

## Questionnaire in preparation of the Experts' Group meeting of 7 to 10 February 2022 on international transfers of maintenance funds

Name of State or territorial unit:

Portugal

### Questionnaire

a. Developments in general regarding the international transfer of maintenance funds

The Central Authority in Portugal doesn't handle the payments. It is up to the Portuguese courts to transfer the amounts directly to the creditors. Whenever possible, the transfer is done electronically, without the use of cheques.

b. Elimination of the use of cheques (see C&R 2019 No 1; aide-mémoire 2021, paras 11-14)

Has already been implemented.

Please explain:

Portuguese courts transfer the funds electronically to the creditors, whenever possible.

c. Solutions with regard to increased transparency and cost reduction of transfers and currency conversion (see C&R 2019 Nos 2 and 10; aide-mémoire 2021, paras 24-25)

Not being considered.

Please explain:

Our courts are responsible to transfer the funds.

d. Solutions where creditors would not bear the costs related to the transfer of funds (see C&R 2019 No 2; aide-mémoire 2021, paras 26-29)

Has already been implemented.

Please explain:

There are no transfer costs to the creditor.

e. Requested Central Authority arrangements with their bank to cover transfer fees or other arrangements to that effect (see C&R 2019 No 3; aide-mémoire 2021, para. 32)

Not being considered.

Please explain:

Our courts are responsible to transfer the funds.

f. Requesting Central Authority providing confirmation to the requested Central Authority that the amounts received are the same as the amounts sent and, where applicable, information on the reasons for any difference (see C&R 2019 No 3; aide-mémoire 2021, paras 15-17)

Not being considered.

Please explain:

The transfer of funds are not processed by the Portuguese Central authority.

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g. Establishment of a centralised point (e.g., bank account, central bank) for international transfers dedicated to both incoming and outgoing transfer of funds (see C&R 2019 Nos 4 and 5; aide-mémoire 2021, paras 33-35)

Is being considered.

Please explain:

This solution is being considered.

h. Provision of payment transfer services to any debtors transferring payments within the scope of the HCCH 2007 Child Support Convention (see C&R 2019 No 5; aide-mémoire 2021, para. 18)

Not being considered.

Please explain:

i. Implementation of payment transfer monitoring systems (see C&R 2019 No 6; aide-mémoire 2021, paras 36-37)

Not being considered.

Please explain:

The transfer of funds are not processed by the Portuguese Central authority.

j. Implementation of unique case references, known to both the requesting and requested State, attached to each transfer of funds (see C&R 2019 No 7; aide-mémoire 2021, para. 20)

Has already been implemented.

Please explain:

Transfer of funds done by portuguese courts have a unique case reference.

k. Implementation of currency conversion of payments done by the relevant authority in the requested State at the time of transfer (see C&R 2019 No 8; aide-mémoire 2021, paras 21-23)

Has already been implemented.

Please explain:

l. Implementation of bundled payments to reduce costs of transfers (see C&R 2019 No 11; aide-mémoire 2021, paras 38-40)

Not being considered.

Please explain:

m. Any other developments including bilateral solutions put in place between States and ongoing trials between States:

Portuguese Central Authority receives the cheques that come from the USA, and processes the transfer of funds to the creditors, assuming the costs involved.

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