



Second Forum on Domestic Violence and the 1980 Child Abduction Convention

With a focus on the Operation of Article 13(1)(b)

Fortaleza, Brazil, 27-30 October 2025

Centro de Eventos do Ceará

DRAFT PROGRAMME [22 August 2025]

Monday 27 October 2025	
Time	Item
19:00 – 20:00	Opening addresses / remarks 1. BRZ Official(s)
20:00 – 22:00	Opening reception and group photo

Tuesday 28 October 2025	
Time	Item
8:30 – 09:00	Opening addresses 1. Christophe Bernasconi, Secretary General, HCCH 2. Representative of the AGU's office
9:00 – 10:30	Session 1 - Sharing developments on domestic violence and Article 13(1)(b) since the First Forum in Sandton
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee break
11:00 – 12:30	Session 2 - Raising awareness about the impact of wrongful removal / retention and of the impact of domestic violence on a child
12:30 – 14:30	Lunch break
14:30 – 15:30	Session 3 - Using support and awareness-raising to prevent international child abduction in situations involving domestic violence

15:30 – 16:00	Coffee break
16:00 – 17:30	Session 4 - Using legal mechanisms and access to justice to prevent international child abduction in situations involving domestic violence

<i>Wednesday 29 October 2025</i>	
Time	Item
8:30 – 10:00	Session 5 - Obtaining evidence of domestic violence in international child abduction cases where such allegations have been made <i>To be followed by break-out groups</i>
10:00- 10:30	Coffee break
10:30 – 12:00	<i>Break-out groups following panel 5 & reporting to plenary</i>
12:00 – 14:00	Lunch break
14:00 – 15:15	Session 6 - Assessing allegations of domestic violence and determining grave risk under Article 13(1)(b) in international child abduction cases where domestic violence is raised <i>To be followed by break-out groups</i>
15:15 – 16:30	Session 7 - Using protective measures (with references to the 1996 Child Protection Convention and other relevant mechanisms) <i>To be followed by break-out groups</i>
16:30 – 17:00	Coffee break
17:00 – 18:00	<i>Break-out groups following sessions 6 and 7</i>

<i>Thursday 30 October 2025</i>	
Time	Item
8:30 – 9:00	<i>Break-out groups following sessions 6 and 7 report to plenary</i>
9:00 – 11:00	Session 8 - The effects of return and non-return decisions
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee break

11:30 – 13:00	Session 9 - Domestic violence in the Guide to Good Practice on Article 13(1)(b) - five years after
13:00 – 15:00	Lunch break
15:00 – 16:30	Session 10 - Lessons learned and next steps Open moderated discussion
16:30 – 17:00	Coffee break
17:00 – 18:00	Closing