant law of that State □ Other (<i>please specify</i>): All available information relating to the whereabouts of the child and the identity of the person with whom the child is presumed to be Any other relevant document / information ○ Concerning any child protection issues ○ Marriage certificate (if applicable) ○ Divorce decree (if applicable) ○ Civil and / or criminal proceedings in progress (if applicable) □ Other (<i>please specify</i>):
c)	Does your Central Authority accept an application and accompanying documentation transmitted by electronic means?	Yes, please specify any requirements for electronically transmitted applications / documentation: Yes, but any documentation sent electronically is not accepted by the court / administrative authority (<i>please specify</i>): No
d)	Does the Central Authority require a written authorisation empowering it or a designated representative (e.g., <i>lawyer</i>) to act on behalf of the applicant? <i>See Article 28</i>	 Yes, the authorisation should be provided: On the application form In a signed statement or declaration Other (<i>please specify</i>): No
e)	Does the Central Authority acknowledge receipt of the application?	Yes, acknowledgment generally is provided by: E-mail Facsimile Post Other (<i>please specify</i>): the competent authorities of the central authorities No

f)	Can the Central Authority proceed with an application where the information provided is incomplete?	 Yes, the Central Authority will begin processing the application and will immediately inform the requesting Central Authority of what additional information is required to complete the request No: The Central Authority will not process an application without all of the necessary supporting documentation The Central Authority is unable to process the application but will immediately inform the requesting Central Authority of what additional information is required before further action can be taken It depends upon what type of information is missing (<i>please specify</i>): Other (<i>please explain</i>):
g)	Who does the Central Authority prefer to communicate with in incoming applications?	 The requesting Central Authority The applicant The applicant's legal representative All of the above Other (<i>please specify</i>):
h)	What measures are taken by the Central Authority (directly, or through an intermediary) to attempt to secure agreement between parties in international access cases? See Article 21 See Part V: Mediation and other forms of alternative dispute resolution	 Contact is made with the respondent to the application Mediation and / or other forms of alternative dispute resolution are offered to the parties (see Part V: Mediation and other forms of alternative dispute resolution) Other (<i>please specify</i>): decision made by the court
i)	How is it ensured that no undue delay results from the measures taken, or attempted, to secure an agreement between parties in international access cases (see question h) above)?	Please explain: decision made by the court
j)	What general assistance can be provided by the Central Authority in respect of arrangements for rights of access? See Article 21	 The Central Authority can facilitate contact with the parties: Directly through the Central Authority Through intermediaries The Central Authority can provide information to the applicant on services available, <i>e.g.</i>, mediation, lega services, social welfare services (<i>please specify</i>): Other (<i>please specify</i>): decision made by the court
k)	Will the Central Authority's assistance depend on: See paragraph 4.6 of the General Principles and Guide to Good Practice on Transfrontier Contact Concerning Children (available at < www.hcch.net > under "Child Abduction Section" then "Guides to Good Practice") recommending that Central Authorities should make their services available in all cases where cross-frontier contact rights of parents and children are in issue	 Existence of a judicial or administrative order establishing or confirming rights of access Other (<i>please specify</i>): decision made by the court

I)	Can an applicant commence proceedings in your State with respect to access without using the Central Authority channel?		 Yes; if so, please explain: Where an applicant can obtain information about commencing proceedings: What role, if any, the Central Authority has in these proceedings:
		\boxtimes	No

14	4 Locating a child and preventing removal			
a)	Are the responses to the questions in this section the same as for applications for return (see section 7)?	 Yes, go to section 15 No, continue to question b) 		
b)	What evidence / information does your State require regarding the child's whereabouts to begin to assist with locating the child? Please explain where necessary	 Evidence that the child entered your State (<i>e.g.</i>, evidence that the child boarded an aeroplane bound for your State): Information from the applicant as to why he / she believes the child is in your State: No information or evidence is required; searches for the child can begin upon request: Other (<i>please explain</i>): 		
c)	What mechanisms or sources of information are available in your State to discover the whereabouts of a child who is the subject of an access application? <i>Please indicate in the space provided any associated</i> <i>costs for the applicant or any other necessary</i> <i>information</i>	 (1) Private location services: (2) Population register: (3) Employment register: (4) Information maintained by other government agencies (e.g., <i>immigration, social welfare</i>): (5) Police: (6) INTERPOL: (7) Court orders to compel the production of information on the whereabouts of the child: (8) Other (<i>please specify</i>): 		
d)	Please indicate who is responsible for arranging the measures indicated above in question c) by listing the relevant number next to the responsible person or authority <i>E.g.</i> , Central Authority: 2, 3 The applicant's representative: 6	Central Authority: The applicant: The applicant's representative: Other (<i>please specify</i>):		
e)	Please indicate by listing numbers which of the measures above in question c) need an order from a competent authority?			

15 Legal representation and assistance		
15.1 General		
a) Are the responses to the questions in this section the same as for applications for return (see section 8)?	 Yes, go to section 15.2 No, continue to question b) 	

b)	Does the Central Authority provide legal advice regarding access applications?		 Yes No No, however: The Central Authority will refer the applicant to the appropriate person or authority to obtain legal advice The Central Authority will provide information that is of a general nature about laws and procedures
c)	Is legal representation needed in access		Other (<i>please specify</i>):
Í	proceedings?		No, but advisable
	Please explain where necessary		No
d)	What is the role of the Central Authority in making arrangements to progress the application? See Article 7(2) g)		The applicant is required to make his / her own arrangements for legal representation, but the Central Authority will: Provide the applicant with a list of lawyers Provide the applicant with a list of free or reduced rate lawyers Other (<i>please specify</i>): Legal representation is not required. The Central Authority ensures the application is forwarded to the competent authority for action. Please provide additional information if necessary: Legal representation is arranged by the Central Authority. Representation is provided by: Central Authority lawyers Private lawyers Other (<i>please specify</i>): Other (<i>please specify</i>):
15	5.2 Free or reduced rate legal assista	nce	e
a)	Are the responses to the questions in this section the same as for applications for return (see section 8.2)?		Yes, go to section 16 No, go to question b)
b)	Is free or reduced rate legal assistance for access applications available for applicants located in another Contracting State?		Yes, free legal assistance; go to question d) Yes, reduced rate legal assistance; go to question d) No; go to question c)
c)	If free or reduced rate legal assistance is <u>not</u> available, in what other ways can your State assist an applicant financially?		There is a system of costs ordering the respondent to pay <i>Pro bono</i> legal assistance Other (<i>please specify</i>): Not at all Go to section 16
d)	Is the applicant required to complete an application form for free or reduced rate legal assistance?		Yes. Please specify how application forms can be obtained (<i>e.g.</i> , website) or attach a copy: No

e)	Please indicate on what basis free or reduced rate legal assistance may be available <i>Please explain where necessary</i>	 Income of the applicant Assets of the applicant Country of residence of the applicant Likelihood of success of the proceedings Other (<i>please specify</i>):
f)	Which costs are covered by free or reduced rate legal assistance? Please explain where necessary	 (1) Mediation (2) Translation (3) Interpreters (4) Service of documents (5) Costs associated with locating the child (6) Court fees (7) Travel costs for the return of the child (see question 11.1 c)) (8) Other (<i>please specify</i>):
g)	Please list the corresponding numbers of the costs, if any, listed in question f) which are covered by the Central Authority?	
h)	Is free or reduced rate legal assistance available for the appeal of decisions?	 No, go to question j) Yes, free legal assistance Yes, reduced rate legal assistance
i)	Is a new application for free or reduced rate legal assistance needed for appeals?	Yes No
j)	Is free or reduced rate legal assistance available for proceedings needed to enforce an access order?	 No, go to section 16 Yes, free legal assistance Yes, reduced rate legal assistance
k)	Is a new application for free or reduced rate legal assistance needed for enforcement applications?	Yes No

16 Rights of access

16	.1 Determining rights of access	
a)	Which legislation in your State governs the establishment and exercise of rights of access? <i>See Article 5</i>	Please specify how legislation can be accessed (<i>e.g.</i> , website) or attach a copy: family law
b)	Which judicial and / or administrative authorities can make decisions with respect to rights of access?	the competent court
c)	In your State, who may seek rights of access in respect of a child?	 Parent Step-parent Grandparent Other family member (<i>please specify</i>): Other (<i>please specify</i>): custodial person

Co So Pl	re the best interests of the child a primary onsideration in access proceedings? ee Articles 3 and 9 of the United Nations onvention on the Rights of the Child lease explain, if necessary	 Yes No, please specify what are the primary considerations:
16.2	2 Exercising rights of access	
sa	Vhere necessary, what guarantees and afeguards do your courts or administrative uthorities have to enable them to secure rights f access for children and applicants?	 Surrender of passport or travel documents Applicant to regularly report to police or other authority Deposit of a monetary bond or surety Supervised contact Placing restrictions on how contact is exercised Signing an affidavit or religious oath Provision of a detailed itinerary with contact details Requesting foreign consulates / embassies should not issues new passports / travel documents for the child Other: on the court decision
16.3	3 Supervised access	
	o facilities exist in your State for the exercise frights of access in a supervised environment?	 Yes, please explain if necessary: No, go to section 17
b) U	Inder what circumstances is access supervised?	 Where it is agreed between the parties Where it is requested by one party As a result of a decision by a social welfare agency By order of a judicial or administrative authority Other (<i>please specify</i>): on the court decision
c) W	Vhich authorities provide supervised access?	 Government social / welfare agency: Non-government organisations: Central Authority: Police: Courts: Other (<i>please specify</i>): on the court decision
	Vho will pay the costs associated with exercising upervised access?	 The applicant The person(s) with day to day care of the child The Central Authority It depends upon the order of the judicial or administrative authority Other (<i>please specify</i>): on the court decision

17	Proceedings for access / contact	
17	.1 Organisation of competent autho	rities
a)	Does your State limit the judicial or administrative authorities who can hear access applications under the Convention?	□ Yes ⊠ No
	(<i>i.e.</i> , has your State "concentrated jurisdiction" in respect of access applications under the Convention?)	
b)	If possible, please state exactly how many courts or administrative authorities and how many judges or relevant decision-makers can hear access applications under the Convention?	Courts / administrative authorities: 15 Basic Court Judges / decision-makers: there is no specialized judges
c)	Which courts or administrative authorities can make decisions in applications relating to access under the Convention?	Basic Courts
d)	Are the judges or administrative authorities who decide access applications in your State specialists in family law?	 ☐ Yes ⊠ No ☐ Other (<i>please specify</i>):
	See also section 22 on Training below	
17	.2 Procedures	
a)	Is a special procedure applied by judicial or administrative authorities to access applications made under Article 21 of the Convention?	☐ Yes: ⊠ No:
	Please explain where necessary	
b)	Does documentation submitted to the court / administrative authority have to be translated into the official language(s) of your State?	 Yes, please state who is responsible for the organisation and cost of the translation: No
	See question 2 a) for the official language(s) of the State	It depends upon the type of documentation submitted (<i>please specify</i>):
c)	Generally, how long are proceedings relating to access from commencement to final order (excluding appeals)?	 Up to 6 weeks 6 to 12 weeks 3 to 6 months Longer than 6 months
d)	Is the applicant generally required to participate in proceedings relating to access? <i>Please note that attendance in person is not required</i> <i>under the Convention (see para. 6.5.3 of the Guide to</i>	 Yes, please specify in what circumstances: No, but advisable No
	Good Practice, Part II - Implementing Measures)	

 e) Are facilities available to enable an applicant to participate in access proceedings from outside your State? i) If the applicant does participate in access proceedings in your State, is simultaneous interpretation available, where necessary? g) Where the facilities set out in questions e) and f) above are required, who is responsible for the cost of providing such facilities? g) Where the facilities of the cost of providing such facilities? g) Can special immigration arrangements (e.g., visas) be made to enable the applicant to attem withes? i) Can special immigration arrangements (e.g., visas) be made to enable the applicant to attem access proceedings in person if he / she so wishes? i) Can special immigration arrangements (e.g., visas) be made to enable the applicant to attem access proceedings in person if he / she so wishes? i) Can special immigration arrangements (e.g., visas) be made to enable the applicant to attem access proceedings in person if he / she so wishes? i) Constant the same as for applications for return (see section 10.4)? j) Does the child have an opportunity to be heard in access proceedings under the Convention in your State? j) Other (please specify): G) to question c) G) they can the child be heard in access proceedings? j) No, nortinue to question 17.4 j) No, nortinue to question c) j) to dependent the convention in your State? j) No, nortinue to question c) j) No, nortinue to question c) j) to dependent expert of court y by independent expert Child's own legal representative child have no undue delay results from hearing the child in the course of access proceedings? j) Con the child be heard in access proceedings? j) Con the child be heard in access proceedings? j) Con the child be heard in access proceedings? j) How does your State ensure that no undue delay results from h	r		
interpretation available, where necessary? No g) Where the facilities set out in questions e) and f) above are required, who is responsible for the cost of providing such facilities? The applicant g) Where the facilities set out in questions e) and f) above are required, who is responsible for the cost of providing such facilities? The requesting Central Authority g) Where the facilities set out in questions e) and f) above are required, who is responsible for the cost of providing such facilities? The requesting Central Authority g) Key the cost of providing such facilities? The requesting Central Authority The requesting Central Authority g) Key the cost of providing such facilities? The requesting Central Authority The requesting Central Authority g) Key the cost of providing such facilities? We cost of providing such facilities? The requesting Central Authority g) Key the cost of providing such facilities? Ves (please specify): No g) Are the responses to the questions in this section the same as for applications for return (see section 10.4)? Yes, go to section 17.4 g) Does the child have an opportunity to be heard in access proceedings under the Convention in your State? Yes, always; go to question c) It depends upon the particular case and is always at the discretion of the judge / authority hearing the case. Please explain if necessary: Go to question c) g) How can the child be heard in access proceedings? <	e)	participate in access proceedings from outside	 Video-conference Telephone Through a legal representative Other (<i>please specify</i>):
above are required, who is responsible for the cost of providing such facilities? ☐ The requesting Central Authority ☐ The requesting Central Authority ☐ The requesting Central Authority ☐ The court / administrative authority ☐ The court / administrative authority ☐ It depends upon the facilities? ☐ Other (please specify): ☐ Other (please specify): ☐ Other (please specify): [] No Participation of the child a) Are the responses to the questions in this section the same as for applications for return (see section 10.4)? [] Yes, go to section 17.4 [] No, continue to question b) [] Yes, always; go to question c) [] It depends upon the particular case and is always at the discretion of the judge / authority hearing the case. Please explain in facessary: [] Go to question c) [] Other (please specify): [] No, never; go to section 17.4 [] No, never; go to section 17.4 [] No, continue to question c) [] It depends upon the particular case and is always at the discretion of the judge / authority hearing the case. Please explain in facessary: [] Go to question c) [] Other (please specify): [] No, never; go to section 17.4 [] How can the child be heard in access proceedings? [] Direct interview with judge [] Report prepared for court by independent expert [] Child's own legal representative authority is appoint a digal representative (attorne	f)	proceedings in your State, is simultaneous	
visas) be made to enable the applicant to attend access proceedings in person if he / she so wishes? No 17.3 Participation of the child Yes, go to section 17.4 a) Are the responses to the questions in this section the same as for applications for return (see section 10.4)? Yes, always; go to question b) b) Does the child have an opportunity to be heard in access proceedings under the Convention in your State? Yes, always; go to question c) c) How can the child be heard in access proceedings? Other (please spcify): Go to question c) c) How can the child be heard in access proceedings? Direct interview with judge c) How does your State ensure that no undue delay results from hearing the child in the course of access proceedings? Please explain: d) How does your State ensure that no undue delay results from hearing the child in the course of access proceedings? Please explain: e) Can judicial or administrative authorities appoint a legal representative (attorney or guardian ad (item) to represent the child's best interest? Yes, please specify under what circumstances:	g)	above are required, who is responsible for the	 The requesting Central Authority The requested Central Authority The court / administrative authority It depends upon the facility used (<i>please specify</i>):
a) Are the responses to the questions in this section the same as for applications for return (see section 10.4)? Yes, go to section 17.4 b) Does the child have an opportunity to be heard in access proceedings under the Convention in your State? Yes, always; go to question c) b) The discretion of the judge / authority hearing the case. Please explain if necessary: Go to question c) It depends upon the particular case and is always at the discretion of the judge / authority hearing the case. Please explain if necessary: Go to question c) c) How can the child be heard in access proceedings? Direct interview with judge c) How does your State ensure that no undue delay results from hearing the child in the course of access proceedings? Direct interview with judge d) How does your State ensure that no undue delay results from hearing the child in the course of access proceedings? Please explain: e) Can judicial or administrative authorities appoint a legal representative (attorney or guardian ad litem) to represent the child's explain ad litem by necessary? Yes, please specify under what circumstances: allogan ad litem by necessary?	h)	visas) be made to enable the applicant to attend access proceedings in person if he / she so	
section the same as for applications for return (see section 10.4)? No, continue to question b) b) Does the child have an opportunity to be heard in access proceedings under the Convention in your State? Yes, always; go to question c) It depends upon the particular case and is always at the discretion of the judge / authority hearing the case. Please explain if necessary: Go to question c) Other (please specify): Go to question c) Image: No, continue to question b) Image: No, continue to question c) Image: No, continue to question c) Image: No, continue to question c) Image: Other (please specify): Go to question c) Image: No, never; go to section 17.4 Image: No, never; go to section 17.4 Image: No, never; go to section 17.4 Image: No constant the child be heard in access Image: Proceedings? Image: Proceedings? Image: Proceedings? Image: Proceedings? Image: Proceedings?			
in access proceedings under the Convention in your State? It depends upon the particular case and is always at the discretion of the judge / authority hearing the case. Please explain if necessary: Go to question c) Other (please specify): Go to question c) Other (please specify): Go to question c) No, never; go to section 17.4 Direct interview with judge Report prepared for court by independent expert Child's own legal representative Other (please specify): Other (please specify): Go to question c) Please explain if necessary: Image: proceedings? Direct interview with judge Report prepared for court by independent expert Child's own legal representative Other (please specify): Other (please specify): Image: proceedings? Please explain:	17	7.3 Participation of the child	
 proceedings? Report prepared for court by independent expert Child's own legal representative Other (<i>please specify</i>): How does your State ensure that no undue delay results from hearing the child in the course of access proceedings? Please explain: Please explain: Yes, please specify under what circumstances: a legal representative (attorney or <i>guardian ad litem</i>) to represent the child's best interests? 		Are the responses to the questions in this section the same as for applications for	
 results from hearing the child in the course of access proceedings? e) Can judicial or administrative authorities appoint a legal representative (attorney or <i>guardian ad litem</i>) to represent the child's best interests? 	a)	Are the responses to the questions in this section the same as for applications for return (see section 10.4)? Does the child have an opportunity to be heard in access proceedings under the Convention in	 No, continue to question b) Yes, always; go to question c) It depends upon the particular case and is always at the discretion of the judge / authority hearing the case. <i>Please explain if necessary:</i> Go to question c) Other (<i>please specify</i>): Go to question c)
a legal representative (attorney or <i>guardian ad litem</i>) to represent the child's best interests?	a)	Are the responses to the questions in this section the same as for applications for return (see section 10.4)? Does the child have an opportunity to be heard in access proceedings under the Convention in your State? How can the child be heard in access	 No, continue to question b) Yes, always; go to question c) It depends upon the particular case and is always at the discretion of the judge / authority hearing the case. <i>Please explain if necessary:</i> Go to question c) Other (<i>please specify</i>): Go to question c) Other (<i>please specify</i>): Go to question c) No, never; go to section 17.4 Direct interview with judge Report prepared for court by independent expert Child's own legal representative
	a) b)	Are the responses to the questions in this section the same as for applications for return (see section 10.4)? Does the child have an opportunity to be heard in access proceedings under the Convention in your State? How can the child be heard in access proceedings? How does your State ensure that no undue delay results from hearing the child in the course of	 No, continue to question b) Yes, always; go to question c) It depends upon the particular case and is always at the discretion of the judge / authority hearing the case. <i>Please explain if necessary:</i> Go to question c) Other (<i>please specify</i>): Go to question c) No, never; go to section 17.4 Direct interview with judge Report prepared for court by independent expert Child's own legal representative Other (<i>please specify</i>):

17	17.4 Appeals				
a)	Can a decision in applications relating to access be appealed?	🛛 Yes			
	ne abheaica:	Only in certain circumstances (<i>please specify</i>):			
		If either of the boxes above are ticked, please specify how many levels of appeal exist and to which courts / authorities an appeal may be made:			
		No, go to section 18			
b)	Is there an expedited procedure or special process of appeal for Hague access cases?	 Yes, please specify: No 			
	Please specify the legislation and / or rules which provide for this and how they can be obtained (e.g., website) or attach a copy				
c)	Who can initiate the appeal process?	\boxtimes Either party to the proceedings			
		Central Authority			
		Public Prosecutor			
		Other (<i>please specify</i>):			
d)	Is leave to appeal required?	Yes			
		🖾 No			
		□ In certain circumstances (<i>please specify</i>):			
e)	If an access order is made, can it be suspended (<i>i.e.</i> , "stayed") pending an appeal?	Yes, an access order is <i>automatically</i> suspended pending an appeal			
		Yes, an access order can be suspended pending an appeal at the request of either party			
		Yes, an access order can be suspended pending an appeal at the request of either party and after determination by the relevant judge / authority			
		□ No			
f)	Is there a time limit by which an appeal must be	Yes, please specify:			
	filed in access proceedings?	The time limit: 5 days			
		From when the time limit starts to run (<i>e.g.</i> , from the date of judgment, from the date of the order, from the date the decision is notified to the parties <i>etc</i> .):			
		□ No			
g)	Generally, what is the expected time within	Up to 3 months			
	which appeals are filed and decided?	□ 3 to 6 months			
		Longer than 6 months			
h)	Is the applicant generally required to participate in appeal proceedings?	Yes, please specify in what circumstances:			
	Please note that attendance in person is not required under the Convention (see paragraph 6.5.3 of the Guide to Good Practice, Part II - Implementing Measures)	No			
		1			

i)	Is the applicant able to participate in proceedings without being physically present?	 Yes, please specify: Video-conference Telephone Through a legal representative Other (please specify): No
j)	If the applicant does participate in appeal proceedings in your State, is simultaneous interpretation available, where necessary?	∑ Yes □ No
k)	Where the facilities set out in questions i) and j) above are required, who is responsible for the cost of providing such facilities?	 The applicant The requesting Central Authority The requested Central Authority The court / administrative authority It depends upon the facility used (<i>please specify</i>): Other (<i>please specify</i>):
I)	Can special immigration arrangements (<i>e.g.</i> , visas) be made to enable the applicant to attend appeal proceedings in person if he / she so wishes?	☐ Yes, please specify:☑ No

18 Enforcement of rights of access	
a) Can an order relating to rights of access made in another State be registered for enforcement or be declared enforceable in your State?	Yes, all orders made in another State are recognised and are enforceable. Please explain or specify how relevant legislation can be accessed (<i>e.g.</i> , website) or attach a copy:
	Yes, if there is an international agreement in place with the foreign State. Please specify:
	Brussels II a (Council Regulation (EC) 2201/2003 of 27 November 2003)
	 1996 Hague Child Protection Convention Other (<i>please specify</i>):
	Yes, subject to conditions. Please explain or specify how relevant legislation can be accessed (<i>e.g.</i> , website) or attach a copy:
	No, however the party can seek to have "mirror orders" made by the judicial or administrative authorities
	No

b)	Can an agreement relating to rights of access made in another State be registered for enforcement or be declared enforceable in your State?	 Yes, if there is an international agreement in place with the foreign State. Please specify: Brussels II a (Council Regulation (EC) 2201/2003 of 27 November 2003) Other (<i>please specify</i>): Yes, subject to conditions. Please explain: No, however the party can seek to have "mirror orders" made by the judicial or administrative authorities No
c)	Can a party seek to have orders made in your State in respect of a decision from another State on rights of access?	Yes, the party must apply to the judicial or administrative authorities Yes, the Central Authority will apply to the judicial or administrative authorities on behalf of the party No
d)	What is the procedure for the applicant to commence enforcement proceedings?	The Central Authority can apply for enforcement on behalf of the applicant The applicant must seek enforcement Other (<i>please specify</i>):
e)	What coercive measures, if any, are available to enforce an order relating to access and contact?	Intervention by government agency (e.g., <i>police</i> , <i>social welfare</i> , <i>etc</i> .) Removal of the child from the custodial person(s) Criminal charges Imprisonment Pecuniary measures An order placing the child under supervision Other (<i>please specify</i>):
f)	Does the application of coercive measures require a separate order from judicial or administrative authorities?	Yes. If so, who must apply for the order: The applicant Public Prosecutor Police Other (<i>please specify</i>): No

Part V: Mediation and other forms of alternative dispute resolution

19 Mediation			
For best practice in relation to mediation in the context of the 1980 Hague Child Abduction Convention see the forthcoming Guide to Good Practice on Mediation under the 1980 Hague Child Abduction Convention. When published, the Guide will be available to download at < <u>www.hcch.net</u> >under "Child Abduction Section" then "Guides to Good Practice".			
19.1 Mediation services			
a) What family matters can be dealt with by mediation in your State?	 Return / non-return of a child following an alleged wrongful removal / retention Custody Access / contact Relocation Child support Property disputes on relationship breakdown Other (<i>please specify</i>): all familiy disputes 		
 b) What mediation services / structures exist in your State where an incoming application has been received for the return of a child? See Articles 7(2) c) and 10 	 Private mediation services / structures (<i>please specify</i>): Mediation services / structures within the judicial or administrative system (<i>please explain</i>): Mediation services / structures provided by NGOs (<i>please specify the NGO and give brief details of the service they provide</i>): Other (<i>please explain</i>): There are no mediation services / structures available 		
c) What mediation services / structures exist in your State where an incoming application has been received for access / contact with a child? <i>See Article 21</i>	 Private mediation services / structures (<i>please specify</i>): Mediation services / structures within the judicial or administrative system (<i>please explain</i>): Mediation services / structures provided by NGOs (<i>please specify the NGO and give brief details of the service they provide</i>): Other (<i>please explain</i>): There are no mediation services / structures available If you answered that there are no mediation services / structures available in your State in response to both questions b) and c) above, go to section 20 		
 d) Is co-mediation (<i>i.e.</i> mediation involving two mediators – one from each State) available in your State for the mediation of international family disputes which are within the scope of the Convention? 	 Yes (please provide brief details of any available scheme e.g., bi-national mediation programmes): No 		

19	.9.2 Legislation and / or rules on mediation			
	Is mediation in family matters regulated in your State? Please tick all boxes which apply EU Member States, excluding Denmark, should note that Directive 2008/52/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 May 2008 on certain aspects of mediation in civil and commercial matters will apply from May 2011. EU Member States, excluding Denmark, should reference the laws, regulations and administrative provisions brought into force to comply with this Directive if known at the time of completion of this Country Profile		Yes, there is general legislation relating to mediation which also applies to mediation in family matters. Please specify how the legislation can be accessed (<i>e.g.</i> , website) or attach a copy: Yes, there is specific legislation relating to mediation in family matters. Please specify how the legislation can be accessed (<i>e.g.</i> , website) or attach a copy: Yes, there is specific legislation relating to mediation in international family matters within the scope of the Convention. Please specify how the legislation can be accessed (<i>e.g.</i> , website) or attach a copy: Yes, mediation in family matters is regulated in another way (<i>please specify</i>):	
			No, go to section 19.3	
b)	Please indicate which matters are regulated by the legislation / rules in relation to mediation in your State	\boxtimes	Formal accreditation of mediators Necessary qualifications / experience of mediators	
	Please explain where necessary		Process of mediation Confidentiality of mediation Status and enforceability of mediated agreements Taking into consideration the child's views in the mediation of disputes relating to him / her Availability of mediation in disputes involving allegations of domestic violence or other forms of abuse Other (<i>please explain</i>):	
19	0.3 Access to mediation	1		
a)	How can individuals obtain information identifying suitable mediators in your State?		 Lists of mediators are available: Through the Central Authority (see also question 19.3 b) below) 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 	
b)	What role, if any, does the Central Authority play in facilitating mediation where an incoming application has been received for the return of a child? See Articles 7(2) c) and 10 Please explain where necessary		Provides information about mediation to the parties Refers parties to accredited professionals to undertake mediation Seeks orders from judicial or administrative authorities for mediation between the parties Other (<i>please explain</i>) on the court decision	

-		1	
c)	What role, if any, does the Central Authority play in facilitating mediation where an incoming		Provides information about mediation to the parties
	application has been received for access / contact with a child?		Refers parties to accredited professionals to undertake mediation
	See Article 21		Seeks orders from judicial or administrative authorities for mediation between the parties
	Please explain where necessary	\boxtimes	Other (<i>please explain</i>) on the court decision
d)	How are the costs of mediation met in disputes where an incoming application has been received for the return of a child?		If an individual qualifies for free or reduced rate legal assistance, this will <i>always</i> include the cost of mediation (see question 8.2 e) above)
	Please explain if necessary		If an individual qualifies for free or reduced rate legal assistance, this <i>may</i> cover the cost of mediation (see question 8.2 e) above) (<i>please specify</i>)
			The Central Authority will meet the costs associated with mediation
			Other sources of funding are available (<i>please</i> specify)
		\square	The costs of mediation must be borne by the parties
			Other (<i>please explain</i>)
e)	How are the costs of mediation met where an incoming application has been received for access / contact with a child?		If an individual qualifies for free or reduced rate legal assistance, this will <i>always</i> include the cost of mediation (see question 15.2 f) above)
	Please explain if necessary		If an individual qualifies for free or reduced rate legal assistance, this <i>may</i> cover the cost of mediation (see question 15.2 f) above) (<i>please specify</i>)
			The Central Authority will meet the costs associated with mediation
			Other sources of funding are available (<i>please</i> specify)
		\boxtimes	The costs of mediation must be borne by the parties
			Other (<i>please explain</i>)
19	0.4 The mediation process		
a)	At what stage of a return application is mediation available?		At all stages, including prior to any application and as a preventive measure where necessary (<i>provide</i> <i>an explanation if necessary</i>)
			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 court or administrative authority
			Only after an application has been filed in the relevant court or administrative authority
		\square	Other (please explain) on the court decision

b)	At what stage of an access / contact application is mediation available?	 At all stages, including prior to any application and as a preventive measure where necessary (<i>provide an explanation if necessary</i>) 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 Central Authority Only before an application has been filed in the relevant court or administrative authority Only after an application has been filed in the relevant court or administrative authority Only after an application has been filed in the relevant court or administrative authority Only after an application has been filed in the relevant court or administrative authority Only after an application has been filed in the relevant court or administrative authority
c)	Are cases assessed to determine their suitability for mediation?	 Yes, always; go to question d) No, never; go to question e) Other (<i>please explain</i>) ; go to question d) or e) as appropriate
d)	Who carries out the assessment of cases to determine whether they are suitable for mediation?	 Mediator(s) Other (<i>please explain</i>) the court
e)	Where legal proceedings have commenced, can such proceedings be suspended while mediation is undertaken?	Yes, provide additional information if necessary:No
f)	How, if at all, are the views of the subject child(ren) taken into account in mediation in your State? <i>See also question 19.2 b) above</i>	 Rules / legislation require that, if the child is of a sufficient age / maturity, the child must be seen by the mediator (see also question 19.2 b) above) 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 directly (see also question 19.2 b) above). Please explain the method(s) used It is within the discretion of the particular mediator The child's views play no part in the mediation Other (please explain) on the court decision
g)	What safeguards are available in your State where allegations of domestic violence and / or other forms of abuse are made in a dispute which goes to mediation?	 (1) Address and other contact details of the alleged victim are kept confidential (2) Other safeguards (<i>please specify</i>) on the court decision
h)	Please specify which, if any, of the safeguards set out in question 19.4 g) above are required by rules / legislation in your State and which safeguards are left to the discretion of the mediator? See also question 19.2 b) above	Required by legislation / rules of State: on the court decision Left to the discretion of the mediator:

i)	Can judicial or administrative authorities take provisional or interim measures to enable an applicant to exercise contact or access in respect of a child while mediation is ongoing?	⊠ Yes □ No
19	0.5 The enforceability of mediated ag	greements
a)	Are there legal restrictions on the content of mediated agreements regarding family law matters in your State?	☐ Yes, please specify:☑ No
b)	Which additional formalities, if any, are required in your State to make mediated agreements in a family dispute involving children enforceable?	 □ (1) Notarisation of the mediated agreement □ (2) Court approval of the mediated agreement Please specify competent court: □ (3) Registration of the mediated agreement with the court. Please specify competent court: □ (4) Other (<i>please specify</i>) ○ (5) No additional formalities are required. Mediated agreements in family disputes involving children are immediately enforceable <i>without</i> any additional formalities being required If you ticked one or both of options (2) or (3) above, please go to question 19.5 c). If not, please proceed to question 19.5 d)
c)	Is the mediated agreement, once approved by or registered with a court, treated as an order of that court? <i>Please explain where necessary</i>	 Yes, Go to question 19.5 e) No, Go to question 19.5 d)
d)	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
e)	Who bears the cost of rendering the mediated agreement enforceable? Please list the number from question 19.5 b) next to the relevant answer	The parties must pay: x The cost is covered by any free or reduced rate legal assistance provided to one / both parties: Central Authority: There are no costs:
19	0.6 Agreements mediated in another	State
a)	Can an agreement mediated in another State in a family dispute involving children be approved by a court or otherwise formalised in your State in the same manner as an agreement mediated in your State (see question 19.5 b) above)?	 Yes No, a different method for formalising the agreement must be used. Please specify: No, it is not possible to formalise an agreement mediated in another State Other (<i>please specify</i>):

20	Other forms of alternative dispute	e resolution ("ADR")
a)	What other forms of ADR are available in your State for the resolution of international family disputes falling within the scope of the Convention? See Articles 7(2) c) and 10	 (1) In-court conciliation (2) Out-of-court conciliation (3) Collaborative law (4) Early Neutral Evaluation (5) Other (<i>please specify</i>): (6) No other forms of ADR are available, go to Part VI: Direct judicial communications
b)	What services / structures exist in respect of the other forms of ADR available in your State? Please list the relevant number(s) from question 20 a) above next to the service / structure which is available in respect of that method of ADR	Private ADR services / structures (<i>please specify</i>): ADR services / structures within the judicial or administrative system (<i>please explain</i>): ADR services / structures provided by NGOs (<i>please</i> <i>specify the NGO and give brief details of the service they</i> <i>provide</i>): Other (<i>please explain</i>):
	 In relation to: legislation on ADR access to ADR the ADR process the enforceability of agreements reached as a result of ADR; and the enforceability of agreements reached as a result of ADR in another State 	 Yes, go to Part VI: Direct judicial communications Some of the responses are the same, go to question d) No, go to question d)
d)	Please briefly specify in what way the answers to the questions in sections 19.2 to 19.6 above are different in relation to other forms of ADR in your State	

Part VI: Direct judicial communications

21	21 Direct judicial communications			
a)	Has a member of the International Hague Network of Judges been designated for your State? For more information, go to < <u>www.hcch.net</u> > under "Child Abduction Section" then "Judicial Communications"	 Yes 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 		
b)	Is there a legislative basis upon which judges in your State can engage in direct judicial communications?	 Yes, please specify how the legislation can be accessed (<i>e.g.</i>, website) or attach a copy: Go to Part VII: Other information No, go to question c) 		
c)	In the absence of legislation, can judges in your State engage in direct judicial communications?	☐ Yes ⊠ No		

Part VII: Other information

22	2 Training		
a)	What measures are being taken to ensure that persons responsible for implementing the Convention (e.g., <i>judges, lawyers and Central</i> <i>Authority personnel</i>) have received appropriate information and training? <i>Please contact the Permanent Bureau for information</i> <i>in relation to forms of assistance which may be</i> <i>available for this purpose</i>	 Training as required for Central Authority staff Training as required for responsible authorities Updates as required on legal developments related to the Convention provided to staff responsible for its implementation Training as required for lawyers Training as required for law enforcement Other (<i>please specify</i>): 	
		 Specifically in respect of judges: Sending a basic package of information on the 198 Convention to judges Training through a dedicated judicial studies board Participation in judicial training seminars Participation in the International Hague Network of Judges Accessing <i>The Judges' Newsletter on International</i> <i>Child Protection</i> (available at < <u>www.hcch.net</u> > under "Child Abduction Section" then "Judges' Newsletter on International Child Protection") Other (<i>please specify</i>): 	d of /
b)	Is your Central Authority willing to participate in a "twinning arrangement" with another Central Authority? A "twinning arrangement" is where two Central Authorities engage in discussions and / or visits to exchange information with the view to improving operations in both Central Authorities	∑ Yes □ No	

23	Other implementing measures	
a)	Does your State use iChild?	🛛 Yes
	For more information, go to < <u>www.hcch.net</u> under "Child Abduction Section" then "iChild"	□ No
b)	Does your State use another electronic case management system other than iChild?	 Yes, please specify: No
c)	Does your State use INCASTAT?	🛛 Yes
	For more information, go to < <u>www.hcch.net</u> > under "Child Abduction Section" then "INCASTAT"	□ No
d)	Does your State use INCADAT?	🛛 Yes
	For more information, go to < <u>www.incadat.com</u> >	□ No

e)) Are statistics related to applications under the Convention in your State publicly available?	

 \boxtimes Yes, please specify how the statistics can be accessed (e.g., website, annual report):

NO NO		No	
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24	Other services	
	What general services / resources are available in your State to assist those involved in international child abduction cases? <i>Please indicate, where available, contact details,</i> <i>websites and costs for such services</i>	 International Social Service (ISS) (please provide contact information): Specific NGOs dealing with child abduction: Financial assistance: Social / welfare assistance: Immigration services: Other (please specify):