

THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA Apostille Questionnaire 2021

The responses are reflected as provided by Contracting Parties subject to minor typographical corrections.

1.	Why is your State not a Party to the Apostille Convention?	[f] Other. <i>China highly appreciates the role played by the Convention in simplifying the legalization of public documents and in promoting the liberalization and facilitation of trade. China is positively considering with accession to the Convention.</i>		
2.	Are you currently studying / do you intend to study the Apostille Convention, with a view to becoming a Party in the future?	[a] Yes, we are currently studying it. <i>China is actively studying the Convention and issues relating to consistency between the Convention and its internal law, with a view to becoming a party in the near future.</i>		
<i>For Parties that answered yes to Q2.</i>				
2.1.	Are you taking the e-APP into consideration as part of this study?	[a] Yes, we are considering the e-Apostille component.		
3.	Are foreign public documents exempted from legalisation by virtue of your internal law, practice, or any bilateral / multilateral agreements?	[b] Yes, under bilateral / multilateral agreements. <i>Foreign public documents are exempted under most bilateral / multilateral treaties on judicial assistance and free trade agreements between China and other countries / regions.</i>		
4.	How many legalisations were performed by your authorities in each of the following years?		Outgoing Documents ¹	Incoming Documents ²
		2016		
		2017		
		2018	1,430,000	720,000
		2019	1,380,000	710,000
		2020	330,000	320,000
5.	Would you be interested in attending the 2021 meeting of the Special Commission on the practical operation of the Apostille Convention?	[a] Yes, if possible, in person.		
6.	Are there any specific topics or practical issues that you would like discussed at the 2021 Special Commission? <i>If yes, would you like your answer to this question to be published without reference to your authority or State?</i>	[b] No.		
7.	Do you have any suggestions that could assist in the promotion, implementation, or operation of the Apostille Convention? <i>If yes, would you like your answer to this question to be published without reference to your authority or State?</i>	[a] Yes. <i>It is suggested that the contracting parties of the Convention should establish an online Apostille verification platform as soon as possible.</i>		
8.	Would you be interested in attending the 12 th International Forum on the e-APP (to be held in conjunction with the meeting of the Special Commission)?	[a] Yes, if possible, in person.		

¹ Legalisations performed by your Ministry of Foreign Affairs (or equivalent) on documents executed in your territory.

² Legalisations performed by your consulates / embassies in another territory on documents executed in that territory.

<p>9. Are there any specific topics or practical issues that you would like discussed at the e-APP Forum?</p> <p><i>If yes, would you like your answer to this question to be published without reference to your authority or State?</i></p>	<p>[a] Yes. <i>It would be highly appreciated if contracting parties having implemented the e-APP could share their positive experiences.</i></p>
<p>10. The Permanent Bureau is in the process of drafting a 2nd edition of the Apostille Handbook. Are there any specific topics, suggestions for presentation or formatting, or any other proposals for inclusion?</p> <p><i>Please note that answers to this question will not be incorporated into the first draft of the 2nd edition. The PB will take them into account in preparing subsequent drafts.</i></p> <p><i>If yes, would you like your answer to this question to be published without reference to your authority or State?</i></p>	<p>[a] Yes. <i>It would be highly appreciated if a Chinese version of the Handbook is issued for this edition.</i></p>