

**Experts' Group meeting on
recognition and enforcement
of agreements in family matters
(28-29 June 2018)**



**Experts' Group on cross-border recognition and enforcement of agreements in
family matters involving children**

**Conclusions and Recommendations of the meeting of 28-29 June 2018 for the
attention of the Council on General Affairs and Policy of March 2019**

1. The Experts' Group considers that by the end of its fourth meeting, having taken account of the input on a previous draft of the 7th meeting of the Special Commission of October 2017 on the Practical Operation of the 1980 and 1996 Conventions, it has completed the work on the Practical Guide to Family Agreements under the Hague Conventions and invites the Council to approve the Guide. The Experts' Group will circulate the draft agreed by the Group to Members of the Hague Conference for comments in the autumn of 2018. The Experts' Group further recommends that if Council approves the Practical Guide it be widely disseminated to all relevant stakeholders.
2. The Experts' Group recommends that the Project of cross-border recognition and enforcement of agreements in family matters involving children be kept on the work programme of the Hague Conference and that the Permanent Bureau continue to monitor developments in this area, including the impact of the Practical Guide. The Experts' Group is willing to assist, without cost implications for the Organisation, the Permanent Bureau in its monitoring role until further steps have been decided by Council. The Permanent Bureau would consult with the members of the Experts' Group, at least once a year, through video and telephone conference.
3. Finally, the Experts' Group recommends that the Permanent Bureau explore with the members of the Experts' Group the possibility of applying for funded research to investigate further the problems and good practice associated with enabling cross-border family agreements to be made enforceable in different legal systems. In the light of the research findings the Experts' Group will consider whether to uphold its recommendation to develop a binding legislative instrument.