

**First meeting of the Special Commission on the practical operation of the  
 2007 Child Support Convention and on the 2007 Maintenance Obligations Protocol  
 - June 2020 (tentative)**

<b>Document</b>	Preliminary Document <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Document <input type="checkbox"/>	No 1 of August 2019
<b>Title</b>	Questionnaire on the practical operation of the <i>Convention of 23 November 2007 on the International Recovery of Child Support and Other Forms of Family Maintenance</i>	
<b>Author</b>	Permanent Bureau	
<b>Agenda item</b>		
<b>Mandate(s)</b>	C&R No 28 of the March 2019 meeting of the Council on General Affairs and Policy	
<b>Objective</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To seek information as to the implementation and practical operation of the 2007 Convention in Contracting Parties, including procedures that have been established to implement the Convention, the extent of co-operation between Contracting Parties, and the types of assistance provided to individuals;</li> <li>- To identify challenges or questions that have arisen and good practices regarding the practical operation of the 2007 Convention; and</li> <li>- To obtain views and comments on priority topics, including possible future work, for discussion at the upcoming meeting of the Special Commission.</li> </ul>	
<b>Action to be taken</b>	For Approval <input type="checkbox"/> For Decision <input type="checkbox"/> For Information <input type="checkbox"/> For Action <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Annexes</b>	n.a.	
<b>Related documents</b>	Prel. Doc. No 2 of August 2019 - Questionnaire on the practical operation of the <i>Protocol of 23 November 2007 on the Law Applicable to Maintenance Obligations</i>	

## ***Objectives of the Questionnaire***

This Questionnaire is being circulated in preparation for a possible meeting of the Special Commission on the practical operation of the *HCCH Convention of 23 November 2007 on the International Recovery of Child Support and Other Forms of Family Maintenance* (hereinafter, the “2007 Convention”) and the *HCCH Protocol of 23 November 2007 on the Law Applicable to Maintenance Obligations* (hereinafter, the “2007 Protocol”), tentatively to be held in The Hague in June 2020 (dates to be confirmed). The Questionnaire focuses on the 2007 Convention; another Questionnaire will focus on the 2007 Protocol.

This Questionnaire is addressed primarily to Contracting Parties to the 2007 Convention, but certain questions (so marked) are also addressed to non-Contracting Parties (*e.g.*, Contracting Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Recovery Abroad of Maintenance concluded in New York on 20 June 1956 (hereinafter, the “1956 Convention”). The Questionnaire has the following broad objectives:

- a. To seek information as to the implementation and practical operation of the 2007 Convention in Contracting Parties, including procedures that have been established to implement the Convention, the extent of co-operation between Contracting Parties, and the types of assistance provided to individuals;
- b. To identify challenges or questions that have arisen and good practices regarding the practical operation of the 2007 Convention; and
- c. To obtain views and comments on priority topics, including possible future work, for discussion at the upcoming meeting of the Special Commission.

The Questionnaire is designed to facilitate an efficient exchange of information on these matters prior to the meeting of the Special Commission and assist with the drawing up of an agenda for the meeting.

## ***Scope of the Questionnaire***

The Questionnaire covers these topics:

- Statistics
- Operational issues
- Access to information
- Enforcement issues
- Feedback on the use of the mandatory and recommended forms
- Possible additional forms
- Country profile
- Possible additional tools
- Translation of documents and dissemination of information
- Training and training material
- Joining the 2007 Convention
- iSupport
- General

In considering the questions that follow, States may find it useful to refer in particular to the following resources:

- The text of the 2007 Convention<sup>1</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> The text of the 2007 Convention is available at: < <https://assets.hcch.net/docs/14e71887-0090-47a3-9c49-d438eb601b47.pdf> >.

- The Explanatory Report<sup>2</sup> (Borras and Degeling) on the 2007 Convention
- The Recommended Forms<sup>3</sup> under the 2007 Convention
- The Practical Handbook for Case Workers<sup>4</sup> under the 2007 Convention
- The Practical Handbook for Competent Authorities<sup>5</sup> on the 2009 EU Maintenance Regulation, the 2007 Hague Child Support Convention and its Protocol
- The Country Profile<sup>6</sup> for the 2007 Convention
- The Implementation Checklist<sup>7</sup> for the 2007 Convention

### ***Instructions for completion***

The Questionnaire is being sent to Central Authorities as well as National and Contact Organs. Central Authorities asked to co-ordinate as appropriate between themselves and other competent authorities. For Contracting Parties to the Convention, Central Authorities are ultimately responsible for submitting the completed questionnaire to the Permanent Bureau (PB).

In order to allow the PB to extract parts of the Questionnaire for a compilation and analysis of the responses, please use **this Word Version** of the document, and please **do not return a PDF version** of the completed Questionnaire.

We kindly request that replies to the Questionnaire be sent to the PB by e-mail to < [secretariat@hcch.net](mailto:secretariat@hcch.net) > **no later than 30 November 2019** with the following subject matter captioned in the heading of the e-mail: “[name of State] Response to the 2007 Convention Questionnaire – 2020 Special Commission”. Any questions concerning the Questionnaire may be directed to < [secretariat@hcch.net](mailto:secretariat@hcch.net) >.

We intend, except where expressly asked not to do so, to place all replies to the Questionnaire on the HCCH website ([www.hcch.net](http://www.hcch.net)). Please therefore clearly identify any responses which you do not want to be placed on the website.

Thank you for your kind co-operation as the PB prepares for the meeting of the Special Commission in 2020.

---

<sup>2</sup> The Explanatory Report is available at: < <http://assets.hcch.net/docs/09cfaa7e-30c4-4262-84d3-daf9af6c2a84.pdf> >.

<sup>3</sup> The 2007 Convention Recommended Forms are available at: < <https://assets.hcch.net/docs/7b1c5829-81a6-46f5-902e-d59b572dff8a.pdf> >.

<sup>4</sup> The Practical Handbook for Case Workers on the 2007 Convention is available at: < <https://assets.hcch.net/docs/5f160c92-b560-4b7f-b64c-8423f56c6292.pdf> >.

<sup>5</sup> The Practical Handbook for Competent Authorities on the 2009 EU Maintenance Regulation, the 2007 Hague Child Support Convention and its Protocol is available at: < <https://assets.hcch.net/docs/b4c58880-8e8a-41a4-a52e-6597e1a08b42.pdf> >.

<sup>6</sup> The Country Profile for the 2007 Convention is available at: < <https://assets.hcch.net/docs/7a6a8da3-4a7f-4367-89d6-f96e1e32c299.pdf> >.

<sup>7</sup> The Implementation Checklist for the 2007 Convention is available at: < <https://assets.hcch.net/docs/231f2415-e12b-4bd6-8f85-9f1fc25d2658.pdf> >.

**QUESTIONNAIRE ON THE PRACTICAL OPERATION OF THE  
CONVENTION OF 23 NOVEMBER 2007 ON THE INTERNATIONAL RECOVERY  
OF CHILD SUPPORT AND OTHER FORMS OF FAMILY MAINTENANCE**

Wherever your replies to this Questionnaire make reference to domestic legislation, rules, guidance or case law relating to the practical operation of the 2007 Convention, **please provide a copy of the referenced documentation** in (a) the original language and, (b) wherever possible, accompanied by a translation into English and / or French.

<b>Name of State or territorial unit:<sup>[1]</sup></b>	Finland
<i>For follow-up purposes</i>	
Name of contact person:	Tanja Niemi, Maija Leppä
Name of Authority / Office:	Ministry of Justice
Telephone number:	+358 9 1606 7628
E-mail address:	maintenance.ca@om.fi

Please note:

- Contracting Parties to the 2007 Convention are requested to complete ALL sections below.
- Non-Contracting Parties to the 2007 Convention are requested to complete those sections marked with an asterisk (\*).

**1. Statistics under the 2007 Convention**

1.1. How many active cases is your Central Authority handling at this moment under the 2007 Convention?

Outgoing cases:

Currently, there are 31 outgoing Hague 2007 cases pending in the Finnish Central Authority, including requests for specific measures.

Incoming cases:

There are currently 14 incoming Hague 2007 cases pending in the Finnish Central Authority, including requests for specific measures.

1.2. How many new cases (outgoing and incoming) were added to your caseload under the 2007 Convention each year during the last three years?

Last year:

18 (including requests for specific measures)

Prior year:

20 (including requests for specific measures)

Prior year:

---

<sup>[1]</sup> The term "State" in this Questionnaire includes a territorial unit, where relevant.

6 (including requests for specific measures)

Please specify the reference period for these statistics, *i.e.*, whether a calendar or fiscal year, and if the latter, the starting and ending dates:

Calendar year

Fiscal year:

starting:

Please insert text here

ending:

Please insert text here

1.3. How many requests for specific measures (Art. 7) has your Central Authority handled during the past 12 months?

Outgoing requests for specific measures:

18

Incoming requests for specific measures:

11

1.4. How many full-time employees (FTEs) are working in your Central Authority?

There are currently approx. ten persons working in the Finnish Central Authority, which functions as a Central Authority for over 50 international instruments. Two persons are handling the maintenance cases under all instruments concerning that area. Furthermore, based on the national legislation, part of the duties related to recovery of maintenance under the EU regulation are handled by the Finnish Social Insurance Board (Kela). In Kela, there are currently three people working with international maintenance cases.

1.5. Please identify the countries that are your State's main partners in international child support cases under the 2007 Convention:

Finland has the most 2007 Convention cases with the United States.

## 2. Statistics under the 1956 Convention, regional instruments and bilateral arrangements\*

2.1. How many active cases is your State handling at this moment under international instruments other than the 2007 Convention?

Outgoing cases:

In the Finnish Central Authority, there are currently 148 pending outgoing cases based on the 1956 Convention, regional instruments and bilateral arrangements.

In addition to the cases pending in the Finnish Central Authority, the Social Insurance Institution (Kela) sends applications abroad to foreign Central Authorities based on the EU regulation and the Nordic Agreement. Their statistics are reported under question 2.2.

Incoming cases:

In the Finnish Central Authority, there are currently 510 pending incoming cases based on the 1956 Convention, regional instruments and bilateral arrangements.

It is also possible for the applicants to send their applications directly to the enforcement offices and courts. The Central Authority does not have statistical data of those cases.

2.2. How many new cases (outgoing and incoming) were added to your caseload under international instruments other than the 2007 Convention each year during the last three years?

Last year:

There were about 150 new cases in the Finnish Central Authority in 2018. Due to a change in the case management system in 2018, it is not possible to get exact figures.

In addition, the Finnish Social Insurance Institution (Kela) sent 69 outgoing applications directly to the Central Authorities of the requested states based on the EU regulation and the Nordic Agreement in 2018.

Prior year:

There were 160 new cases in the Finnish Central Authority in 2017.

In addition, the Finnish Social Insurance Institution (Kela) sent 155 new outgoing applications directly to the Central Authorities of the requested states based on the EU regulation and the Nordic agreement in 2017.

Prior year:

There were 145 new cases in the Finnish Central Authority in 2016.

In addition, the Finnish Social Insurance Institution (Kela) sent 151 new outgoing applications directly to the Central Authorities of the requested states based on the EU regulation and the Nordic agreement in 2016.

Please specify the reference period for these statistics, *i.e.*, whether a calendar or fiscal year, and if the latter, the starting and ending dates:

- Calendar year  
 Fiscal year

starting:

Please insert text here

ending:

Please insert text here

2.3. How many full-time employees (FTEs) are working in your Central Authority / Transmitting Agency / Receiving Agency under these other international instruments?

There are two employees handling maintenance cases in the Finnish Central Authority. In the Finnish Social Insurance Institution, there are three employees working with international maintenance cases.

2.4. Please identify the countries that are your State's main partners in international child support cases under the 1956 Convention, regional instruments or bilateral arrangements:

Under the EU Maintenance Regulation the main partners are Estonia, the UK, Germany and Spain. Also, Finland has a lot of cooperation with the Nordic countries under the Nordic Agreement.

### 3. Operational issues

3.1. Are acknowledgments of receipt received within the required timeframe?

- Always  
 Almost always  
 Half the time  
 Rarely  
 Never

3.2. Has your State encountered interpretation difficulties with regard to the term “residence” (Art. 9), which is broader than “habitual residence”?

- No  
 Yes, please explain:  
[Please insert text here](#)

If yes, please describe, if relevant, the practices your State has developed to overcome these difficulties:

[Please insert text here](#)

3.3. Has your State encountered problems with regard to applications made in the name of the child by a parent?

- No  
 Yes, please explain:  
[Please insert text here](#)

Do the problems concern lack of information in the relevant Country Profile?

- Yes  
 No

Do the problems concern lack of clarity in the relevant Forms?

- Yes  
 No

3.4. Has your State encountered problems with regard to a public body acting in place of an individual to whom maintenance is owed or a public body to which reimbursement is owed for benefits provided in place of maintenance (Art. 36)?

- No  
 Yes, please explain:

3.5. Has your State encountered problems with regard to a person 21 years or older seeking to obtain legal aid for the recovery of maintenance arrears that accrued before the child turned 21?

- No  
 Yes, please explain:  
[Please insert text here](#)

3.6. Does your State provide legal aid to public bodies acting on behalf of the applicant (child)?

- No  
 Yes

If yes, please explain if this has involved difficulties:

3.7. Is the caseload in your Central Authority divided by regions or other case characteristics in order to promote a specialisation of case workers?

- No  
 Yes, please explain:

[Earlier the cases were divided by countries between the two employees handling the maintenance cases. The idea was to promote specialisation. However, as there are only two case workers in the Central Authority, it was considered better to divide the cases based on the first letter of the last name of the debtor, in order for both of the case workers to gain expertise and practice on different countries. This is the current practice.](#)

3.8. Has your State encountered any other operational issues with respect to the processing of cases?

- No  
 Yes, please explain:

As the maintenance cases typically remain pending for many years, the number of active cases increases steadily. This makes the case handling and resourcing challenging.

#### 4. Access to information

4.1. Has your State experienced difficulties in obtaining information required for processing cases under the Convention, as a result of restrictions on access to personal data held by the government or private institutions?

- No  
 Yes – as a requesting State, please explain:  
[Please insert text here](#)

- Yes – as a requested State, please explain:  
[Please insert text here](#)

- If yes, please describe, if relevant, the practices your State has developed to overcome these difficulties:  
[Please insert text here](#)

#### 5. Enforcement issues

5.1. Has your State experienced difficulties in enforcing decisions that set the amount of maintenance obligations on the basis of a percentage of the salary of the debtor or of the requesting State's minimum wage?

- No  
 Yes, please specify:

In principle, the Finnish enforcement authority requires precise amounts, in order to enforce a maintenance judgment. It is challenging for the enforcement authority to enforce a judgement where the enforceable amount is in percentage, if the requesting state/applicant is not able to provide the salaries of information regarding the minimum wage, out of which the percentage should be calculated. Sometimes it is difficult to get information on how to calculate the correct amount from the requesting state.

If yes, please describe, if relevant, the practices your State has developed to overcome these difficulties:

Information from the Finnish tax authorities (yearly income information) has been used, in order to calculate the amount to be enforced. However, this is possible only if the debtor has had taxable income in Finland during the time the debt has accrued.

5.2. Has your State experienced difficulties in enforcing orders where the debtor does not have his / her habitual residence in your State but does have property there?

- Not applicable – we have not had any requests to enforce an order in this circumstance  
 No, we have been able to enforce orders in this circumstance. Please describe the processes used:  
[Please insert text here](#)

- Yes, please specify the difficulties encountered:  
[Please insert text here](#)



5.3. Can your State enforce the payment of interest (Art. 19)?

- Yes  
 No, please explain why not:  
[Please insert text here](#)

## 6. Feedback on the use of the HCCH Mandatory and Recommended Forms

A. As the **requesting** State:

6.1. Are there specific problems that you want the Special Commission to address with regard to the content or completion of the HCCH Mandatory and Recommended Forms?

- No  
 Yes, please specify:

[It would really useful to have the forms in and electronically fillable form available in the HCCH website.](#)

6.2. Is it a requirement under the domestic law of your State that the 2007 Convention application forms be signed by the applicant?

- No  
 Yes, please explain:  
[Please insert text here](#)

6.3. If you have responded yes to Question 6.2., please specify what other documents are required in combination with an unsigned application form in order for it to be acceptable under your State's law:

[Please insert text here](#)

6.4. Can your State's competent authorities complete an abstract or extract of the decision using the HCCH recommended form in lieu of a complete text of the decision?

- Yes, please explain under which circumstances:

[It is possible. However, it has not been used in practice.](#)

- No, please explain:  
[Please insert text here](#)

Is this covered in your State's Country Profile?

- Yes  
 No

6.5. Who is the competent authority in your State to complete the HCCH Mandatory and Recommended Forms?

Please specify:

[The Central Authority is competent to fill in the mandatory forms. The recommended forms can be filled in also by the Finnish Social Insurance Institution \(Kela\), applicants, courts or the social welfare boards in the municipalities, if the board has confirmed an agreement on maintenance between the parties.](#)

6.6. If the Central Authority or other competent authority in your State receives a handwritten form from an applicant, will it type the form in lieu of the applicant?

- Yes  
 No, please explain:

[We have not had such cases, but in principle, if the text is readable, we would send the hand-written application to the requested state.](#)

6.7. Is it possible in your State to process non-certified documents for the purpose of recognition and enforcement (Art. 25)?

- Yes  
 No, please explain:

It is not stated in the national law that the Central Authority would need certified documents. However, if the receiving state needs certified documents, we will ask for them from the applicant.

6.8. For applications other than those for recognition and enforcement, do requested States routinely require documents in addition to those listed in the available recommended forms?

- No  
 Yes, please specify:  
[Please insert text here](#)

If yes,

- Only a few States have such requirements  
 Many States have such requirements

B. As the requested State:

6.9. Are there specific problems that you would like the Special Commission to address with regard to the content or completion of the HCCH Mandatory and Recommended Forms?

- No  
 Yes, please specify:  
[Please insert text here](#)

6.10. Is it a requirement under the domestic law of your State that the 2007 Convention application forms be signed by the applicant?

- No  
 Yes, please explain:  
[Please insert text here](#)

6.11. If you have responded yes to Question 6.10, please specify what other documents are required in combination with an unsigned application form in order for it to be filed with a competent authority in your State?

[Please insert text here](#)

6.12. Do your State's competent authorities accept an abstract or extract of the decision under certain circumstances using the HCCH recommended form in lieu of a complete text of the decision?

- Yes, please explain under which circumstances:

- No, please explain:

If no, please explain what could be done to facilitate the acceptance of an abstract or extract of a decision in your State:

Finland has not specified this under article 57. However, it would be possible to ask the competent court if it could accept an abstract or extract of the decision in lieu of the complete text of the decision, if such documentation would be attached to the application. The court would make the decision on such acceptance.

Is this covered in your State's Country Profile?

- Yes  
 No

6.13. Is it possible in your State to process non-certified documents for the purpose of recognition and enforcement (Art. 25)?

- Yes  
 No, please explain:

6.14. Can the recommended forms developed under the 2007 Convention be used for the purpose of a direct request (Art. 37) in your State?

- Yes  
 No, please explain:  
[Please insert text here](#)

**7. Possible additional forms – Is your State interested in the development of the possible following additional forms?\***

	Possible additional forms to be developed	No	Yes	Priority Level		
				Low	Med.	High
7.1.	Calculation form for maintenance arrears / statement of arrears	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7.2.	Scalable model form for decision <sup>8</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7.3.	Statements of enforceability with respect to authentic instruments as well as private agreements (Art. 30(3)(b))	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7.4.	Model form for Power of Attorney	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7.5.	Form attesting that Art. 36 conditions are met	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7.6.	Form for calculation of interest (with a table of interest or a link to a relevant website)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7.7.	Dynamic forms (available on the HCCH website to be completed online, printed and sent by registered mail)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

	Possible dynamic mandatory (M) and recommended forms to be developed	No	Yes	Priority Level		
				Low	Med.	High
7.7.1.	Transmittal form (M) under Art. 12(2)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7.7.2.	Acknowledgement form (M) under Art. 12(3)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7.7.3.	Application for Recognition or Recognition and Enforcement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7.7.4.	Abstract of a Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7.7.5.	Statement of Enforceability of a Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7.7.6.	Statement of Proper Notice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

<sup>8</sup> For example, the abstract of a decision could be used as a template which could be converted into a full text decision with a simple click.

7.7.7.	Status of Application Report – Recognition or Recognition and Enforcement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7.7.8.	Application for Enforcement of a Decision Made or Recognised in the Requested State	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7.7.9.	Status of Application Report – Enforcement of a Decision Made or Recognised in the Requested State	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7.7.10.	Application for Establishment of a Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7.7.11.	Status of Application Report – Establishment of a Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7.7.12.	Application for Modification of a Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7.7.13.	Status of Application Report – Modification of a Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7.7.14.	Financial Circumstances Form	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

7.8. Are there any other forms that your State would like to be developed?

- No  
 Yes, please specify the form and level of priority:  
[Request for specific measures and reply form](#)  
Priority:  
 Low  
 Medium  
 High

[Please insert text here](#)

- Priority:  
 Low  
 Medium  
 High

[Please insert text here](#)

- Priority:  
 Low  
 Medium  
 High

## 8. Country Profile

8.1. Are there specific problems that you would like the Special Commission to address with regard to the content or completion of the Country Profile?

- No  
 Yes, please specify:

[It is important that every participating country has filled in the Country Profile. It is a very useful tool.](#)

8.2. Is your State interested in extension of current Country Profile to cover spousal support (the current version of the Country Profile only covers children)?

- No  
 Yes  
If yes, please indicate a priority:

- Low
- Medium
- High

8.3. Are there other areas that your State would like to see added or modified in the Country Profile?

- No
- Yes, please specify:  
[Please insert text here](#)

**9. Possible additional tools – Is your State interested in the development of the possible following additional tools?\***

9.1. Guide to Good Practice for Central Authorities on the implementation of the 2007 Convention (a guide as to how the Convention can be implemented in a State, with examples from States as to the way that Central Authority responsibilities are carried out)

- No
  - Yes
- If yes, please indicate a priority:
- Low
  - Medium
  - High

9.2. Guidance for the completion of Mandatory and Recommended Forms under the 2007 Convention

- No
  - Yes
- If yes, please indicate a priority:
- Low
  - Medium
  - High

9.3. Standardised statistical report

- No
  - Yes
- If yes, please indicate a priority:
- Low
  - Medium
  - High

If yes, would it be helpful to develop a Prel. Doc. in advance of the Special Commission meeting to outline the possible statistics that should be included, the benefits of having that information, and a suggested timeline for collection?

- Yes
- No

9.4. Extension of current Country Profile to cover spousal support (the current version of the Country Profile only covers children)

- No
  - Yes
- If yes, please indicate a priority:
- Low
  - Medium
  - High

**10. Translation of documents and dissemination of information**

- 10.1. Has the text of the 2007 Convention<sup>9</sup> been translated into your State's official language(s)?
- No
  - Yes
  - If yes, the document is available on the HCCH website.
  - If yes, the document can be made available to the PB in pdf format or is available under the following hyperlink to be posted on the HCCH website. Please specify the language(s):  
[Please insert text here](#)

- 10.2. Has the Explanatory Report<sup>10</sup> on the 2007 Convention been translated into your State's official language(s)?
- No
  - Yes
  - If yes, the document is available on the HCCH website.
  - If yes, the document can be made available to the PB in pdf format or is available under the following hyperlink to be posted on the HCCH website. Please specify the language(s):  
[Please insert text here](#)

- 10.3. Does your State require the use of the HCCH Recommended Forms<sup>11</sup> in your State's official language(s) (if not English or French)?
- No – Go to Question 10.4.
  - Yes
- If yes, have the HCCH Mandatory and Recommended Forms<sup>12</sup> under the 2007 Convention been translated into your State's official language(s)?
- No
- If no, when will the translated forms be available? Are there steps that could be taken to facilitate the translation of forms into the official language(s) of your State?  
Please explain:  
[Please insert text here](#)
- Yes
  - If yes, the document is available on the HCCH website.
  - If yes, the document can be made available to the PB in pdf format or is available under the following hyperlink to be posted on the HCCH website. Please specify the language(s):  
[Please insert text here](#)

- 10.4. Has the Practical Handbook for Case Workers<sup>13</sup> on the 2007 Convention been translated into your State's official language(s)?
- No
  - Yes
  - If yes, the document is available on the HCCH website.
  - If yes, the document can be made available to the PB in pdf format or is available under the following hyperlink to be posted on the HCCH website. Please specify the language(s):  
[Please insert text here](#)

- 10.5. Has the Practical Handbook for Competent Authorities<sup>14</sup> on the 2009 EU Maintenance Regulation, the 2007 Hague Child Support Convention and its Protocol (the Romanian project) been adapted and translated into your State's official language(s)?

---

<sup>9</sup> See, *supra*, note 1.

<sup>10</sup> See, *supra*, note 2.

<sup>11</sup> See, *supra*, note 3.

<sup>12</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>13</sup> See, *supra*, note 4.

<sup>14</sup> See, *supra*, note 5.

- No  
 Yes  
 If yes, the document is available on the HCCH website.  
 If yes, the document can be made available to the PB in pdf format or is available under the following hyperlink to be posted on the HCCH website. Please specify the language(s):  
[Please insert text here](#)

10.6. Has the Implementation Checklist<sup>15</sup> for the 2007 Convention been translated into your State's official language(s)?

- No  
 Yes  
 If yes, the document is available on the HCCH website.  
 If yes, the document can be made available to the PB in pdf format or is available under the following hyperlink to be posted on the HCCH website. Please specify the language(s):  
[Please insert text here](#)

10.7. What actions to raise public awareness on the international recovery of child support (e.g., information leaflets,<sup>16</sup> institutional circulars, etc.) have been implemented in your State?

[We provide general information on our Ministry's website: www.om.fi.](#)

Are such materials available on the HCCH website?

- Yes  
 No

If no, can the document be made available to the PB in pdf format or via hyperlink? Please specify:

[Please insert text here](#)

## 11. Training and training material

11.1. Has training regarding the 2007 Convention taken place in your State for members of the Central Authority?

- No

If no, what are the obstacles to such training?

[No official training has been organized, due to the small amount of people handling the maintenance cases in the Finnish Central Authority. Currently the Finnish Central Authority is preparing a handbook for the employees in the Central Authority.](#)

- Yes

If yes, what type of training?

11.2. Has training regarding the 2007 Convention taken place in your State for members of the relevant competent authority(ies)?

- No

If no, what are the obstacles to such training?

[Please insert text here](#)

- Yes

If yes, what type of training?

---

<sup>15</sup> See, *supra*, note 7.

<sup>16</sup> Examples of information leaflets are available at: < <http://assets.hcch.net/docs/a4e37173-54e8-4778-b8f5-e7aba66e6d98.pdf> >.

The Central Authority has provided information material for the competent authorities for example on the courts' intranet pages. We have also provided information for the Finnish Social Insurance Institution.

11.3. Has training regarding the 2007 Convention taken place in your State for caseworkers?

No

If no, what are the obstacles to such training?

[Please insert text here](#)

Yes

If yes, what type of training?

[Please insert text here](#)

11.4. Have you developed training material regarding the 2007 Convention in your State?

No

Yes

If yes, the document(s) is available on the HCCH website.

If yes, the document(s) can be made available to the PB in pdf format or is available under the following hyperlink to be posted on the HCCH website. Please specify the language(s):

[We have provided the Finnish Social Insurance Institution \(Kela\) with information on how to process the outgoing 2007 Convention cases. We are also working on a handbook for the CA employees regarding child maintenance cases under all instruments.](#)

11.5. To assist with training, does your State favour having additional materials on the HCCH website?

No

Yes, please specify:

[It would be useful to have general training material available in the HCCH website, as well references to new literature and academic articles.](#)

## 12. Joining the 2007 Convention\*

12.1. Is your State a Contracting Party to the 1956 New York Convention on the Recovery Abroad of Maintenance?

Yes

No

(Note: Art. 49 of the 2007 Convention provides that such Convention replaces the 1956 New York Convention in relations between Contracting Parties in so far as the scope of application under each convention is the same.)

12.2. Has your State joined the 2007 Convention?

Yes

No, please explain:

[Please insert text here](#)

If no, what could be done to facilitate your State becoming a Party (e.g., the proposed [Guide to Good Practice](#) for Central Authorities on the implementation of the 2007 Convention)?

[Please insert text here](#)

If no, does your State have concerns regarding implementing the 2007 Convention?

No

Yes, please explain:

[Please insert text here](#)



### 13. iSupport\*

13.1. Has your State implemented iSupport, or is it in the process of implementing iSupport?

Yes

No

If no, please respond as appropriate:

[Please insert text here](#)

13.1.1. For Contracting Parties to the 2007 Convention: Does your State intend to implement iSupport?

Yes

If yes, when?

[Finland is involved in the iSupport project and the latest testing of iSupport has been initiated in November 2019.](#)

If yes, please identify any assistance required:

[Please insert text here](#)

No, please explain:

[Please insert text here](#)

13.1.2. For Contracting Parties to the New York 1956 Convention which are not yet Parties to the 2007 Convention: Does your State intend to implement iSupport as it supports the New York 1956 Convention?

Yes

If yes, when?

[Please insert text here](#)

If yes, please identify any assistance required:

[Please insert text here](#)

No, please explain:

[Please insert text here](#)

13.1.3. For non-Contracting Parties to the 2007 Convention which are Parties to bilateral agreements: Does your State intend to implement iSupport as it supports bilateral agreements?

Yes

If yes, when?

[Please insert text here](#)

If yes, please identify any assistance required:

[Please insert text here](#)

No, please explain:

[Please insert text here](#)

### 14. General

14.1. Are there any other issues or topics not covered in this Questionnaire that you would like to see the Special Commission address?

No

Yes, please specify:

Cooperation and best practices between the Central Authorities

14.2. Are there any areas where research and/or a Preliminary Document would be helpful?

No

Yes, please specify:

[Please insert text here](#)

14.3. If your State is interested in attending a possible meeting of the Special Commission, would it be interested in attending, prior to the meeting, a half-day information session for new States Parties, States interested in becoming Party to the 2000 Convention or States that have not yet attended a meeting of a Special Commission to review the practical operation of a Convention?

Yes

No