

QUESTIONNAIRE ON THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON THE INTERNATIONAL ADOPTIONS ESTABLISHED UNDER THE CONVENTION ON ADOPTION 1993

Information for monitoring purposes:

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I. GENERAL INQUIRIES

For States of origin and States of receipt

1. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, has your State modified intercountry adoption procedures under the 1993 Adoption Convention? If so, what measures has your State taken to ensure respect for the safeguards and procedures of the Convention?
- Procedures have not been modified.**
- In order not to interrupt the actions that contribute to restoring the right to live in a family of girls, boys and adolescents, the use of the different platforms or applications that information and communication technology currently allows has been implemented.**

II. COVID-19 OUTBREAK (transition cases only)

For States of origin and States of receipt

2. What action did your State take or take in cases where the child had already been assigned to prospective adoptive parents but no adoption decision had been issued at the time of the COVID-19 outbreak? How many children were in that situation?
- In such cases, the processing of the procedures in process was initially suspended as a result of the quarantine measure ordered by the government. Subsequently, the government issued regulations that allowed remote work, as well as the use of information and communication technologies to reactivate the procedures and the provision of State services, especially services aimed at vulnerable populations such as the children in a situation of family vulnerability, which allowed the continuation of the processing of the procedures.**
- The General Directorate of Adoptions in the framework of the pandemic approved a document called "Virtual action guidelines for the family integration stage of the administrative adoption procedure, during the Health and / or National Emergency issued by the Government of Peru within the framework of the COVID-19 disease ", Approved with Directorial Resolution No. 098-2020-MIMP / DGA, to facilitate the processing of adoption procedures. Applicable for adoption at the national and international level.**
- <https://www.mimp.gob.pe/homemimp/direcciones/adopciones/RD-098-2020-MIMP-DGA.pdf>
- In this regard, we must point out that we had a case of brothers who had the acceptance of the destination country but required special treatment for one of them. The pandemic was**

	<p>declared in March 2020 and parents were due to arrive in the country in April. But with the borders closed, it was impossible to complete the family integration procedure. Situation that became more difficult in the case of the adolescent who turned 18 in July 2020 and was still in Peru. For this case, the presentation and integration process was allowed to take place via Zoom. Not without neglecting previous approaches with videos and other mechanisms of approach of the future parents with the adolescent.</p> <p>Regarding the number of children, there were two</p> <p>Likewise, in the case of the pre-adoptive foster care phase, it has been determined that foreign families spend this phase in the city of Lima.</p>
3.	<p>What measures did your State take in cases where the adoption decision had already been issued but the child was still in the State of origin at the time of the COVID-19 outbreak? How many children were in that situation?</p>
	N / A
III. DURING COVID-19 (transition cases and new cases)	
	<u>Only for States of origin</u>
4.	<p>Has your State made modifications in the following stages of the adoption procedure? If yes, what adaptations did you make ?:</p> <p>a) Declaration of adoptability of the child:</p>
	<p>Not</p> <p>b) Assignment:</p> <p>Adoptive family assignments for girls, boys and adolescents continue to be carried out through the National Adoption Council, which meets virtually through technological platforms. In order to carry out these virtual sessions, a whole process of digitization of the files of both the girls, boys and adolescents and the adoptive families began.</p> <p>c) Period of socialization:</p> <p>Given the need for new strategies at the national level, guidelines were issued for the socialization or Post-adoptive stage. Thus, the "Methodological Intervention Guide for the National Post Adoption Follow-up" was approved through Directorial Resolution No. 92-2021-MIMP DGA.</p> <p>Preventing the contagion of Covid 19, the sanitary measures recommended by the government and the protocols for entering the Residential Care Centers where the children are were applied (disinfectant in a floor tray, application of anti-bacteria gel to the hands, use of doubler mask and face shield required).</p> <p>d) Support for and counseling for adoptable children:</p> <p>However, no modifications were made, in some cases the means provided by information and communication technology were used.</p> <p>e) Decision of adoption:</p>

	<p>All documentation was issued through virtual means such as email, digitization of documents, among others.</p> <p>Regarding the psychosocial evaluation of national adopters, the "Social Work Guide" was approved through Directorial Resolution No. 089-2021-MIMP-DGA.</p> <p>Thus, the "Guide for Interview and Psychological Evaluation for Adoption" was also approved for the national level, approved with Directorial Resolution No. 90-2021-MIMP-DGA.</p> <p>f) Other stages:</p> <p>Cooperation with various Authorities involved in the adoption procedure has been carried out by email or by telephone.</p> <p>The communication that is carried out with the representatives of the authorized international organizations was through e-mail.</p>
	<p><u>Only for Receive States</u></p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Has your State made modifications in the following stages of the adoption procedure? If yes, what adaptations did you make ?:</p> <p>a) Assessment on whether prospective adoptive parents are suitable and suitable:</p> <p>N / A</p> <p>b) Support for and advice to prospective adoptive parents:</p> <p>N / A.</p> <p>c) Other stages:</p> <p>N / A</p>
<p>IV. USE OF TECHNOLOGY</p>	
	<p><u>For States of origin and States of receipt</u></p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Has the use of technologies (eg, video conferencing) evolved in the current adoption procedures in your State since the COVID-19 outbreak? Please specify:</p> <p>a) Benefits and challenges:</p> <p>In Peru, in effect, the use of information and communication technologies has been resorted to, such as: the digital support of files, video conferences, the use of virtual platforms; and the use of emails in order to continue with the adoption procedures to avoid the processes being affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. However, on some occasions it has been possible to appreciate that for certain professionals from some institutions these instruments represent some difficulty, being a challenge the development and improvement of connectivity.</p> <p>b) If there were changes in your answer to question 72 ("Use of new technologies") of the 2020 Questionnaire on the practical operation of the 1993 Adoption Convention (Prel. Doc. No. 3): NO</p>

V. ONCE OVER COVID-19: LOOKING AHEAD	
	<u>For States of origin and States of receipt</u>
7.	<p>Has your State developed any practices during the pandemic that would be useful to integrate into regular work practices? If yes, explain what these practices are and how you intend to incorporate them into regular practices of work:</p> <p>The use of information and communication technologies, due to the speed of responses, despite the distances, electronic notifications, as well as digital files, which have already been used in some courts.</p>
8.	<p>Please share the good practices and lessons learned by your State that can be applied in the event of another pandemic or similar state of emergency:</p> <p>The main lesson learned is that regulation in these types of circumstances must be flexible with certain discretionary frameworks so that the competent authority can quickly dispose of the pertinent measures to safeguard the right of girls, boys and adolescents to live as a family.</p> <p>Constant, precise and timely communication with those who participate in this procedure, the use of technologies that allow the connection between the various participants, respecting biosafety measures, preserving health in general. Also noteworthy is the ability of professionals from the different institutions to give continuity to the procedures correctly, in this unprecedented situation, such as the pandemic caused by Covid-19.</p>
VI. OTHER COMMENTS	
	<u>For States of origin and States of receipt</u>
9.	<p>Please write any other comments you may have here:</p> <p>.Article 135 of Legislative Decree No. 1297 establishes that the adoption procedure is free and confidential, all the activities carried out by the General Directorate of Adoptions are focused on guaranteeing the primacy of the principle of the best interests of the child.</p>