

<b>Title</b>	<b>Draft Country Profile for the 1996 Child Protection Convention</b>
<b>Document</b>	<b>Prel. Doc. No 9 of July 2023</b>
<b>Author</b>	PB
<b>Agenda Item</b>	Item TBD
<b>Mandate(s)</b>	C&D No 19 and 48 of CGAP 2023 C&D No 15 of CGAP 2022 C&D No 16 and 17 of CGAP 2021 C&R No 45 of the 2017 SC
<b>Objective</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To present a draft Country Profile (CP) for consultation with HCCH Members and Contracting Parties to the 1996 Child Protection Convention with a view to having it approved at the Eighth Meeting of the Special Commission in October 2023.</li> <li>- The draft CP for the 1996 Child Protection Convention is consistent, as to form and structure, to the extent possible, with the draft CP for the 2000 Adults Convention, which was the latest one adopted by HCCH Members. It follows, whenever applicable, and with the necessary adjustments, the language of the CP for the 1980 Child Abduction Convention (text in green) and the 2000 Protection of Adults Convention (text in purple).</li> <li>- Members and Contracting Parties are invited to provide comments, making references to item numbers, <b>until 1 September 2023</b> by writing to <a href="mailto:secretariat@hcch.net">secretariat@hcch.net</a> and indicating in the subject line of the e-mail: "SC 2023 – CP 1996 – [Name of State]"</li> </ul>
<b>Action to be Taken</b>	For Decision <input type="checkbox"/> For Approval <input type="checkbox"/> For Discussion <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> For Action / Completion <input type="checkbox"/> For Information <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Related Documents</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <a href="#">Country Profile for the 1980 Child Abduction Convention</a></li> <li>- <a href="#">Prel. Doc. No 7 of May 2023 (second revised version) - 2000 Protection of Adults Convention Draft Country Profile</a></li> <li>- <a href="#">Prel. Doc. No 3 (final) of September 2011 - Country Profile 2007 Child Support Convention</a></li> </ul>

## Table of Contents

Foreword to the Country Profile .....	3
Background.....	3
Instructions.....	5
I. Central and other authorities designated by [name of your State].....	6
1 Central Authority contact details (Art. 29) .....	6
2 Other designated Central Authority, if applicable (Art. 29(2)).....	6
3 Designated authority for Article 8 and 9 requests (Art. 44) .....	7
4 Designated authority for Article 33 requests (Art. 44).....	8
5 Designated authority competent to draw up international certificates under .....	9
Article 40.....	9
6 Language requirements (Art. 54).....	10
7 Central Authority functions, operations and services.....	10
II. Coming into force and territorial application of the Convention in [name of your State].....	12
8 Coming into force and territorial application.....	12
III. Relevant legislation in [name of your State].....	13
9 1996 Child Protection Convention.....	13
10 Other HCCH Conventions in the field of child protection.....	13
11 Other agreements on international child protection.....	13
IV. Measures falling within the scope of the Convention.....	14
12 Parental Responsibility .....	14
13 Rights of custody.....	15
14 Rights of access / contact.....	16
15 Guardianship and curatorship .....	16
16 Alternative care of children .....	17
17 Kinship care.....	19
18 Foster care.....	20
19 <i>Kafala</i> .....	20
20 Urgent measures of protection .....	21
21 Other measures of protection for the child and their property .....	22
V. Jurisdiction (Arts 5 – 14).....	22
22 Judicial Authorities .....	22
23 Transfer of jurisdiction (Arts 8 and 9).....	22
24 Divorce or legal separation of the parents .....	23
VI. Information relevant to courts and judicial proceedings.....	23

25	General information.....	23
26	Legal assistance and legal aid.....	23
27	Procedures .....	24
28	Relocation.....	25
29	Participation of the child.....	25
30	Appeals .....	25
VII.	Applicable law (Arts 15 – 22) .....	26
31	Multiple systems of law or sets of rules .....	26
32	Application of the law of another State .....	26
VIII.	Recognition and Enforcement (Arts 23-28).....	27
33	Recognition.....	27
34	Enforcement.....	27
IX.	Cooperation (Arts 29-39) .....	29
35	General information.....	29
36	Placement and provision of care abroad (Art. 33).....	30
37	Locating a child (Art. 30) .....	30
X.	Mediation and other forms of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) .....	31
38	Family mediation.....	31
39	Other forms of ADR .....	34
XI.	General.....	34
40	International certificates under Article 40 .....	34
41	Training.....	35
42	Other information.....	35
XII.	Direct judicial communications .....	36
43	Direct judicial communications.....	36
XIII.	Electronic resources.....	36
44	Resources.....	36

# Draft Country Profile for the 1996 Child Protection Convention

## Foreword to the Country Profile

This Country Profile should be used by Contracting Parties<sup>1</sup> to assist with the fulfilment of their obligations under the *Convention of 19 October 1996 on Jurisdiction, Applicable Law, Recognition, Enforcement and Co-operation in respect of Parental Responsibility and Measures for the Protection of Children* (1996 Child Protection Convention or Convention). It is anticipated that the Country Profile will help Contracting Parties fulfil their obligations under Article 30 of the Convention, that is:

- To co-operate with each other and promote co-operation amongst the competent authorities in their States to achieve the purposes of the Convention.
- In connection with the application of the Convention, to take appropriate steps to provide information as to the laws of, and services available in, their States relating to the protection of children.

The Country Profile is intended to assist with the practical operation of the Convention and to facilitate:

- a) the exchange of information between Contracting Parties;
- b) obtaining information about services provided by Central Authorities and other competent authorities in the Contracting Parties;
- c) obtaining information about relevant concepts and measures of protection available in the Contracting Parties;
- d) accessibility of information concerning the application of the Convention and relevant rules and procedures in the Contracting Parties.

## Background

This draft Country Profile is consistent, as to form and structure, to the extent possible, with the draft Country Profile for the 2000 Protection of Adults Convention, which was the latest one adopted by HCCH Members. It follows, whenever applicable, and with the necessary adjustments, the language of the Country Profile for the 1980 Child Abduction Convention (text in green) and the 2000 Protection of Adults Convention (text in purple).

This draft Country Profile is divided into thirteen Sections that follow, to the extent possible, the order of the Chapters in the text of the 1996 Child Protection Convention. The aim of each section is as follows<sup>2</sup>.

- **Section I: Designated Central and other authorities:** This section aims to provide all the relevant information that will enable you to contact the relevant Central and other authorities designated by this Contracting Party. Central Authorities are designated to discharge the duties imposed by the Convention (Art. 29). They play an important role in facilitating communication and cooperation between competent authorities in different Contracting Parties, as well as in transmitting information and requests to other Central Authorities. In this section you can also find information relating to the authorities designated under Articles 40 and 44 of the Convention.

---

<sup>1</sup> Any reference to a Contracting Party in this Country Profile is a reference to a Contracting Party of the 1996 Child Protection Convention.

<sup>2</sup> If practically possible to implement and subject to available resources, the Permanent Bureau suggests the edition of a mouse over information icon "(i)" that will display such explanations in the electronic version of the Country Profile. This suggestion intends to make the Country Profile user-friendlier and more accessible by profiting creatively from available features in an electronic environment.

Please note that the detailed list of services provided by the Central Authority under item 7.5 is based on the lists of services in the *Questionnaires on the practical operation of the Convention* that circulated ahead of the previous and upcoming Special Commission Meetings.<sup>3</sup>

- **Section II: Coming into force and territorial application:** This section presents information about when the Convention entered into force in the given State, and its territorial application.
- **Section III: Relevant legislation:** This section provides information about the legislation in a given State.
- **Section IV: Measures falling within the scope of the Convention:** This section will present an overview of the domestic law applicable to the different measures for the protection of the child that fall within the scope of the 1996 Child Protection Convention. As such, you will find out what measures of protection are available in that State, and how the legislation of this State governs the different measures.

Item 19 contains a detailed list of possible urgent measures of protection that could be ordered under Article 11 of the Convention, which can provide helpful assistance to the competent authorities in their implementation of the Conclusion & Recommendation (C&R) No 27 of the Seventh Meeting of the Special Commission on the operation of the 1980 Child Abduction and 1996 Child Protection Conventions.<sup>4</sup>

- **Section V: Jurisdiction and Section VI: Information relevant to courts and judicial proceedings:** These sections provide information about jurisdiction matters and on practical matters and questions that may arise when dealing with Courts and judicial proceedings in cases falling within the scope of the 1996 Child Protection Convention.

Section 25 “Legal assistance and legal aid” covers mostly the same information requested under the Country Profile for the 1980 Child Abduction Convention. Therefore, Contracting Parties can indicate whether their responses are the same so as to avoid the need for filling the information again.

- **Section VII: Applicable law (Arts 15 – 22):** The Convention provides, as a general rule, that authorities of Contracting Parties shall apply their own law (Art. 15). In addition, the Convention also allows Contracting Parties to exceptionally apply the law of another State. This section will provide information on these two issues, by presenting an overview of the law(s) this State can apply in relation to the Convention.
- **Section VIII: Recognition and Enforcement (Arts 23-28):** This section provides information on the rules applicable in this State relating to the recognition and enforcement of decisions under the 1996 Child Protection Convention
- **Section IX: Cooperation (Arts 29-39):** This section provides information on practical matters and questions that may arise when dealing with matters falling within the scope of the Convention in this State: how authorities gather and transmit information, how authorities assist with locating a child, the rules governing legal representation and assistance, the general procedure regarding first instance proceedings, the child’s participation, and the appeals procedure.
- **Section X: Mediation and other forms of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR):** Under the 1996 Child Protection Convention, Central Authorities have the obligation to take all appropriate steps to facilitate

---

<sup>3</sup> The Permanent Bureau is developing a Co-operation Model Form for requests under the 1996 Child Protection Convention where it also intends to use the same list of services for alignment across the different HCCH documents.

<sup>4</sup> The text of the C&R reads as follows: *When taking measures of protection in accordance with Article 11 of the 1996 Convention in a child abduction case (for example, to facilitate interim access or ensure safe return), competent authorities are invited, preferably through Central Authorities or members of the International Hague Network of Judges (IHNJ) to obtain information on available measures of protection in the other State with a view to ensuring the effective implementation of such measures.*

agreed solutions for the protection of the person or property of the child (Art. 31(b)). If parties wish to engage in mediation in the context of the 1996 Convention, this section provides information on the mediation facilities available in this State, the legislation governing it, how to access mediation, the process of mediation, and the rules on enforcement of mediated agreement in this State. Information will also be given regarding other ADR mechanisms available in this State.

This section covers mostly the same information requested under the Country Profile for the 1980 Child Abduction Convention. Therefore, Contracting Parties can indicate whether their responses are the same so as to avoid the need for filling the information again.

- **Section XI: General:** This section provides information about international certificates under Article 40, training and other information.
- **Section XII: Direct judicial communications:** Engaging in direct judicial communications in the context of the 1996 Convention has been encouraged at the Special Commissions on the practical operation of the 1980 and 1996 Conventions of 2011 and 2017. This section provides information as to the practice of direct judicial communication in this State.
- **Section XIII: Electronic resources**

## Instructions

The Country Profile is a standardised document that will be available to Contracting Parties to complete, view and update electronically. It contains a mix of open-ended, multiple answers and yes/no questions that will be available for Contracting Parties to digitally fill in and update whenever necessary.

Contracting Parties comprised of more than one territorial unit may choose to submit separate Country Profiles for each territorial unit. Respondents are encouraged to provide links to relevant domestic legislation and procedural rules, where possible and applicable.

Contracting Parties are exclusively responsible for filling in and updating the information contained in their Country Profile.

Completed Country Profiles will be published on the website of the HCCH ([www.hcch.net](http://www.hcch.net)) under “Child Protection Section” and readily available for public consultation.

**I. Central and other authorities designated by [name of your State]<sup>5</sup>Central Authority contact details (Art. 29)**

1.1. Organisation	
1.2. Address	
1.3. Territorial and personal extent of functions, if applicable	
1.4. Telephone	
1.5. Fax	
1.6. Email	
1.7. Website	
1.8. Contact person 1	<p>Direct contact details:            Direct telephone:            Direct email:            Preferred language(s) of communication:</p> <p>Preferred method of communication:  <input type="checkbox"/> Phone  <input type="checkbox"/> Fax  <input type="checkbox"/> Email  <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):</p>
1.9. Contact person 2, if applicable	<p>Direct contact details:            Direct telephone:            Direct email:            Preferred language(s) of communication:</p> <p>Preferred method of communication:  <input type="checkbox"/> Phone  <input type="checkbox"/> Fax  <input type="checkbox"/> Email  <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):</p>
<b>Last Update: [INSERT DATE]<sup>6</sup></b>	

**2 Other designated Central Authority, if applicable (Art. 29(2))<sup>7</sup>**

2.1. Organisation	
2.2. Address	
2.3. Territorial and personal extent of functions, if applicable	
2.4. Telephone	
2.5. Fax	
2.6. Email	
2.7. Website	

<sup>5</sup> This section is drafted following the 2000 CP, which in turn follows the 1980 and the 2007 CP.

<sup>6</sup> This will be done automatically in the electronic format of the Country Profile.

<sup>7</sup> This section will be expandable in order to allow for the inclusion of additional Central Authorities.

<p>2.8. Contact person 1</p>	<p>Direct contact details:                  Direct telephone:                  Direct email:                  Preferred language(s) of communication:</p> <p>Preferred method of communication:  <input type="checkbox"/> Phone  <input type="checkbox"/> Fax  <input type="checkbox"/> Email  <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):</p>
<p>2.9. Contact person 2, if applicable</p>	<p>Direct contact details:                  Direct telephone:                  Direct email:                  Preferred language(s) of communication:</p> <p>Preferred method of communication:  <input type="checkbox"/> Phone  <input type="checkbox"/> Fax  <input type="checkbox"/> Email  <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):</p>
<p>Last Update: [INSERT DATE]</p>	

### 3 Designated authority for Article 8 and 9 requests (Art. 44)<sup>8</sup>

More information about requests under Articles 8 and 9 can be found in Part V – Jurisdiction.

<p>3.1. Has [name of your State] designated an authority for requests under Articles 8 and 9?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, the Central Authority is responsible for processing Article 8 and 9 requests (see details provided above)  <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, an authority other than the Central Authority is responsible for processing Article 8 and 9 requests (please complete questions 3.2 – 3.10)  <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>3.2. Organisation</p>	
<p>3.3. Address</p>	
<p>3.4. Territorial and personal extent of functions, if applicable</p>	
<p>3.5. Telephone</p>	
<p>3.6. Fax</p>	
<p>3.7. Email</p>	
<p>3.8. Website</p>	
<p>3.9. Contact person 1</p>	<p>Direct contact details:                  Direct telephone:                  Direct email:                  Preferred language(s) of communication:</p> <p>Preferred method of communication:</p>

<sup>8</sup> This section will be expandable in order to allow for the inclusion of additional authorities.



	<input type="checkbox"/> Phone <input type="checkbox"/> Fax <input type="checkbox"/> Email <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):
3.10. Contact person 2, if applicable	Direct contact details: Direct telephone: Direct email: Preferred language(s) of communication:  Preferred method of communication: <input type="checkbox"/> Phone <input type="checkbox"/> Fax <input type="checkbox"/> Email <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):
<b>Last Update: [INSERT DATE]</b>	

#### 4 Designated authority for Article 33 requests (Art. 44)<sup>9</sup>

More information about requests under Article 33 can be found in Part IX – Cooperation.

4.1. Has [name of your State] designated an authority for Article 33 requests?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, the Central Authority is responsible for processing Article 33 requests (see details provided above) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, an authority other than the Central Authority is responsible for processing Article 33 requests (please complete questions 4.2 – 4.10) <input type="checkbox"/> No
4.2. Organisation	
4.3. Address	
4.4. Territorial and personal extent of functions, if applicable	
4.5. Telephone	
4.6. Fax	
4.7. Email	
4.8. Website	
4.9. Contact person 1	Direct contact details: Direct telephone: Direct email: Preferred language(s) of communication:  Preferred method of communication: <input type="checkbox"/> Phone <input type="checkbox"/> Fax <input type="checkbox"/> Email <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):
4.10. Contact person 2, if applicable	Direct contact details: Direct telephone:

<sup>9</sup> This section will be expandable in order to allow for the inclusion of additional authorities.

	Direct email: Preferred language(s) of communication:  Preferred method of communication: <input type="checkbox"/> Phone <input type="checkbox"/> Fax <input type="checkbox"/> Email <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):
<b>Last Update: [INSERT DATE]</b>	

### 5 Designated authority competent to draw up international certificates under Article 40<sup>10</sup>

Please complete if the authority competent to draw up international certificates under Article 40 is one singular organisation:	
5.1. Organisation	
5.2. Address	
5.3. Territorial and personal extent of functions, if applicable	
5.4. Telephone	
5.5. Fax	
5.6. Email	
5.7. Website	
5.8. Contact person 1	Direct contact details: Direct telephone: Direct email: Preferred language(s) of communication:  Preferred method of communication: <input type="checkbox"/> Phone <input type="checkbox"/> Fax <input type="checkbox"/> Email <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):
5.9. Contact person 2, if applicable	Direct contact details: Direct telephone: Direct email: Preferred language(s) of communication:  Preferred method of communication: <input type="checkbox"/> Phone <input type="checkbox"/> Fax <input type="checkbox"/> Email <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):

<sup>10</sup> This section allows for the possibility of States which have one singular authority competent to draw up certificates under Article 40 to fill in this information in items 5.1 to 5.9, and the possibility of States which have several authorities that are competent to draw up the certificate to indicate which authorities are competent in 5.10.

Please complete if several authorities are competent to draw up international certificates under Article 40:	
<p>5.10. Please indicate which authorities in [name of your State] are competent to draw up international certificates under Article 40.</p> <p><i>Please tick all boxes that apply.</i></p> <p><i>Where applicable, please provide the details of the authorities (name of organisation, address, telephone, fax, email, website) and the details of the contact person(s), as requested above.</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Competent authorities, including court clerks / registrars Details of the authority: Details of contact person(s):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Notaries Details of the authority: Details of contact person(s):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): Details of the authority: Details of contact person(s):</p>
Last Update: [INSERT DATE]	

## 6 Language requirements (Art. 54)

<p>6.1. Does the Central Authority prefer applications, communications and other documents sent to them to be accompanied by a translation into the official language(s) of the State? See Article 54(1)</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, for all. The official language of [name of your State] is:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Not for informal communications</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>6.2. Has [name of your State] made a reservation in respect of the use of French or English for any communication sent to the Central Authority or any other authority? See Article 54(2)</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, objection to French</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, objection to English</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p>

## 7 Central Authority functions, operations and services<sup>11</sup>

<p>7.1. Please specify the working days and hours of the Central Authority.</p>	<p>Days of the week open:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Monday</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Thursday</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Friday</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Saturday</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Sunday</p> <p>Opening hours: -</p> <p>Shut down periods (e.g., public holidays, court closures etc):</p>
<p>7.2. Can assistance be accessed outside of working hours?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes Please specify contact details for persons in other Contracting Parties and, if different, for persons in [name of your State]:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>7.3. Does the Central Authority have staff who deal exclusively with Convention requests and related issues?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p>

<sup>11</sup> This section will be expandable in order to allow for the inclusion of additional authorities.

<p>7.4. Please indicate the professions represented in the Central Authority:</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Civil servants (including legal advisors and child protection officers)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Lawyers</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Mediators</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Psychologists</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Social workers</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):</p>
<p>7.5. What are the available services provided by the Central Authority to person(s) making an application under the Convention?</p> <p><i>Please tick all the boxes that apply.</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> (1) Assistance in obtaining information on the operation of the Convention</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> (2) Assistance in obtaining information on the relevant laws and procedures in the requested State relating to the protection of children</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> (3) Establishment of contact with the Central Authority and / or the competent authorities in the requested State to find out the kind of assistance and services such authorities could provide</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> (4) Transmission of the request to the Central Authority or to the competent authorities in the requested State</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> (5) Assistance in discovering the whereabouts of a child that may be present and in need of protection within the territory of the requested State</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> (6) Assistance in obtaining information relevant to the protection of the child when such information is available in another Contracting Party (e.g., previous judicial proceedings involving the child)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> (7) Provision of information on the suitability of a parent residing in the requested State to exercise access/contact and on the conditions under which such access/contact is to be exercised</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> (8) Assistance in taking provisional or urgent measures of protection, including in relation to their implementation</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> (9) Assistance in securing the return of the child to the State of habitual residence</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> (10) Assistance in bringing about an amicable resolution of the issue (e.g., by offering mediation services)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> (11) Assistance in obtaining private legal counsel or mediation services, where needed in the requested State</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> (12) Assistance in providing or facilitating the provision of legal aid and advice</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> (13) Assistance in initiating judicial or administrative proceedings (e.g., with a view to making arrangements for organising or securing the effective exercise of rights of access)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> (14) Assistance in providing such administrative arrangements as may be necessary to protect the child (e.g., for the safe return of the child to the State of habitual residence in cases of international child abduction)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> (15) Assistance concerning the recognition and enforcement of decisions</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> (16) Assistance concerning requests under Articles 8 and 9 of the Convention</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> (17) Assistance in obtaining the Certificate under Article 40 or, in case the Central Authority is competent to draw up the certificate, issuance of the Certificate</p>

	<input type="checkbox"/> (18) Referral to other governmental and / or non-governmental organisations for assistance <input type="checkbox"/> (19) Provision of regular updates on the progress of the application <input type="checkbox"/> (20) Other: *If necessary, please provide clarifications in relation to any of the options above and specify the number of the item of reference:
7.6. Has [name of your State] entered into any agreements with one or more other Contracting Parties, with a view to improving cooperation under the 1996 Convention?  See Article 39	<input type="checkbox"/> Bilateral agreement <i>Please provide the title of the agreement and, if available, a web link to the agreement or attach a copy:</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): <i>Please provide the title of the agreement and, if available, a web link to the agreement or attach a copy</i> <input type="checkbox"/> No
7.7. Has [name of your State] made a declaration under Article 34(2), requiring all requests for information from a Contracting Party contemplating a measure of protection to be communicated through the Central Authority of [name of your State]?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (please elaborate): <input type="checkbox"/> No
7.8. What role does the Central Authority of [name of your State] play in the context of requests for recognition under Article 24 or requests for declarations of enforceability or registrations for the purpose of enforcement under Article 26? (e.g., must such requests be processed by the Central Authority?)	
7.9. Noting the general obligation under Article 38 on Contracting Parties to bear their own costs in applying the 1996 Convention, does the Central Authority in [name of your State] impose any “reasonable charges” for the provision of services?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes Please indicate on which services the Central Authority imposes reasonable charges: <i>Please tick all boxes that apply.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Mediation <input type="checkbox"/> Conciliation <input type="checkbox"/> Legal advice <input type="checkbox"/> Initiating proceedings before a competent authority <input type="checkbox"/> Legal representation <input type="checkbox"/> Translation <input type="checkbox"/> Other services (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> No, the Central Authority does not impose charges for any provision of services
Last Update: [INSERT DATE]	

**II. Coming into force and territorial application of the Convention in [name of your State]**

**8 Coming into force and territorial application**

8.1. When did the 1996 Convention enter into force in [name of your State]?	
---	--



	<input type="checkbox"/> Optional Protocol to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict (OPAC) <input type="checkbox"/> Optional Protocol to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution, and child pornography (OPSC) <input type="checkbox"/> Optional Protocol to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (OPIC) <input type="checkbox"/> Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (Palermo Protocol) <input type="checkbox"/> African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child <input type="checkbox"/> Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (Lanzarote Convention) <input type="checkbox"/> Brussels IIb Regulation (Council Regulation (EU) 2019/1111 of 25 June 2019) <input type="checkbox"/> Inter-American Convention of 15 July 1989 on the International Return of Children <input type="checkbox"/> Bilateral agreements (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> Non-binding memoranda of understanding (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Last Update: [INSERT DATE]</b>	

#### IV. Measures falling within the scope of the Convention

##### 12 Parental Responsibility

12.1. Please elaborate briefly on the meaning of parental responsibility according to the laws of [name of your State].	
12.2. Which legislation governs parental responsibility in [name of your State]? <i>Please describe and specify how legislation can be accessed or attach as copy</i>	
12.3. Does parental responsibility arise by operation of law in [name of your State]?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
12.4. To whom is parental responsibility attributed by operation of law in [name of your State]? <i>Please tick all the boxes that apply.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> The legal parent(s) of the child whose legal parentage is established by operation of law. In [name of your State], this includes: <input type="checkbox"/> the person giving birth to the child; <input type="checkbox"/> the person(s) married to the person giving birth to the child; <input type="checkbox"/> the person(s) in a partnership with the person giving birth to the child; <input type="checkbox"/> the person(s) who are genetically connected to the child. <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):
12.5. Are there any limitations or conditions in [name of your State] preventing the	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> No

attribution of parental responsibility, by operation of law, to certain persons?	
12.6. By what other methods can a person acquire parental responsibility in [name of your State]?	<input type="checkbox"/> Judicial decision <input type="checkbox"/> Administrative decision <input type="checkbox"/> Agreement having legal effect <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):
12.7. Can parental responsibility or its exercise be delegated in [name of your State]?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> No
12.8. Can the attribution of parental responsibility be terminated in [name of your State]?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (please specify how): <input type="checkbox"/> By order of a judicial authority <input type="checkbox"/> By order of an administrative authority <input type="checkbox"/> It depends on how parental responsibility rights were attributed (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> No
12.9. In cases of termination of parental responsibility, what are the steps or procedures that follow in [name of your State] to provide for the care of the child? (e.g., guardianship is attributed to the State or a specific person until a decision is made concerning the care of the child) <i>Please describe the steps and specify any relevant applicable legislation, regulation and/or framework.</i>	
12.10. Is there a limit on the number of persons that can have parental responsibility over a child in [name of your State]?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> No
12.11. Are there any age requirements in [name of your State] for person(s) to have parental responsibility over a child?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Maximum age requirements (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> Minimum age requirements (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> Difference in years required between the person and the child (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Last Update: [INSERT DATE]</b>	

### 13 Rights of custody

13.1. Which legislation governs custody in [name of your State]? <i>Please specify how legislation can be accessed or attach a copy.</i>	
13.2. Do rights of custody arise by operation of law in [name of your State]?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
13.3. To whom are rights of custody attributed by operation of law in [name of your State]?	
13.4. By what other methods can a person or institution acquire rights of custody?	<input type="checkbox"/> Judicial decision <input type="checkbox"/> Administrative decision



	<input type="checkbox"/> Agreement having legal effect <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):
13.5. Can the attribution of rights of custody be modified in [name of your State]?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> By order of a judicial or administrative authority <input type="checkbox"/> By agreement having legal effect <input type="checkbox"/> It depends on how the rights of custody were acquired (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> No
13.6. Can the attribution of rights of custody be terminated?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> By order of a judicial or administrative authority <input type="checkbox"/> By agreement having legal effect <input type="checkbox"/> It depends on how the rights of custody were acquired (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> No
13.7. Prior to any order determining the issue, who generally has the right to determine the child's residence?	<input type="checkbox"/> Holders of rights of custody <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):
<b>Last Update: [INSERT DATE]</b>	

#### 14 Rights of access / contact

14.1. Which legislation in [name of your State] governs the establishment and exercise of rights of access / contact? <i>Please specify how legislation can be accessed or attach a copy.</i>	
14.2. By what methods can a person seek rights of access / contact? <i>Please tick all the boxes that apply.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Judicial decision <input type="checkbox"/> Administrative decision <input type="checkbox"/> Agreement having legal effect <input type="checkbox"/> It depends on the situation of the child (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):
14.3. Who may seek rights of access / contact in respect of a child in [name of your State]? <i>Please tick all the boxes that apply.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Parent <input type="checkbox"/> Step-parent <input type="checkbox"/> Grandparent <input type="checkbox"/> Other family member (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):
14.4. Can rights of access / contact be modified or terminated in [name of your State]?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, please specify: <input type="checkbox"/> By order of a judicial or administrative authority <input type="checkbox"/> Agreement having legal effect <sup>12</sup> <input type="checkbox"/> It depends on how the rights of access / contact were acquired (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Last Update: [INSERT DATE]</b>	

<sup>12</sup> See Footnote No 6 above.

**15 Guardianship and curatorship**

15.1. Is guardianship and curatorship towards a child permitted in [name of your State]?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (please proceed to the following section)
15.2. Which legislation governs guardianship and curatorship in [name of your State]? <i>Please specify how legislation can be accessed or attach a copy.</i>	
15.3. How can guardianship or curatorship be acquired in [name of your State]? <i>Please tick all the boxes that apply.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Will or testament established by the holders of parental responsibility *Please specify the requirements for a will or testament to be valid in [name of your State]: <input type="checkbox"/> Judicial decision <input type="checkbox"/> Administrative decision <input type="checkbox"/> By agreement having legal effect <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):
15.4. Is there a limit on the number of persons who can be appointed as a child's guardian or curator in [name of your State]?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, the following person(s) may be appointed as a child's guardian or curator <input type="checkbox"/> Married couples <input type="checkbox"/> Registered partners <input type="checkbox"/> Single men <input type="checkbox"/> Single women <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> No
15.5. Are there any age requirements in [name of your State] for person(s) to be appointed as a child's guardian or curator?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Maximum age requirements (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> Minimum age requirements (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> Difference in years required between the guardian / curator and the child (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> No
15.6. Are there any other limitations or conditions in [name of your State] preventing certain persons to being appointed as a child's guardian or curator?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> No
15.7. Can guardianships or curatorships be modified or terminated in [name of your State]?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, if so, please specify how <input type="checkbox"/> By order of a judicial authority <input type="checkbox"/> By order of an administrative authority <input type="checkbox"/> By agreement having legal effect <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Last Update: [INSERT DATE]</b>	

**16 Alternative care of children**

16.1. In case a child is in need of alternative care arrangements in [name of your State], what are the available options? <i>Please tick all the boxes that apply.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Foster care <input type="checkbox"/> Kinship care <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Kafala</i>
--	---

	<input type="checkbox"/> Institutional care <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):
<p>16.2. Which normative frameworks apply to alternative care of children in [name of your State]?</p> <p><i>Please specify how legislation can be accessed or attach a copy.</i></p>	
<p>16.3. How can alternative care arrangements be established in [name of your State]?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Foster care <input type="checkbox"/> Judicial decision <input type="checkbox"/> Administrative decision <input type="checkbox"/> By agreement having legal effect <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> Kinship care <input type="checkbox"/> Judicial decision <input type="checkbox"/> Administrative decision <input type="checkbox"/> By agreement having legal effect <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Kafala</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Judicial decision <input type="checkbox"/> Administrative decision <input type="checkbox"/> By agreement having legal effect <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> Institutional care <input type="checkbox"/> Judicial decision <input type="checkbox"/> Administrative decision <input type="checkbox"/> By agreement having legal effect <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> Judicial decision <input type="checkbox"/> Administrative decision <input type="checkbox"/> By agreement having legal effect <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):
<p>16.4. Are there limitations as to what kind of alternative care is available in [name of your State] under certain circumstances? (e.g., only long-term or short-term)</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (please specify the circumstances and the relevant limitations): <input type="checkbox"/> No
<p>16.5. In [name of your State], is there a centralised government entity or accredited body that is responsible for managing cases in which alternative care arrangements are involved?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (please specify entity or body and provide contact details): <input type="checkbox"/> No
<p>16.6. How can alternative care arrangements be modified or terminated in [name of your State]?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Foster care <input type="checkbox"/> Judicial decision <input type="checkbox"/> Administrative decision <input type="checkbox"/> By agreement having legal effect <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> Kinship care <input type="checkbox"/> Judicial decision <input type="checkbox"/> Administrative decision <input type="checkbox"/> By agreement having legal effect

	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Kafala</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Judicial decision <input type="checkbox"/> Administrative decision <input type="checkbox"/> By agreement having legal effect <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> Institutional care <input type="checkbox"/> Judicial decision <input type="checkbox"/> Administrative decision <input type="checkbox"/> By agreement having legal effect <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> Judicial decision <input type="checkbox"/> Administrative decision <input type="checkbox"/> By agreement having legal effect <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):
<p>16.7. In cases of unaccompanied and separated children in need of alternative care arrangements arriving in [name of your State], what are the steps or procedures that follow their arrival in your State? (e.g., appointment of a guardian and placement in foster care)</p> <p><i>Please describe the steps and specify any relevant applicable legislation, regulation and/or framework.</i></p>	
<p>16.8. Does the same government entity or accredited body mentioned in question 20.5 manage cases of unaccompanied and separated children in need of alternative care arrangements arriving in [name of your State]?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, the same entity manages all alternative care cases, including those involving unaccompanied and separated children (see contact details under question 20.5) <input type="checkbox"/> No (please specify entity or body and provide contact details):
<p>16.9. Is there a specialised entity of the government or department in [name of your State] that is responsible for <b>supervising or hearing requests</b> related to alternative care arrangements in these cases?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, the same entity responsible for managing the cases is also responsible for supervision and hearing related requests <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, a separate entity is responsible for supervision and hearing related requests (please specify entity and provide contact details and other relevant information): <input type="checkbox"/> No
<p>Last Update: [INSERT DATE]</p>	

### 17 Kinship care

<p>17.1. Is kinship care possible in [name of your State]?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes. <input type="checkbox"/> No – go to question 18.
<p>17.2. Please indicate the degree of family relationship required vis-à-vis the child for a kinship carer to be appointed.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grandparents <input type="checkbox"/> Aunt and / or uncle <input type="checkbox"/> Sibling <input type="checkbox"/> Cousin <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify)
<p>17.3. Are there any age requirements in [name of your State] for person(s) to be appointed as a child’s carer?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Maximum age requirements (please specify):

	<input type="checkbox"/> Minimum age requirements (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> Difference in years required between the carer and the child (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> No
17.4. Is there any other requirement or criteria in [name of your State] that has to be met for person(s) to be appointed a child's kinship carer? (e.g., not having been convicted of any offense related to children)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Last Update: [INSERT DATE]</b>	

## 18 Foster care

18.1. Do foster carers have to fulfil any criteria in [name of your State] in relation to their relationship status(es)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, the following person(s) may be foster carers for a child <input type="checkbox"/> Married couples <input type="checkbox"/> Registered partners <input type="checkbox"/> Single men <input type="checkbox"/> Single women <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> No
18.2. Are there any age requirements in [name of your State] for person(s) to be appointed as a child's foster carer?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Maximum age requirements (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> Minimum age requirements (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> Difference in years required between the foster carer and the child (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> No
18.3. Is there any other requirement or criteria in [name of your State] that has to be met for person(s) to be appointed a child's foster carer? (e.g., not having been convicted of any offense related to children)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Last Update: [INSERT DATE]</b>	

## 19 Kafala

19.1. Is <i>kafala</i> available in [name of your State]?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes. <input type="checkbox"/> No - <b>go to question 19.</b>
19.2. Is there a limit on the number of people who can be appointed as a child's <i>kafil</i> in [name of your State]?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> No
19.3. Does the <i>kafil</i> have to fulfil any criteria in [name of your State] concerning their relationship status?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, the following person(s) may be <i>kafil</i> for a child <input type="checkbox"/> Married couples <input type="checkbox"/> Registered partners <input type="checkbox"/> Single men <input type="checkbox"/> Single women <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> No

<p>19.4. Are there any age requirements in [name of your State] for person(s) to be appointed as a child's <i>kafil</i>?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Maximum age requirements (please specify):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Minimum age requirements (please specify):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Difference in years required between the <i>kafil</i> and the child (please specify):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>19.5. Is there any other requirement or criteria in [name of your State] that has to be met for person(s) to be appointed as a child's <i>kafil</i>? (e.g., not having been convicted of any offense related to children)</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes (please specify):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>Last Update: [INSERT DATE]</p>	

## 20 Urgent measures of protection

<p>20.1. Please indicate which measures of protection are available in [name of your State], in cases of urgency</p> <p>Article 11 of the 1996 Convention</p> <p><i>Please tick all the boxes that apply.</i></p> <p><i>If possible, please specify how legislation can be accessed or attach a copy.</i></p>	<p><b>Concerning the urgent protection of the child against violence, abuse, mistreatment, and in cases of international child abduction:</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Issuing a stay away order (please specify relevant legislation):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Issuing a <i>ne exeat</i> order (please specify relevant legislation):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Issuing other types of orders preventing certain actions, for example prohibiting the issuance of a passport for the child (please specify relevant legislation):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Ordering the retention of the child's documents with an authority, for example depositing the passport with the police (please specify relevant legislation):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Issuing an order temporarily suspending the exercise of parental authority and/or rights of custody and/or rights of access/contact (please specify relevant legislation):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Issuing an order of protection of the primary caregiver of the child (please specify relevant legislation):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Establishing supervised contact (please specify relevant legislation):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Providing shelter for victims of domestic and family violence (please specify relevant legislation):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Providing psychological first aid for the child and family members (please specify relevant legislation):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify measure and relevant legislation):</p> <p><b>Concerning the urgent socio-economic needs of the child:</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Issuing interim provision of financial assistance to the child (please specify relevant legislation):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Issuing an order of integration into the national education systems and schooling (please specify relevant legislation):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Issuing an order requesting support and monitoring by social services (please specify relevant legislation):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Providing psychological and other kind of professional support (please specify relevant legislation):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Ordering procedures for family reunification (please specify relevant legislation):</p>
---	--

	<input type="checkbox"/> Designating a temporary guardian (please specify relevant legislation); <input type="checkbox"/> Arranging provisional alternative care ( <i>i.e.</i> , placement in foster care or institutional care) (please specify relevant legislation); <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify measure and relevant legislation); <p><b>Concerning the urgent needs of the child in the case of judicial or administrative proceedings:</b></p> <input type="checkbox"/> Designating a guardian <i>ad litem</i> (please specify relevant legislation); <input type="checkbox"/> Ordering the provision of legal aid and legal assistance (please specify relevant legislation); <input type="checkbox"/> Designating a separate representative for the child, such as an Independent Children’s Lawyer, for example, in case of conflicts of interest (please specify relevant legislation); <input type="checkbox"/> Ordering the appointment of an interpreter (please specify relevant legislation); <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify measure and relevant legislation); <p><b>Other urgent needs:</b></p> <input type="checkbox"/> Arranging urgent medical treatment (please specify relevant legislation); <input type="checkbox"/> Issuing an order to protect the child’s image and right to privacy (please specify relevant legislation); <input type="checkbox"/> Administrating the child’s property, for example, to protect perishable goods belonging to a child or to cover urgent expenses (please specify relevant legislation); <input type="checkbox"/> Issuing an order of preventive immobilization of assets belonging to the child (please specify relevant legislation); <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify measure and relevant legislation);
<p><b>Last Update:</b> [INSERT DATE]</p>	

**21 Other measures of protection for the child and their property**

<p>21.1. What other measures of protection for the child are available in [name of your State]?</p>	
<p><b>Last Update:</b> [INSERT DATE]</p>	

**V. Jurisdiction (Arts 5 – 14)**

**22 Judicial Authorities**

<p>22.1. Please indicate the judicial authorities in [name of your State] that are competent to deal with matters falling under the scope of the Convention.  <i>Please tick all the boxes that apply.</i>  <i>Please provide any links or attachments to the relevant laws and / or rules that</i></p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Courts of a general competence Relevant laws and / or procedural rules: <input type="checkbox"/> Courts of family law Relevant laws and / or procedural rules: <input type="checkbox"/> Specialised courts (please specify): Relevant laws and / or procedural rules:
---	---

<i>govern procedural issues for the protection of children in your State.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): Relevant laws and / or procedural rules:
<b>Last Update: [INSERT DATE]</b>	

### 23 Transfer of jurisdiction (Arts 8 and 9)

<p>23.1 How does the law of [name of your State] provide for domestic procedures and mechanisms for the transfer or assumption of jurisdiction under Articles 8 and 9 of the Convention?</p> <p><i>If applicable, please provide a web link to the relevant legislation in the space available or attach a copy.</i></p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Statutory rules <input type="checkbox"/> Jurisprudence <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): Please indicate the conditions under which a transfer or assumption of jurisdiction may occur:
<p>23.2 Does the law of [name of your State] prescribe the use of a specific model form for the purpose of transfers or assumption of jurisdiction under Articles 8 and 9?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Last Update: [INSERT DATE]</b>	

### 24 Divorce or legal separation of the parents

<p>24.1 Please indicate the authorities in [name of your State] that are competent to decide upon an application for divorce or legal separation or to give effect to a divorce agreement:</p> <p>Article 10 of the 1996 Convention</p> <p><i>Please tick all the boxes that apply.</i></p> <p><i>Please provide any links or attachments to the relevant laws and / or rules that govern procedural issues for the protection of children in your State.</i></p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Courts of a general competence Relevant laws and / or procedural rules: <input type="checkbox"/> Courts of family law Relevant laws and / or procedural rules: <input type="checkbox"/> Specialised courts (please specify): Relevant laws and / or procedural rules: <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): Relevant laws and / or procedural rules:
<b>Last Update: [INSERT DATE]</b>	

## VI. Information relevant to courts and judicial proceedings

### 25 General information

<p>25.1 Is there any specific legislation, regulation or other normative framework in [name of your State] that provides for procedural aspects of cases falling within the scope of the Convention?</p>	
<b>Last Update: [INSERT DATE]</b>	

### 26 Legal assistance and legal aid

<p>26.1. In [name of your State], is legal representation required in proceedings falling within the scope of the 1996 Child Protection Convention?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> No, but recommended <input type="checkbox"/> It depends on the matter (please specify):
---	--



<p>26.2. Are the responses of [name of your State] in this section the same as for the Country Profile for the 1980 Child Abduction Convention (item 15).</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes – <b>go to question 27.</b> <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>26.3. Is free or reduced rate legal assistance available to an applicant in proceedings under the Convention in [name of your State]?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, free legal assistance <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, reduced rate legal assistance <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>26.4. Is the applicant required to complete an application form for free or reduced rate legal assistance in [name of your State]?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes Please specify how application forms can be obtained (e.g., website) or attach as copy: <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>26.5. Please indicate on what basis free or reduced legal assistance may be available in [name of your State]  <i>Please explain where necessary</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Income of the applicant <input type="checkbox"/> Assets of the applicant <input type="checkbox"/> State of residence of the applicant <input type="checkbox"/> Likelihood of success of the procedure <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):</p>
<p>26.6. Which costs are covered by free or reduced rate legal assistance in [name of your State]?  <i>Please explain where necessary</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Mediation <input type="checkbox"/> Translation <input type="checkbox"/> Interpreters <input type="checkbox"/> Service of documents <input type="checkbox"/> Costs associated with locating the child <input type="checkbox"/> Court fees <input type="checkbox"/> Travel costs for the child <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):</p>
<p>26.7. Please indicate which costs, if any, are covered by the Central Authority in [name of your State].</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Mediation <input type="checkbox"/> Translation <input type="checkbox"/> Interpreters <input type="checkbox"/> Service of documents <input type="checkbox"/> Costs associated with locating the child <input type="checkbox"/> Court fees <input type="checkbox"/> Travel costs for the child <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):</p>
<p>26.8. Is free or reduced rate legal assistance available in [name of your State] for the appeal of decisions?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, free legal assistance <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, reduced rate legal assistance <input type="checkbox"/> It depends upon the assessment of the merits of the case and / or the means of the individual concerned (please specify):</p>
<p>26.9. Is a new application for free or reduced rate legal assistance required for appeals in [name of your State]?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p><b>Last Update: [INSERT DATE]</b></p>	

## 27 Procedures

<p>27.1 Does documentation submitted to competent authorities have to be translated into the official language(s) of [name of your State]?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes (please state who is responsible for arranging the translation and for its cost):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>27.2 In [name of your State], are all parties generally required to participate in proceedings?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes (please specify in what circumstances):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No, but it is advisable</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>27.3 Are facilities available to enable parties to participate from outside [name of your State]?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Video-conference</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Telephone</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Through a legal representative</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>27.4 Is simultaneous interpretation available during proceedings in [name of your State], where necessary?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> It depends upon the circumstances (please specify):</p>
<p>27.5 Who is responsible for the cost of providing facilities that enable parties to participate from outside [name of your State]?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> The party outside the State</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The applicant</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The requesting Central Authority</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The requested Central Authority</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The competent authority</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> It depends on the facilities used (please specify):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):</p>
<p>27.6 Can special immigration arrangements be made to enable parties to attend proceedings in person if they so wish?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes (please specify):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p><b>Last Update: [INSERT DATE]</b></p>	

## 28 Relocation

<p>28.1 Does [name of your State] provide for specific procedures for international family relocation?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes (please specify the applicable legislation and relevant provisions):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p><b>Last Update: [INSERT DATE]</b></p>	

## 29 Participation of the child

<p>29.1 Does the child have an opportunity to be heard in all proceedings under the Convention in [name of your State]?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, in every case (please specify the applicable legislation and relevant provisions):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> It depends on the particular case (please specify):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>29.2 In [name of your State], how is the child heard in proceedings under the Convention?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Direct interview with judge</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Report prepared for court by independent expert</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The legal representative of the child</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):</p>
<p>29.3 Can competent authorities in [name of your State] appoint a separate legal</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes (please specify under what circumstances):</p>

representative (attorney or guardian <i>ad litem</i> ) to represent the child's best interests?	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Last Update: [INSERT DATE]	

### 30 Appeals

30.1 Are there any restrictions in [name of your State] on the possibility of appealing a decision on a case where the Convention applies?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> No
30.2 In [name of your State], can decisions be suspended pending an appeal?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, they are automatically suspended pending appeal <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, they can be suspended pending an appeal at the request of either party <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, they can be suspended pending an appeal at the request of either party and after determination by the judge / authority <input type="checkbox"/> No
30.3 Are the rules that are applicable to participation in the proceedings in general, also applicable to appeals?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (please specify the differences at the appeal level(s)):
Last Update: [INSERT DATE]	

## VII. Applicable law (Arts 15 – 22)

### 31 Multiple systems of law or sets of rules

Territorial units (Arts 47-48)	
31.1 Does [name of your State] have two or more systems of law or sets of rules of law with regard to any matters dealt with in the 1996 Convention that apply in different territorial units?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> No
31.2 If yes to the above question, which matters under the Convention are subject to multiple systems of law or sets of rules in the different territorial units of [name of your State]?	<input type="checkbox"/> Rules governing parental responsibility <input type="checkbox"/> Rules governing rights of custody <input type="checkbox"/> Rules governing rights of access <input type="checkbox"/> Rules governing guardianship or curatorship of a child <input type="checkbox"/> Rules governing the establishment of foster care arrangements <input type="checkbox"/> Rules governing the establishment of institutional care arrangements <input type="checkbox"/> Rules governing the establishment of kafala arrangements <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):
31.3 Please provide further details on which different systems of law or sets of rules are applicable in which territorial unit within [name of your State].	
31.4 If [name of your State] consists of two or more territorial units, are there any laws in [name of your State] which provide for or regulate the designation of a territorial unit?  See Article 48	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes Please explain briefly what those rules are: If possible, please provide any links or attachments to the relevant laws and / or rules:  <input type="checkbox"/> No

Different categories of persons (Art. 49)	
31.5 Does [name of your State] have two or more systems of law or sets of rules of law with regard to any matters dealt with in the 1996 Convention that apply to different categories of persons?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> No
31.6 If yes to the above question, which matters under the Convention are subject to multiple systems of law or sets of rules that apply to different categories of persons in [name of your State]?	<input type="checkbox"/> Rules governing parental responsibility <input type="checkbox"/> Rules governing rights of custody <input type="checkbox"/> Rules governing rights of access <input type="checkbox"/> Rules governing guardianship or curatorship of a child <input type="checkbox"/> Rules governing the establishment of foster care arrangements <input type="checkbox"/> Rules governing the establishment of institutional care arrangements <input type="checkbox"/> Rules governing the establishment of kafala arrangements <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):
Last Update: [INSERT DATE]	

### 32 Application of the law of another State

32.1 When exercising their jurisdiction under the Convention, can the authorities of [name of your State] apply or take into account the law of another State with which the child has a substantial connection? Article 15(2) of the 1996 Convention	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> No
32.2 In which cases would the authorities of [name of your State] refuse to apply the law applicable under the Convention, on the ground that this application would be manifestly contrary to its public policy? Article 22 of the 1996 Convention	
Last Update: [INSERT DATE]	

## VIII. Recognition and Enforcement (Arts 23-28)

### 33 Recognition

33.1. Does [name of your State] reserve the right not to recognise any parental responsibility or measures, insofar as they are incompatible with any measure taken by the competent authorities of your State, in relation to a child's property located in your State? Article 55(1)(b) of the 1996 Convention	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes Please explain if this reservation is restricted to certain categories of property and, if so, which ones: <input type="checkbox"/> No
33.2. What is the procedure in [name of your State] for the refusal to recognise a measure of protection taken by the competent authorities of a Contracting Party? Article 23(2) of the 1996 Convention	

<p>33.3. In [name of your State], what is the procedure for the recognition or non-recognition of a measure under Article 24?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> An administrative procedure (please elaborate):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A judicial procedure (please elaborate):</p> <p><i>If possible, please provide a web link or attach a copy of any relevant legislation, guidelines or protocols:</i></p> <p><i>Please provide the details of the authority responsible for the procedure for the recognition or non-recognition of a measure under Article 24:</i></p> <p>Name of organisation<sup>13</sup>:</p> <p>Telephone:</p> <p>Fax:</p> <p>Email:</p> <p>Website:</p>
<p><b>Last Update: [INSERT DATE]</b></p>	

### 34 Enforcement

<p>34.1. Has [name of your State], implemented a specific (simple and rapid) procedure for declarations of enforceability or registration for the purposes of enforcement of a measure taken in another Contracting Party?</p> <p>Article 26(2) of the 1996 Convention</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><i>If possible, please provide a web link or attach a copy of any relevant legislation, guidelines or protocols:</i></p>
<p>34.2. Please describe the procedure in [name of your State] for declarations of enforceability or registration for the purposes of enforcement of a measure taken in another Contracting Party.</p> <p>Article 26(2) of the 1996 Convention</p>	<p>In particular, please indicate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The information needed in [name of your State] to register or process a decision for the purpose of enforcement:</li> <li>• The nature of the procedure:                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> It is an administrative procedure (please specify):</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> It is a judicial procedure (please specify):</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> It is a combination of a judicial and administrative procedure (please specify):</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Which authority declares enforceable or registers for the purposes of enforcement a measure of protection taken in another Contracting Party:</li> <li>• Whether the law of [name of your State] provides for a particular time frame for the resolution of applications for <b>declarations of enforceability</b> or the <b>registration of a measure for the purpose of enforcement</b> to ensure that the procedure is rapid:                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Yes</li> <li><i>If possible, please specify the number of days / weeks / months foreseen by the law of [name of your State]:</i></li> <li><i>If possible, please provide a web link to the relevant legislation in the space available next to each item or attach a copy:</i></li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> No</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Whether legal representation is required                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Yes (please describe):</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> No</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<sup>13</sup> This section will be expandable in order to allow for the inclusion of additional authorities.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whether this procedure can be done unilaterally or if there must be other parties than the applicant to the action                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The procedure can be unilateral</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The procedure requires other parties than the applicant to the action</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Whether the declaration of enforceability or registration for the purposes of enforcement is appealable                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, it is appealable                             <p>Please specify the timeframe foreseen in [name of your State] for the resolution of <b>appeals</b> regarding <b>declarations of enforceability</b> or the <b>registration of a measure for the purpose of enforcement</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Less than a week</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Within one month</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Within three months</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Within a year</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> No, it is not appealable</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Any other measures taken in [name of your State] to ensure the procedure is simple and rapid:</li> </ul>
<p>34.3. What is the procedure in [name of your State] to commence enforcement proceedings?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The Central Authority must apply for enforcement. Please describe how this procedure is initiated:</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The applicant must apply for enforcement. Please describe how this procedure is initiated:</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):</li> </ul>
<p>34.4. Can documents be transmitted electronically in [name of your State], for the purpose of enforcement?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Yes</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> No</li> </ul> <p>Please provide any specific requirements:</p>
<p>34.5. What coercive measures, if any, are available in [name of your State] to enforce a measure?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Intervention by government agency (e.g., police, social welfare)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Criminal charges</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Removal of the child from the uncompliant party</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Imprisonment</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Pecuniary measures</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> An order placing the child under supervision</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):</li> </ul>
<p>34.6. Who is generally responsible for supervising the process of enforcement in [name of your State]?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The applicant</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Central Authority</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Public Prosecutor</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The court / administrative authority</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Police</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> No singular body has general responsibility</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):</li> </ul>
<p>Last Update: [INSERT DATE]</p>	

## IX. Cooperation (Arts 29-39)

### 35 General information

35.1 Does the Central Authority use a standard form for requests under the Convention? <sup>14</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (please provide a link to the form or attach as copy):  <input type="checkbox"/> No
35.2 Which authority, entity or department of the government is responsible for preparing reports on the situation of the child?  Article 32 of the 1996 Convention	
35.3 Has [name of your State] declared that requests for information relevant to the protection of the child be communicated to the authorities of your state only through the Central Authority?  Article 34(1) of the 1996 Convention	
35.4 Please indicate how [name of your State] ensures the confidentiality of all transmitted information in cases falling within the scope of the Convention (i.e., any special rules, procedures or protocols)?  Article 42 of the 1996 Convention <i>Please provide any links or attachments to the relevant laws and / or rules and / or protocols or attach a copy.</i>	
35.5 Please indicate how [name of your State] deals with situations where a child is exposed to serious danger (i.e., any special rules, procedures or protocols)?  Article 36 of the 1996 Convention <i>Please provide any links or attachments to the relevant laws and / or rules and / or protocols or attach a copy.</i>	
<b>Last Update: [INSERT DATE]</b>	

### 36 Placement and provision of care abroad (Art. 33)

36.1 Does [name of your State] have procedures or protocols in place to deal with the mechanism of consultation established in Article 33 for the placement of children abroad?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (please specify and provide a link to the form or attach as copy):  <input type="checkbox"/> No
36.2 Please briefly elaborate on the procedure followed by the Central or other competent authority in [name of your State], in order to arrange a cross-border placement of a child.	If the competent authority in [name of your State] is contemplating the placement or the provision of care of a child in <b>another Contracting Party</b> :

<sup>14</sup> Following the Conclusion and Recommendation No 41 of the Seventh Meeting of the Special Commission on the Practical operation of the 1980 Child Abduction Convention and the 1996 Child Protection Convention, the Permanent Bureau is developing a model Co-operation Request Form that will be presented for consultation with interested Contracting Parties with a view to be discussed during the upcoming Eighth Meeting of the Special Commission.

	If the competent authority in [name of your State] is consulted on the placement or the provision of care of a child <b>in your State</b> :
36.3 Please specify any other authority in [name of your State] that would be responsible, in liaison with the designated authority under the Convention, to evaluate the best interests of the child when a placement or the provision of care abroad is being contemplated.	
36.4 Is a standard form used for Article 33 requests in [name of your State]?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (please specify and provide a link to the form or attach as copy): <input type="checkbox"/> No
36.5 Are there costs implicated in Article 33 requests in [name of your State]?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (please specify to whom they are charged): <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Last Update: [INSERT DATE]</b>	

### 37 Locating a child (Art. 30)

37.1 How does the Central Authority of [name of your State], on the request of a competent authority of another Contracting Party, provide assistance in discovering the whereabouts of a child where it appears that said child may be present and in need of protection within the territory of [name of your State]? Article 31(c) of the 1996 Convention	<input type="checkbox"/> Assistance is provided directly Please elaborate on the procedure: <input type="checkbox"/> Assistance is provided through public authorities Please elaborate on the procedure: <input type="checkbox"/> Assistance is provided through other bodies Please indicate the body and elaborate on the procedure:
37.2 What evidence and information showing that the child is present in the State and in need of protection is required for authorities to assist with locating the child?	<input type="checkbox"/> Evidence that the child entered your State (e.g., evidence that the child boarded an aeroplane bound for your State) <input type="checkbox"/> Information from the applicant/requesting authority as to why they believe the child is in your State <input type="checkbox"/> No information or evidence is required; searches can begin upon request <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please explain):
37.3 What sources of information are available in [name of your State] to discover the whereabouts of the child? <i>Please indicate in the space provided any associated costs for an applicants or any other necessary information</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> (1) Private location services: <input type="checkbox"/> (2) Population register: <input type="checkbox"/> (3) Employment register: <input type="checkbox"/> (4) Information maintained by other government agencies (e.g., immigration, social welfare): <input type="checkbox"/> (5) Police: <input type="checkbox"/> (6) INTERPOL: <input type="checkbox"/> (7) EUROPOL <sup>15</sup> : <input type="checkbox"/> (8) Other (please specify):
37.4 Please indicate who is responsible for arranging the measures listed above by inserting the relevant measures next to the responsible person or authority.	<input type="checkbox"/> Central Authority: <input type="checkbox"/> The applicant: <input type="checkbox"/> The applicant’s representative:

<sup>15</sup> The original text of the Country Profile for the 1980 Child Abduction Convention did not include “Europol”. The Permanent Bureau suggests that the inclusion be transposed, when appropriate, in review of the text of the 1980 Convention Country Profile.



<p>E.g., Central Authority: 2,3 The applicant's representative: 7</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):
<p>37.5 Please indicate which of the measures listed above need an order from a competent authority?</p>	
<p>Last Update: [INSERT DATE]</p>	

## X. Mediation and other forms of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)

### 38 Family mediation

<p>38.1 How does the Central Authority of [name of your State] facilitates agreed solutions for the protection of the person or property of the child in situations where the Convention applies? Article 31(b) of the 1996 Convention.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> By providing, upon request, <b>services</b> of mediation, conciliation or other similar means <input type="checkbox"/> By providing <b>information</b> about mediation, conciliation and other similar means <input type="checkbox"/> By assisting and or liaising with third parties (e.g., independent mediators) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):
<p>38.2 The following set of questions replicate those questions contained in the Country Profile for the 1980 Child Abduction Convention. Are the answers of [name of your State] the same for both the 1980 Child Abduction and the 1996 Child Protection Conventions?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes – <b>go to question 39.</b> <input type="checkbox"/> No
<p>38.3 What family matters can be dealt with by mediation in [name of your State]?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Return / non-return of a child following an alleged wrongful removal / retention <input type="checkbox"/> Custody <input type="checkbox"/> Access / contact <input type="checkbox"/> Relocation <input type="checkbox"/> Child support <input type="checkbox"/> Property disputes on relationship breakdown <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):
<p>38.4 What mediation services / structures exist in [name of your State] for applications within the scope of the Convention?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Private mediation services / structures (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> Mediation services / structures within the judicial or administrative system (please explain): <input type="checkbox"/> Mediation services / structures provided by NGOs (please specify the NGO and give brief details of the service they provide): <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> There are no mediation services / structures available in our State
<p>38.5 Is co-mediation (i.e., mediation involving two mediators – one from each State) available in [name of your State] for international family disputes which are within the scope of the 1996 Convention?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes Please provide brief details of any available scheme (e.g., bi-national mediation programmes and any relevant web links):  <input type="checkbox"/> No
<p>38.6 How can individuals obtain information on suitable mediators in [name of your State]?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Lists of mediators are available: <input type="checkbox"/> Through the Central Authority <input type="checkbox"/> Via accrediting bodies (please provide details): <input type="checkbox"/> Through other sources (please specify):

	<input type="checkbox"/> Other methods of accessing information are available (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> No general information is available. Individuals must carry out research themselves
<p>38.7 What role does the Central Authority in [name of your State] play in facilitating mediation for the protection of the child or their property? Article 31(b) of the 1996 Convention</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Provides information about mediation <input type="checkbox"/> Refers parties to accredited professionals to undertake mediation <input type="checkbox"/> Seeks order from judicial or administrative authorities for mediation between the parties <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please explain):
<p>38.8 How are the costs of mediation met in [name of your State]?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> If an individual qualifies for free or reduced rate legal assistance, this will always include the cost of mediation <input type="checkbox"/> If an individual qualifies for free or reduced rate legal assistance, this may cover the cost of mediation <input type="checkbox"/> The Central Authority will meet the costs associated with mediation <input type="checkbox"/> Other sources of funding are available (please specify):  <input type="checkbox"/> The costs of mediation must be borne by the parties <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please explain):
<p>38.9 At what stage of applications under the 1996 Convention is mediation available in [name of your State]?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> At all stages, including prior to any application and as a preventive measure where necessary (please provide further explanation if necessary): <input type="checkbox"/> Only before an application has been made to the relevant Central Authority <input type="checkbox"/> Only after an application has been made to the relevant Central Authority <input type="checkbox"/> Only before an application has been filed in the relevant competent authority <input type="checkbox"/> Only after an application has been filed in the relevant competent authority <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):
<p>38.10 Are cases assessed in [name of your State], to determine their suitability for mediation?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, always <input type="checkbox"/> No, never <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):
<p>38.11 If “yes” to the question above, who carries out such an assessment of suitability?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Mediators <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
<p>38.12 Can legal proceedings in [name of your State] be suspended while mediation is being carried out?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<p>38.13 How, if at all, are the views of the child taken into account in the mediation process?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Rules / legislation require that, if the child is of a sufficient age / maturity, the child must be seen by the mediator <input type="checkbox"/> Rules / legislation require that, if the child is of a sufficient age / maturity, the views of the child must be communicated to the mediator but this need not be done directly (please explain the method(s) used): <input type="checkbox"/> It is within the discretion of the particular mediator <input type="checkbox"/> The child’s views play no part in the mediation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):
<p>38.14 What safeguards are available in [name of your State] in cases where allegations of domestic violence and / or other forms</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> The address and other contact details of the alleged victim are kept confidential

of abuse are made in a dispute which goes to mediation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Other safeguards (please specify):
38.15 Are these safeguards required by rules / legislation or left to the discretion of the mediator?	<input type="checkbox"/> Required by legislation / rules of State <input type="checkbox"/> Left to the discretion of the mediator
38.16 Are there legal restrictions on the content of mediated agreements regarding family law matters in [name of your State]?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> No
38.17 Are there any additional formalities required in [name of your State] to make family mediated agreements involving children enforceable?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> Notarisation of the mediation agreement <input type="checkbox"/> Court approval of the mediation agreement. Please specify competent court: <input type="checkbox"/> Registration of the mediation agreement with the court. Please specify the competent court: <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> No additional formalities are required. Family mediated agreements involving children are immediately enforceable without any additional formalities being required.
38.18 Once approved by or registered with a court in [name of your State], is the mediated agreement treated as an order of that court?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
38.19 In [name of your State], is it possible to turn a mediated agreement into a court order?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes Please briefly explain what steps are required and which court would be competent:  <input type="checkbox"/> No
38.20 In [name of your State], who bears the cost of rendering the mediated agreement enforceable?	<input type="checkbox"/> The parties <input type="checkbox"/> The cost is covered by any free or reduced rate legal assistance provided to one / both parties <input type="checkbox"/> The Central Authority <input type="checkbox"/> There are no costs
38.21 Can an agreement involving children mediated in another State be approved by a court in [name of your State] or otherwise be formalised in [name of your State] in the same manner as a mediated agreement reached in [name of your State]?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No, a different method for formalising the agreement must be used. Please specify: <input type="checkbox"/> No, it is not possible to formalise an agreement mediated in another State <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):
<b>Last Update: [INSERT DATE]</b>	

### 39 Other forms of ADR

39.1 What other forms of ADR are available in [name of your State] for the resolution of international family disputes falling within the scope of the 1996 Convention?	<input type="checkbox"/> In-court conciliation <input type="checkbox"/> Out-of-court conciliation <input type="checkbox"/> Collaborative law <input type="checkbox"/> Early Neutral Evaluation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> No other forms of ADR are available
39.2 Does [name of your State] regulate other forms of ADR in the same manner as mediation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (please specify):

Last Update: [INSERT DATE]

## XI. General<sup>16</sup>

### 40 International certificates under Article 40

<p>40.1. Where authorities in [name of your State] have taken a measure of protection, does [name of your State] provide (if requested) for the delivery of certificates to a person entrusted with the protection of the person or property of the child, indicating the capacity in which said person may act and the powers conferred, under Article 40?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes (please ensure you have responded to item 5 above) <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>40.2. If yes to the above question, how may certificates under Article 40 be requested in [name of your State]? <i>Please tick all boxes that apply.</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> By an application on a website <input type="checkbox"/> By e-mail <input type="checkbox"/> By mail <input type="checkbox"/> By phone <input type="checkbox"/> In person <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):</p>
<p>40.3. In addition to the official language of [name of your State], can the certificate be issued in different languages?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> English <input type="checkbox"/> French <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>Last Update: [INSERT DATE]</p>	

### 41 Training

<p>41.1. What measures are available in [name of your State] to ensure that persons responsible for implementing the 1996 Convention (e.g., judges, lawyers and Central Authority personnel) receive appropriate information and training? <i>Please tick all the boxes that apply.</i> <i>Please contact the Permanent Bureau for information in relation to forms of assistance which may be available for this purpose.</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Training as required for Central Authority staff <input type="checkbox"/> Training as required for competent authorities <input type="checkbox"/> Updates as required on legal developments related to the 1996 Convention provided to staff responsible for its implementation <input type="checkbox"/> Training as required for lawyers <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):</p> <p>Specifically in respect of judges:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Sending a basic package of information on the 1996 Child Protection Convention to judges <input type="checkbox"/> Training through a dedicated judicial studies board <input type="checkbox"/> Participation in judicial training seminars <input type="checkbox"/> Participation in the International Hague Network of Judges <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):</p>
<p>Last Update: [INSERT DATE]</p>	

<sup>16</sup> Questions under this section follow the language on the draft Country Profile for the 2000 protection of Adults Convention.

## 42 Other information

<p>42.1. Does the Central Authority of [name of your State] have regular meetings with competent authorities to exchange any experience or insights on the implementation and operation of the 1996 Convention?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes                  If possible, please indicate how often such meetings take place:  <input type="checkbox"/> Once a year  <input type="checkbox"/> Twice a year  <input type="checkbox"/> As needed  <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):  <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>42.2. In [name of your State], what mechanisms / laws are in place in order to protect the confidentiality of information that is gathered or transmitted under the 1996 Convention?                  Articles 41 and 42 of the 1996 Convention.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> General Data Protection Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (GDPR)  <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):</p>
<p>42.3. What other services / resources are available in [name of your State] to assist those involved in the international protection of children?                  Please tick all the boxes that apply.                  Please indicate, where available, contact details, websites and costs for such services.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> NGOs and international organisations dealing specifically with the protection of children (please provide contact information)                  Name of organisation:                  Telephone:                  Fax:                  Email:                  Website:  <input type="checkbox"/> Financial / legal assistance  <input type="checkbox"/> Social / welfare assistance  <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):</p>
<p>Last Update: [INSERT DATE]</p>	

## XII. Direct judicial communications<sup>17</sup>

### 43 Direct judicial communications

<p>43.1 Has a Member of the International Hague Network of Judges been designated in [name of your State]?                  For more information go to <a href="http://www.hcch.net">www.hcch.net</a> under "1980 Child Abduction Section" then "The International Hague Network of Judges" or "Judicial Communications".</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes                  Please specify their name(s):                  Please do not list the contact details of the judge(s) here. Instead, please ensure that the name, position, court and contact details have been provided to the Permanent Bureau  <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>43.2 Is there a legislative basis upon which judges in [name of your State] can engage in direct judicial communications?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes                  Please specify how the legislation can be accessed (e.g., a web link) or attach a copy:  <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>43.3 In the absence of legislation, can judges in [name of your State] engage in direct judicial communications?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes  <input type="checkbox"/> No (please explain):</p>

<sup>17</sup> Questions 54-56 in this section replicate the same questions contained in the Country Profile for the 1980 Child Abduction Convention. Question 57 replicates the same question contained in the draft Country Profile for the 2000 Protection of Adults Convention.

43.4 What means of communication are available to judges in [name of your State] to liaise with the International Hague Network of Judges?	<input type="checkbox"/> Telephone <input type="checkbox"/> Secure e-mail <input type="checkbox"/> Registered mail <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):
<b>Last Update:</b> [INSERT DATE]	

### XIII. Electronic resources

#### 44 Resources

44.1 Please use the space below to provide any additional links to relevant legislation, rules of private international law, guidelines or protocols regarding the protection of children, and relevant websites (e.g., of courts and other competent authorities, public bodies, agencies, non-governmental organisations, associations) and any other electronic resource pertinent to the protection of children.
<b>Last Update:</b> [INSERT DATE]