

COUNTRY PROFILE

**TAKING OF EVIDENCE BY VIDEO-LINK UNDER THE
HAGUE CONVENTION OF 18 MARCH 1970 ON THE TAKING OF
EVIDENCE ABROAD IN CIVIL OR COMMERCIAL MATTERS**

STATE NAME: [Singapore](#)

PROFILE UPDATED ON (DATE): [January 2018](#)

PART I: STATE

1. Contact details	
<i>The contact details provided in this section <u>will be published</u> on the Hague Conference website</i>	
CHAPTER I (LETTERS OF REQUEST)	
<i>As with any other Letter of Request under Chapter I of the Evidence Convention, the requesting authority should contact the Central Authority(ies) of the requested State when seeking to obtain evidence by means of a Letter of Request, whether using video-link or not.</i>	
<p>a) Are the contact details of the Central Authority(ies) designated by YOUR STATE up-to-date on the Evidence Section of the Hague Conference website?</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No. Please provide the contact details on a separate Word or PDF document for uploading on the Evidence Section of the Hague Conference website.</p>
<p>b) Would YOUR STATE be in favour of specifying a person or department within the Central Authority(ies) who would assist in processing Letters of Request where the use of video-links has expressly been requested (e.g., to arrange the video-link or provide technical assistance)?</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. If YOUR STATE has already done so, please specify the contact details:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No. Please explain why:</p> <p><i>Comments:</i></p> <p>Central Authority: Registrar of the Supreme Court</p> <p>Address: Supreme Court of Singapore 1 Supreme Court Lane Singapore 178879</p> <p>Telephone: (+65) 6332 3912</p> <p>Fax: (+65) 6337 9450</p> <p>Email: supcourt_qsm@supcourt.gov.sg</p> <p>Contact person: Registrar of the Supreme Court</p>

<p>c) What arrangements are there for ensuring that there is a contact person with whom the requesting authority can liaise and who is available on the day of the hearing to operate the video-link facilities (e.g. is there a booking system)?</p>	<p>The necessary arrangements will be made once a request is received and acceded to.</p>
<p>CHAPTER II (TAKING OF EVIDENCE BY DIPLOMATIC OFFICERS, CONSULAR AGENTS AND COMMISSIONERS)</p>	
<p><i>Permission by a designated authority may be required to apply certain provisions under Chapter II. To know if such a permission is required for a particular State, see the practical information chart (accessible from the Authorities page) AND / OR the declarations (accessible from the Status Table page) of the relevant State available on the Evidence Section of the Hague Conference website.</i></p> <p><i>If permission is not required, applicants should contact the diplomatic and consular mission (Arts 15/16) or the commissioner (Art. 17) to explore whether or not evidence may be obtained by video-link under this Chapter.</i></p> <p><i>If permission is required, applicants should contact the authority that was designated to grant permission AND the relevant diplomatic and consular mission or commissioner, to explore, where necessary, whether or not evidence may be obtained by video-link under this Chapter.</i></p>	
<p>d) Would YOUR STATE be in favour of specifying an entity or authority, in addition to the relevant authority / diplomatic or consular agent / commissioner, that would assist in processing applications where the use of video-links has expressly been requested (e.g., to arrange the video-link or provide technical assistance)?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. If YOUR STATE has already done so, please specify the contact details:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No. Please explain why:</p> <p><i>Comments:</i></p> <p>Not applicable. We have declared that the whole of Chapter II shall not apply to the Republic of Singapore.</p>
<p>e) What arrangements are there for ensuring that there is a contact person with whom the Court of Origin can liaise and who is available on the day of the hearing to operate the video-link facilities (e.g. is there a booking system)?</p>	<p>Not applicable. See response to Part I(d).</p>

PART II: RELEVANT LEGISLATION AND COURT SYSTEM

Legal basis	
<p>a) Does YOUR STATE, in the application of Article 27 (<i>i.e.</i> internal law or practice), allow for a foreign Court to directly take evidence by video-link?</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No. Please specify:</p> <p><i>Comments:</i></p>
<p>b) Please indicate the legal basis or applicable protocols (<i>i.e.</i>, relevant laws, regulations, practice, etc.) for the use of video-links in the taking of evidence in YOUR STATE, either under the Convention or independent of the Convention (see, <i>e.g.</i> Art. 27 (b) and (c)):</p> <p><i>Please also attach a copy of, or provide a link to, the relevant provisions, where possible in English or French.</i></p>	<p>Article 9 of the Convention provides that the judicial authority which executes a Letter of Request shall apply its own law as to the methods and procedures to be followed.</p> <p>In this regard, section 4(1) of the Evidence (Civil Proceedings in Other Jurisdictions) Act, Chapter 98, Revised Laws of Singapore gives the High Court the power by order to make such provision for obtaining evidence in Singapore as may appear to the High Court to be appropriate for the purpose of giving effect to the request. This includes the taking of evidence by video-link in the High Court as well as the Family Division of the High Court.</p> <p>Order 66 rule 4 of the Rules of Court, Chapter 322, Rule 5, Revised Laws of Singapore and Rule 945 of the Family Justice Rules, Act 27 of 2014, Revised Laws of Singapore also provides for the person to take and the manner of taking examination.</p>
<p>c) Does YOUR STATE have any agreements with other Contracting States that derogate from the Convention when taking evidence by video-link (see Art. 28 and Art. 32)?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please attach a copy of, or provide a link to, the relevant provisions, where possible in English or French:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p><i>Comments:</i></p>
Court system	
<p>d) Please indicate which courts permit, or have the facilities for, the taking of evidence by video-link. If possible, indicate where relevant information on videoconferencing</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> All courts.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All courts of a specific type / level. Please specify: All courtrooms in the High Court in the Supreme Court.</p> <p>All the courtrooms in the Supreme Court can support video-link facilities. We have 8 court rooms which are equipped with dedicated video conferencing facilities while the other court rooms are enabled with mobile video conferencing facilities. More information on the Technology Facilities can be found at Part XV of the Supreme Court's Practice Directions which are available on the</p>

<p>facilities in courts can be found online:</p>	<p>Supreme Court's website (at http://www.supremecourt.gov.sg/rules/practice-directions/supreme-court-practice-directions) and Paragraph 161A of the Family Justice Court's Practice Directions which can be found on the Family Justice Court's website (at http://www.familyjusticecourts.gov.sg/QuickLink/Pages/Legislation-and-Directions-.aspx).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Only specific courts. Please specify which courts, or provide a link to/attach a full list:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> None.</p> <p><i>Comments:</i></p>
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PART III: TECHNICAL AND SECURITY ASPECTS (APPLICABLE TO BOTH CHAPTERS)

<p>a) Does YOUR STATE use licensed software (which ensures support for technical and security matters) for the taking of evidence by video-link?</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p><i>Comments:</i></p>
<p>b) What are the specifications of the video-link technology in use in YOUR STATE, including, if any, the minimum standards or mechanisms used to secure the communications and any recordings made?</p> <p><i>States are encouraged to provide as much information as possible when responding to this question. As such, it may be useful to consider liaising with the relevant IT experts.</i></p>	<p>Codec (<i>i.e.</i>, manufacturer, model, transmission speed, bandwidth): Polycom RMX 2000</p> <p>Video and audio standards (<i>e.g.</i> Standard Definition, High Definition, etc.): Video: H.261, H.263, H.264</p> <p>Audio: G.71 la, G.71 lu, G. 722.1, G.723., G.728, G.729a, Siren 7, Siren 14;</p> <p>Type of network (<i>e.g.</i>, ISDN, IP, etc.): ISDN, IP</p> <p>Type of encryption for signals in secure transmissions:</p> <p>Split screen capability: Yes</p> <p>Document cameras: Yes</p> <p>Multipoint connections: Yes</p> <p>Additional specifications or capabilities: Videoconferencing Server - Polycom RMX 2000; Videoconferencing Endpoint - Polycom HDX 8000 or Group 500</p> <p>Network Speed - Recommended connection at H.323 512 Kbps or H.320 384Kbps</p> <p>Protocols or other practices: ITU H. 323 and H.320 compliant</p> <p><i>Comments:</i> These are the specifications if the Supreme Court Technology Facilities are utilised. There are no prescribed specifications if external technology facilities are used.</p>
<p>c) Can evidence be taken via commercial providers (<i>e.g.</i>, Skype™)?</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify: Polycom RealPresence™ Mobile or Polycom RealPresence Desktop</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p><i>Comments:</i> These are the specification if the Supreme Court Technology Facilities are being utilised. There are no prescribed specification if external technology facilities are used.</p>

<p>d) Does YOUR STATE have a procedure for testing connections and the quality of transmissions before the hearing?</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify: If Supreme court Technology Facilities are used, test calls will be scheduled and arranged before the hearing itself.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p><i>Comments:</i> This is the procedure if the Supreme Court Technology Facilities are utilised. There are no prescribed procedures if external technology facilities are used.</p>
<p>e) Does YOUR STATE have any requirements as to the hearing room, e.g., should be located in a court, should have a camera view of the whole room or a view of all the parties, etc.?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p><i>Comments:</i> There are no specific requirements on the hearing room, whether in Singapore or in the foreign requesting state, where the video link is set up. If the request is for a Singapore Judicial Officer to assist in taking the evidence, then the hearing room will need to be a courtroom in the Supreme Court.</p>

PART IV: USE OF VIDEO-LINKS UNDER BOTH CHAPTERS – LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

Restrictions	
a) Must a court order directing the use of video-links first be obtained from the requesting State (Chapter I) / State of Origin (Chapter II)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No. <i>Comments:</i>
b) Are there any restrictions on what type/s of evidence can be taken by video-link or how it is to be taken?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify: See section 5 of Evidence (Civil Proceedings in Other Jurisdictions) Act, Chapter 98, Revised Laws of Singapore. <input type="checkbox"/> No. <i>Comments:</i>
c) Are there any specific restrictions on how evidence gathered via video-link can be handled and distributed, or do the usual rules for evidence obtained in person apply?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, there are specific restrictions. Please specify: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No, the normal rules for evidence apply. <i>Comments:</i>
d) Are there any restrictions on the type of person who may be examined by video-link?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No. <i>Comments:</i>
e) Is it necessary to seek the consent of the parties to use video-link to take evidence?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify the conditions under which parties may refuse the use of video-link: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No. <i>Comments:</i> However, each request will be considered on its facts. If there is a refusal of consent, it will be a factor that has to be taken into consideration.
f) Are there any restrictions on the location where the person should be examined (e.g. in a courtroom, on the premises of an Embassy or diplomatic mission)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify: If court assistance is sought in the taking of evidence, the examination will have to take place in a courtroom. <input type="checkbox"/> No. <i>Comments:</i>

PART IV - LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS (BOTH CHAPTERS)

<p>g) Can a witness / expert be compelled to use video-links to give evidence?</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. If so, please specify what coercive measures may be used: .</p> <p>If an order for the attendance and examination of a witness granted under Order 66 of the Rules of Court, Chapter 322, Rule 5, Revised Laws of Singapore or Division 71 of the Family Justice Rules, Act 27 of 2014, Revised Laws of Singapore is breached, committal proceedings for the contempt of court can be taken out.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No. Please explain:</p> <p>Comments:</p>
<p>h) Please briefly outline the procedure/s, under Chapter I and Chapter II, for actually notifying or summoning the witness / expert to give evidence by video-link, including any references to relevant laws, regulations or practice.</p> <p><i>Please also include, where applicable, the differences between notifying or summoning a willing witness / expert and notifying or summoning a witness / expert that is to be compelled.</i></p>	<p>Chapter I:</p> <p>The same procedures for notifying or summoning a witness applies, whether or not the evidence is given via video-link.</p> <p>Order 38 of the Rules of Court, Chapter 322, Rule 5, Revised Laws of Singapore and Division 33 of the Family Justice Rules, Act 27 of 2014, Revised Laws of Singapore provide generally on the procedure for the calling of witnesses.</p> <p>See also Order 66 of the Rules of Court, Chapter 322, Rule 5, Revised Laws of Singapore and Division 71 of the Family Justice Rules, Act 27 of 2014, Revised Laws of Singapore.</p> <p>Chapter II:</p> <p>Not applicable. We have declared that the whole of Chapter II shall not apply to the Republic of Singapore.</p> <p>Comments:</p>
<p>i) The law of which State governs the use of privileges?</p> <p><i>Please tick all that apply.</i></p> <p><i>See Articles 11 and 21(e) of the Convention</i></p>	<p>Chapter I:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The law of the Requesting State.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The law of the Requested State.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The law of another State. Please specify:</p> <p>Chapter II:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The law of the State of Origin.</p>

PART IV - LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS (BOTH CHAPTERS)

	<p><input type="checkbox"/> The law of the State of Execution.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The law of another State. Please specify: Not applicable. See response to Part IV(h).</p> <p><i>Comments:</i></p>
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PART V: USE OF VIDEO-LINKS UNDER CHAPTER I (LETTERS OF REQUEST) – LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

Legal obstacles	
<p>a) Does YOUR STATE consider that there are legal obstacles to using video-link to assist in the taking of evidence under Chapter I of the Convention?</p> <p><i>The Special Commission has noted that the use of video-link and similar technologies is consistent with the current framework of the Convention (see C&R No 55 of the 2009 SC and C&R No 20 of the 2014 SC).</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p>Comments:</p>
Direct and indirect taking of evidence	
<p>b) Under Chapter I of the Convention, does YOUR STATE allow for the direct taking of evidence by judicial personnel of the <i>requesting</i> State (<i>i.e.</i>, the State in which the proceedings are pending)?</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. <input type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p>Comments:</p>
<p>c) Under which provisions of Chapter I of the Convention is indirect taking of evidence by video-link possible in YOUR STATE?</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Art. 9(1) – The judicial authority of the requested State obtains evidence (<i>e.g.</i>, a witness / expert examination) which is located in a (distant) location within its own State.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Art. 9(2) - As a special method or procedure. Please also outline whether any specific conditions must be satisfied:</p> <p><i>See also questions on presence.</i></p> <p>Comments:</p>
Legal safeguards for witness / expert	
<p>d) What are the legal safeguards in place for witnesses / experts in YOUR STATE when evidence is taken by video-link under Chapter I (<i>e.g.</i> protective measures for the witness / expert, provision of interpretation, right to legal counsel, etc.)?</p>	<p>See section 4(5) of the Evidence (Civil Proceedings in Other Jurisdictions) Act, Chapter 98, Revised Laws of Singapore, as well as Order 66 of the Rules of Court, Chapter 322, Rule 5, Revised Laws of Singapore and Division 71 of the Family Justice Rules, Act 27 of 2014, Revised Laws of Singapore.</p>
Presence	
<p>e) Are the rules for the presence of the parties and their representatives when physically in a single location the same for when evidence is taken via video-link?</p> <p><i>See Article 7 of the Convention</i></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. If so, please specify if they are allowed to actively participate: See the Evidence (Civil Proceedings in Other Jurisdictions) Act, Chapter 98, Revised Laws of Singapore, as well as Order 66 of the Rules of Court, Chapter</p>

PART V - LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS (CHAPTER I)

	<p>322, Rule 5, Revised Laws of Singapore and Division 71 of the Family Justice Rules, Act 27 of 2014, Revised Laws of Singapore on the manner of taking examination.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p><i>Comments:</i></p>
<p>f) Under Chapter I of the Convention, does YOUR STATE allow for the cross-examination of a witness / expert by video-link by the representatives located in the <i>requesting</i> State (<i>i.e.</i>, the State in which the proceedings are pending)?</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. <input type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p><i>Comments:</i></p>
<p>g) Does YOUR STATE allow for the presence of the judicial personnel of the requesting State via video-link? <i>See Article 8 of the Convention</i> <i>Please note that a declaration may be made under this provision.</i></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. If so, please specify if they are allowed to actively participate:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p><i>Comments:</i> We have allowed foreign judges/ judicial officers sitting in a foreign tribunal to take evidence directly via video link from a witness located in Singapore.</p>

PART VI : USE OF VIDEO-LINKS UNDER CHAPTER II (BY DIPLOMATIC OFFICERS, CONSULAR AGENTS AND COMMISSIONERS) – LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

<p>The questions in this Part are only for States that have not wholly excluded the application of Chapter II</p> <p>Please note that Chapter II may be subject to a reservation in whole or in part under Article 33. Check the reservations that YOUR STATE has made under this Chapter in the status table, available on the Evidence Section of the Hague Conference website.</p>	
<p>Legal obstacles and legal framework</p>	
<p>a) Does YOUR STATE consider there to be any legal obstacles to the taking of evidence by video-link under Chapter II of the Convention?</p> <p><i>The Special Commission has noted that the use of video-link and similar technologies is consistent with the current framework of the Convention (C&R No 55 of the 2009 SC and C&R No 20 of the 2014 SC).</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p>Comments: Not applicable. We have declared that the whole of Chapter II shall not apply to the Republic of Singapore.</p>
<p>b) Under which provisions of Chapter II of the Convention is taking of evidence by video-link possible in YOUR STATE?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Art. 15 <input type="checkbox"/> Art. 16 <input type="checkbox"/> Art. 17</p> <p>Comments: Not applicable. See response to Part VI(a).</p>
<p>c) Is prior permission from YOUR STATE required when taking evidence under Chapter II of the Convention on the territory of YOUR STATE?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please outline the procedure for seeking such permission, including any specific conditions that must be satisfied:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p>Comments: Not applicable. See response to Part VI(a).</p>
<p>d) Please indicate who administers the oath or affirmation and how perjury and contempt are dealt with when evidence is taken under Chapter II of the Convention on the territory of YOUR STATE.</p>	<p>Administration of the oath or affirmation: Not applicable. See response to Part VI(a).</p> <p>Dealing with perjury and contempt: Not applicable. See response to Part VI(a).</p>
<p>Direct and indirect taking of evidence</p>	
<p>e) Diplomatic and consular agents are usually located in the State where the witness / expert resides. It may be, however, that a witness / expert is located in a neighbouring country or in a place distant from the Embassy or Consulate. In these circumstances, does YOUR STATE consider it possible to use video-link to obtain evidence under Chapter II of the Convention?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p>Comments: Not applicable. See response to Part VI(a).</p>

PART VI - LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS (CHAPTER II)

Legal safeguards for witness / expert	
f) What are the legal safeguards in place for witnesses / experts in YOUR STATE when evidence is taken by video-link under Chapter II (e.g. protective measures for the witness / expert, provision of interpretation, right to legal counsel, etc.)?	Not applicable. See response to Part VI(a).
Presence	
g) Under the law of YOUR STATE, who may be present via video-link when evidence is taken by diplomatic and consular agents ? <i>Please tick all that apply.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> The parties. <input type="checkbox"/> The parties' representatives. <input type="checkbox"/> Judicial personnel. <input type="checkbox"/> Someone else. Please specify: <i>Comments:</i> Not applicable. See response to Part VI(a).
h) Under the law of YOUR STATE, who may be present via video-link when evidence is taken by commissioners ? <i>Please tick all that apply.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> The parties. <input type="checkbox"/> The parties' representatives. <input type="checkbox"/> Judicial personnel. <input type="checkbox"/> Someone else. Please specify: <i>Comments:</i> Not applicable. See response to Part VI(a).
Applicable law	
i) The law of which State governs the administration of an oath or affirmation when evidence is taken by video-link under Chapter II?	<input type="checkbox"/> The law of the State of Origin <input type="checkbox"/> The law of the State of Execution <input type="checkbox"/> It depends on whether evidence is taken by a consular or diplomatic agent or a commissioner. Please specify: <i>Comments:</i> Not applicable. See response to Part VI(a).
j) The law of which State governs perjury and contempt when evidence is taken by video-link under Chapter II?	<input type="checkbox"/> The law of the State of Origin <input type="checkbox"/> The law of the State of Execution <input type="checkbox"/> It depends on whether evidence is taken by a consular or diplomatic agent or a commissioner. Please specify: <i>Comments:</i> Not applicable. See response to Part VI(a).

PART VII PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS

COMMON TO BOTH CHAPTERS	
Notice	
<p>a) What does YOUR STATE consider to be the minimum amount of time required between the request and the actual hearing in order to make the arrangements to take evidence by video-link?</p>	<p>Chapter I: Please see Part XV of the Supreme Court's Practice Directions and Paragraph 161A of the Family Justice Court's Practice Directions on the use of the Technology Facilities in the Supreme Court, including on the prescribed timelines. The request should be made as early as possible to allow for sufficient time to process the request and make the necessary arrangements, including ensuring the availability of the requested facilities and to carry out a testing of the video-link facilities if such is required.</p> <p>Chapter II: Not applicable. We have declared that the whole of Chapter II shall not apply to the Republic of Singapore.</p>
Interpretation services	
<p>b) Who is responsible, under Chapter I and Chapter II, for the use of interpretation services and who arranges these services in YOUR STATE when video-link is used?</p>	<p>Chapter I: See Order 66 of the Rules of Court, Chapter 322, Rule 5, Revised Laws of Singapore and Division 71 of the Family Justice Rules, Act 27 of 2014, Section 813, Revised Laws of Singapore. The arrangements for the examination are to be made by the solicitor having conduct of the matter.</p> <p>Chapter II: Not applicable. See response to Part VII(a).</p>
<p>c) Are professional accredited interpreters required in YOUR STATE, and where can relevant contact details be found?</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify: Interpreters who assist with the witness examination in the Supreme Court must be court-certified. The relevant contact details can be found at http://www.supremecourt.gov.sg/services/court-services/interpretation-services</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p>Comments:</p>
<p>d) Under the law of YOUR STATE, is interpretation to be <i>simultaneous</i> or <i>consecutive</i> when a witness / expert is examined via video-link?</p>	<p>Consecutive</p>
<p>e) Where may the interpreter be located when a witness / expert is examined via video-link?</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In the room with the witness / expert. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In the room with those conducting the examination.</p>

PART VII – PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS (BOTH CHAPTERS)

<p><i>Please check all that apply.</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Elsewhere in the requesting State (Chapter I) / State of Origin (Chapter II).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Elsewhere in the requested State (Chapter I) / State of Execution (Chapter II).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> In a third State.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other. Please specify:</p> <p><i>Comments:</i></p>
<p>Reporting and recording</p>	
<p>f) Is a written report of the video-link hearing or testimony prepared?</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify by whom: If court assistance is sought in the taking of evidence, the testimony is transcribed through Notes of Evidence certified by the Assistant Registrar. An application can be made for a copy of the Notes upon payment of such fees as may be prescribed. An application may also be made for Digital Transcription Services of the hearing on the taking of evidence.</p> <p>Please also outline the specific rules or regulations, if any, that are applicable to the handling/storage/distribution of the report:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p><i>Comments:</i></p>
<p>g) Are facilities and equipment made available in order to record the hearing or testimony?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, with audio and video.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, only with video.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, only with audio.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No, but the recording of hearings/testimonies is permitted.</p> <p>If a recording is produced, please also outline the specific rules or regulations, if any, that are applicable to the handling/storage/distribution of the recording: Please see the Supreme Court's Practice Directions and the Family Justice Court's Practice Directions on the procedures to apply for a record of the proceedings to be made.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No, because the recording of hearings/testimonies is not permitted under internal law.</p> <p><i>Comments:</i></p>
<p>Documents and exhibits</p>	
<p>h) What arrangements are to be made for showing or referring to documents or exhibits when taking evidence by video-link?</p>	<p>A visualizer is used as source feed for such content sharing.</p>

PART VII – PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS (CHAPTER I)

PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS UNDER CHAPTER I	
Practical obstacles	
<p>i) Does YOUR STATE consider that there are practical obstacles to using video-link to assist in the taking of evidence under Chapter I of the Convention?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p><i>Comments:</i></p>
Identification of all relevant actors	
<p>j) What is the procedure for verifying the identity of the parties, the witness / expert, and all relevant actors in YOUR STATE when video-link is used under Chapter I?</p>	<p>Verification with a Photo Identification document (e.g. Identity Card/Passport/Driving Licence) will be required.</p>
Standard Forms	
<p>k) Do the authorities of YOUR STATE use a standardised request form under Chapter I that makes specific reference to the use of video-links?</p> <p><i>The use of the Model Form of the Evidence Convention is recommended when taking evidence under Chapter I.</i></p> <p><i>While the Model Form has no explicit reference to the use of video-link, a request to this effect may be included in item 13 of the Form.</i></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify:</p> <p>Please see Part XV of the Supreme Court's Practice Directions and Paragraph 161A of the Family Justice Court's Practice Directions on the applicable procedures and standard forms to be used.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The standardised form used makes no reference to video-link.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No standardised form is used.</p> <p><i>Comments:</i></p>
<p>l) Does YOUR STATE require the inclusion of any particular practical or technical information from the requesting State in the request in order to conduct / arrange a witness / expert examination by video-link under Chapter I? (e.g. contact details for IT support, technical specifications, etc)</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify:</p> <p>Please see Part XV of the Supreme Court's Practice Directions and Paragraph 161A of the Family Justice Court's Practice Directions on the applicable procedures and standard forms to be used.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p><i>Comments:</i></p>
Costs	
<p>m) Are there any costs associated with the taking of evidence via video-link under Chapter I in YOUR STATE?</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please provide an approximate estimate of these costs and / or specify the criteria used to determine these costs:</p> <p>Please see Part XV of the Supreme Court's and Practice Directions Paragraph 161A of the Family Justice Court's Practice Directions on the applicable fees.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p><i>Comments:</i></p>

PART VII – PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS (CHAPTER I)

<p>n) Who is responsible for bearing the costs occasioned by the use of video-link under Chapter I in YOUR STATE? <i>See Art. 14(2) of the Evidence Convention</i></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The moving party (requesting the use of video-link).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The requesting authority (in the requesting State).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The requested authority (in the requested State).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other. Please specify:</p> <p><i>Comments:</i></p>
<p>o) How are these costs generally expected to be paid and/or reimbursed?</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Payment in cash</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Payment by (credit) card</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Electronic/wire transfer</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other. Please specify:</p> <p><i>Comments:</i></p>
<p>p) Who pays for the interpretation services under Chapter I in YOUR STATE when video-link is used and how are these costs to be paid and/or reimbursed?</p>	<p>The arrangements for the examination are to be made by the solicitor having conduct of the matter.</p>

PART VII – PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS (CHAPTER II)

PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS UNDER CHAPTER II	
Only for States that have not excluded in whole the application of Chapter II	
Practical obstacles	
<p>q) Does YOUR STATE consider that there are practical obstacles to using video-link to assist in the taking of evidence under Chapter II of the Convention?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p><i>Comments:</i> Not applicable. See response to Part VII(a).</p>
Identification of all relevant actors	
<p>r) What is the procedure for verifying the identity of the parties, the witness / expert, and all relevant actors in YOUR STATE when video-link is used under Chapter II?</p>	<p>Not applicable. See response to Part VII(a).</p>
Standard Forms	
<p>s) Do the authorities of YOUR STATE use a standardised request form under Chapter II that makes specific reference to the use of video-links?</p> <p><i>Although the use of the Model Form of the Evidence Convention is recommended when taking evidence under Chapter I, it may also be used, with the necessary amendments when applying for permission to take evidence under Chapter II.</i></p> <p><i>While the Model Form has no explicit reference to the use of video-link, a request to this effect may be included in item 13 of the Form.</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The standardised form used makes no reference to video-link.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No standardised form is used.</p> <p><i>Comments:</i> Not applicable. See response to Part VII(a).</p>
Assistance and facilities	
<p>t) Are the Embassies and Consulates of YOUR STATE (acting as the State of Execution) able to assist applicants in arranging a video-link?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify how, e.g., via a booking system:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No. Please specify who else would assist, if anyone:</p> <p><i>Comments:</i> Not applicable. See response to Part VII(a).</p>
<p>u) Is it possible to hold a video-link session requested under the Convention at the premises of the Embassies or Consulates of YOUR STATE abroad?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p><i>Comments:</i> Not applicable. See response to Part VII(a).</p>
<p>v) Does YOUR STATE require the inclusion of any particular practical or technical information from the State of Origin in the request in order to conduct / arrange a witness or expert examination by video-link under Chapter II? (e.g. the use of interpreters, stenographers, or recording devices)</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p><i>Comments:</i> Not applicable. See response to Part VII(a).</p>

PART VII – PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS (CHAPTER II)

Costs	
w) Are there any costs associated with the taking of evidence via video-link under Chapter II in YOUR STATE?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please provide an approximate estimate of these costs and / or specify the criteria used to determine these costs: <input type="checkbox"/> No. <i>Comments:</i> Not applicable. See response to Part VII(a).
x) Who is responsible for bearing the costs occasioned by the use of video-link under Chapter II in YOUR STATE?	<input type="checkbox"/> The moving party (requesting the use of video-link). <input type="checkbox"/> The State of Origin <input type="checkbox"/> The Diplomatic mission or Consulate in the State of Execution. <input type="checkbox"/> The commissioner <input type="checkbox"/> Other. Please specify: <i>Comments:</i> Not applicable. See response to Part VII(a).
y) How are these costs generally expected to be paid and/or reimbursed?	<input type="checkbox"/> Payment in cash <input type="checkbox"/> Payment by (credit) card <input type="checkbox"/> Electronic/wire transfer <input type="checkbox"/> Other. Please specify: <i>Comments:</i> Not applicable. See response to Part VII(a).
z) Who pays for the interpretation services under Chapter II in YOUR STATE when video-link is used and how are these costs to be paid and/or reimbursed?	Not applicable. See response to Part VII(a).