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

Identification for follow-up purposes:	
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	I.	**OVERARCHING QUESTIONS**
		<u>Both States of origin and receiving States</u>
1.		In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, has your State **modified** intercountry adoption procedures under the 1993 Adoption Convention? If so, what has your State done to ensure that the **safeguards and procedures** of the Convention have been, and continue to be, respected? No
	II.	**OUTBREAK OF COVID-19** (cases in transition only)
		<u>Both States of origin and receiving States</u>
2.		What measures, if any, did your State take to deal with cases where the **child** had **already** been **matched** with prospective adoptive parents, but no adoption decision had been issued at the time of the COVID-19 outbreak in your State? How many children were in such a situation? None
3.		What measures, if any, did your State take to deal with cases where the **adoption decision** had already been **issued**, but the **child** was **still in the State of origin** at the time of the COVID-19 outbreak in your State? How many children were in such a situation? None
	III.	**DURING COVID-19** (cases in transition and new cases)
		<u>States of origin only</u>
4.		Has your State adapted, and if so how, the following stages of the adoption procedure: a) Declaration of **adoptability** of the child: n/a

	b) **Matching**:
	n/a
	c) **Socialisation** period:
	n/a
	d) **Support** and counselling to adoptable children:
	n/a
	e) Adoption **decision**:
	n/a
	f) Other stages:
	n/a
	<u>Receiving States only</u>
5.	Has your State adapted, and if so how, the following stages of the adoption procedure:
	a) **Eligibility** and **suitability** of prospective adoptive parents:
	Implementation of telematic support
	b) **Support** and counselling to prospective adoptive parents:
	Work sessions with family groups online
	c) Other stages:
	Development of the post adoptive support service online.
	Immediate response service for adoption care 24/7.
	Support groups with adopted children (age 16 and up) online.
	Development and implementation of a job guidance service for adopted children (age 16 and up).
	IV. USE OF TECHNOLOGY
	<u>Both States of origin and receiving States</u>
6.	Has the use of technologies (*e.g,* videoconferencing) **evolved** in the adoption procedures in place in your State since the outbreak of COVID-19 in your State? Please specify:
	a) any **benefits** and **challenges**:
	BENEFITS:
	Facilitate collaborative work.
	There's a wide variety of methods.
	It's immediate and easy.
	Safest method.

	It's comfortable for families.
	We can incorporate professionals specialized in different fields and from different locations.
	It makes it easy to connect with other partners to share ideas and aspects related to adoption.
	We can organize and develop courses through this telematic tool.
	Saves costs that can be reversed in different programs.
	CHALLENGES
	Establish a common strategy.
	Legal challenges since it would be necessary to regulate this new way of interaction through videoconference .
	Organizational challenges.
	Emotional challenges, since videoconferences can not be a substitute of personal contact.
	The security of corporate information.
	The ability of States to provide communications infrastructure, since sometimes countries of origin and reception might not have the same technology .
	Limitations of many home networks, some families do not have also the technology needed to work with videoconference and others.
	b) if your response to **question 72** ("Use of new technologies") of the 2020 Questionnaire on the practical operation of the 1993 Adoption Convention (Prel. Doc. No 3) has changed: n/a

	V. POST COVID-19: LOOKING AHEAD
	<u>Both States of origin and receiving States</u>
7.	Has your State developed any practices during this pandemic period that would be **useful to mainstream into regular work** practices? If so, please elaborate on what those practices are and how you plan to go about mainstreaming them into regular work practices: Telematically promote support between families. Implement online courses in all stages of the adoption process. Organize specific seminars at the request of families (24/7 service phone and WhatsApp suggestion box)
8.	Please share any good practices and lessons learned by your State which may be applied in the event of **another pandemic or similar state of emergency:** Same as question 7

	VI. ANY OTHER COMMENTS
	<u>Both States of origin and receiving States</u>
9.	Please insert here any other comments you may have: n/a