

Council on General Affairs and Policy – March 2020

Document	Preliminary Document <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Document <input type="checkbox"/>	Prel. Doc. 26 of January 2020
Title	Update on the <i>Proceedings</i> of the HCCH	
Author	Permanent Bureau	
Agenda item	Item VI-4	
Mandate(s)	C&R No 54 of the 2018 CGAP C&R No 56 of the 2019 CGAP	
Objective	To provide an update on the work carried out in relation to the Proceedings of the Twenty-First and Twenty-Second Sessions of the HCCH	
Action to be taken	For Approval <input type="checkbox"/> For Decision <input type="checkbox"/> For Information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Annexes		
Related documents	"Update on the <i>Proceedings</i> of the HCCH" Prel. Doc. 22 of January 2019	

I. Past Proceedings

1. In 2018, the Council on General Affairs and Policy (CGAP) discussed several items related to the *Proceedings* of the Diplomatic Sessions of the Hague Conference on Private International Law (HCCH), concluding:

“that the Permanent Bureau upload progressively, and subject to other priorities, all the *Proceedings* of past Diplomatic Sessions of the HCCH to the web, and make these available to the public free of charge as searchable electronic publications” (2018 CGAP C&R No 54).

2. At the 2019 meeting of CGAP, the Permanent Bureau (PB) committed to upload the searchable PDFs of these *Proceedings* before the 2020 CGAP meeting. As of January 2020, the *Proceedings* of the First to Twentieth Sessions of the HCCH are available on the HCCH website (under “Publications and Studies” then “Publications” and “Proceedings of the Diplomatic Sessions”).

II. Proceedings of the Twenty-First and Twenty-Second Sessions

3. As announced at the 2019 CGAP meeting, the PB is finalising *Proceedings of the Twenty-First Session* (resulting in the final texts of both the [Convention of 23 November 2007 on the International Recovery of Child Support and Other Forms of Family Maintenance](#) and the [Protocol of 23 November 2007 on the Law Applicable to Maintenance Obligations](#)). At the time of writing in January 2020, the PB is close to publishing Tome I of the *Proceedings*, focused on the 2007 Child Support Convention, on the HCCH website. Tome II, focussing on the 2007 Maintenance Obligations Protocol, will be uploaded to the HCCH website in the coming months. The PB is working with a publisher to print hard copies which will be available for purchase for those who prefer a paper copy. Members will be alerted to the electronic publication of the *Proceedings* as well as the possibility for purchase of hard copies of the Tomes via General Circular as soon as this information is available.

4. With regards to the *Proceedings of the Twenty-Second Session* (resulting in the adoption of the [Convention of 2 July 2019 on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Judgments in Civil or Commercial Matters](#)), the Explanatory Report is currently being finalised following feedback received from Members. In parallel, the PB is formatting the relevant documents for publication of the *Proceedings* in the traditional two-column format, side-by-side in English and French. As with the Twenty-First Session, the electronic versions of the *Proceedings* will be uploaded to the HCCH website as soon as they are available, with information regarding hard copy purchase to be shared with Members soon thereafter. In any case, subject to other priorities, the PB plans to complete the work on these *Proceedings* in 2020. In the meantime, all documents related to the Twenty-Second Session can be accessed on the Secure Portal of the HCCH website.

III. Collection of Instruments

5. Following the completion of the Twenty-Second Session in July 2019, the PB started work on the ninth edition of the *Collection of Instruments* (previously known as the *Collection of Conventions*). The PB carried out the editing and formatting work and arranged with the Belgian publisher Larcier to print hard copies of the *Collection*. The new edition includes only the HCCH instruments that are successful and active or otherwise represent a significant contribution to the development of private international law. Additionally, the PB made several editorial changes and harmonised the presentation of the texts of the instruments. More information regarding these changes can be found in the Foreword to the *Collection* and the Guide to the *Collection*.

6. At the time of this writing in January 2020, the *Collection* has been submitted to Larcier for printing. The PB expects to make hard copies available to Members at the 2020 CGAP meeting. Members will each receive two complimentary copies of the new *Collection* at the CGAP meeting and will be able to purchase additional copies for a nominal fee either during the meeting or via the HCCH website. Members not attending the CGAP meeting can collect their two copies at the offices of the PB in The Hague. The existing fund for the publication of the *Collection* covered all expenses associated with the production of this publication.

IV. Conclusion

7. The PB continues to contract a publications consultant who works on the formatting and editing of the *Proceedings*. In The Hague, the Head of Administration, Graphic Designer / Publications Officer, Information Manager and Website / IT Officer work on other matters relating to the *Proceedings* and the *Collection*. The work to be carried out in the coming year would not entail any additional salary expense. Therefore, the above proposals will not generate extra costs beyond those which have already been budgeted.

8. The CGAP is invited to take note of these developments.