

Title	Report on Post-Convention Assistance (1 January – 31 December 2025)
Document	Prel. Doc. No 16 of January 2026 <i>Provisional version, pending finalisation of the French and Spanish versions</i>
Author	PB
Agenda Item	Item III.7
Mandate(s)	C&R No 18 of CGAP 2015 (Strategic Framework for Post-Convention Assistance)
Objective	To report on post-Convention assistance provided by the PB between 1 January and 31 December 2025
Action to be Taken	For Decision <input type="checkbox"/> For Approval <input type="checkbox"/> For Discussion <input type="checkbox"/> For Action / Completion <input type="checkbox"/> For Information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Annexes	Annex : Post-Convention Assistance
Related Documents	N / A

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Report on Post-Convention Assistance (1 January – 31 December 2025)

I. Introduction

- 1 To ensure the effective implementation and practical operation of HCCH Conventions and instruments, and in conformity with the [Strategic Framework for Post-Convention Assistance](#) (Strategic Framework), approved by the Council on General Affairs and Policy (CGAP) in March 2015,¹ the Permanent Bureau (PB) provides a range of post-Convention assistance activities for the benefit of HCCH Members (and, in exceptional circumstances, non-Members).
- 2 As set out in the Strategic Framework, the term “post-Convention assistance” refers specifically to:

“(...) assistance provided to support effective implementation and operation of any HCCH Convention or other HCCH instrument through legal and technical advice and training to the requested State.

Post-Convention assistance does not include general activities and services such as Special Commissions, guides to good practice and practical handbooks, the publication of documents and maintaining of databases, promotional activities or the provision of day-to-day advice and assistance to States and other stakeholders.”
- 3 This Prel. Doc. provides an exhaustive list of the post-Convention assistance activities undertaken by the PB between 1 January and 31 December 2025.

II. Proposal for CGAP

- 4 The PB proposes the following Conclusion and Decision:

CGAP noted the report on post-Convention assistance activities and recognised the value of these activities in contributing to the effective operation of HCCH Conventions.

¹ “Conclusions and Recommendations of CGAP 2015 (24-26 March 2015)”, C&R No 18 (available on the HCCH website (www.hcch.net) under “Governance” => “Council on General Affairs and Policy” and “Archive (2000-2025)”).

ANNEX

Post-Convention Assistance

Date(s)	Instrument(s)	Beneficiary	Activity	Objectives	Outcomes	Selection Criteria*	Prioritisation Criteria**	Funding Source(s)
February 2025	1961 Apostille Convention	Ukraine	Workshop for Ukraine on the 1961 Apostille Convention and the electronic Apostille Programme (e-APP)	To support Ukraine's ongoing efforts to implement the e-APP by enhancing understanding of its practical implementation and operation. The workshop ultimately aimed to promote the effective functioning of the programme, and through it the effective operation of the Apostille Convention, for the benefit of citizens and commercial operators requiring the use of Ukrainian public documents abroad.	The workshop enhanced Ukraine's understanding of the practical operation of the e-APP, contributed to the identification of technical and operational requirements, and strengthened coordination among national stakeholders. It also facilitated the exchange of experience with other Contracting Parties and enabled discussion of practical and technical aspects of the e-APP.	i, ii, iii, iv, v, vi, vii,	i, ii, v, vi, vii, viii, ix	N/A
March – May 2025	1993 Adoption Convention	Paraguay	Technical assistance to Paraguay on the 1993 Adoption Convention	To strengthen the capacities of Paraguay's Central Authority (Adoption Centre), providing it with knowledge on best practices in adoption so as to strengthen Paraguay's adoption procedures.	(1) Development of the Regulations of the Board of Directors of the Central Authority, aimed at ensuring that Paraguay's adoption practices are in line with the 1993 Adoption Convention. Paraguay's Central Authority also	i, ii, iii, iv, v, vi, vii, viii(a), viii(b)	i, ii, iv, vi, vii, viii, ix	Monetary voluntary contribution from Norway

					<p>worked on the Rules of Procedure of the Adoption Centre, which were approved at the end of the consultancy.</p> <p>(2) The staff of the Central Authority were trained and are now more knowledgeable of child protection support and measures for children, including adoption and the 1993 Adoption Convention.</p>			
March – December 2025	1980 Child Abduction Convention	Honduras	Technical assistance to Honduras on the 1980 Child Abduction Convention	<p>To ensure the effective implementation of the 1980 Child Abduction Convention in Honduras by supporting the development of clear and coherent procedural rules, in particular through:</p> <p>(1) Providing assistance in the drafting of a Supreme Court regulatory resolution and a procedural law regulating international child</p>	<p>(1) Development of draft Supreme Court regulatory resolution and draft procedural law on international child abduction in line with the 1980 Child Abduction Convention.</p> <p>(2) Improved coordination and dialogue among judges, the Central Authority, and other institutions involved in international child abduction cases.</p> <p>(3) Increased judicial and</p>	i, ii, iii, iv, v, vi, vii, viii(a), viii(b)	i, ii, vi, vii, ix	Non-monetary contribution from United States of America

				<p>abduction proceedings;</p> <p>(2) Fostering judicial and institutional engagement with, and support for, the proposed procedural framework;</p> <p>(3) Facilitating dialogue and coordination among judges and institutions involved in international child abduction cases; and</p> <p>(4) Providing ongoing technical assistance to the judicial authorities responsible for international child abduction matters.</p>	<p>institutional engagement and enhanced technical capacity to apply Convention-compliant procedures.</p> <p>(4) Expressed commitment at the highest judicial level to support the proposed procedural framework upon its formal presentation.</p>			
June 2025	1965 Service, 1970 Evidence, 1980 Child Abduction, 1993 Adoption, and 2007 Child Support Conventions	El Salvador	Two-day training for El Salvador on the 1965 Service, 1970 Evidence, 1980 Child Abduction, 1993 Adoption, and 2007 Child Support Conventions	<p>(1) To strengthen institutional capacity for the effective and timely implementation of HCCH Conventions in the areas of child protection and transnational litigation.</p> <p>(2) To promote a sound understanding of the object, scope</p>	Judges and judicial officers were trained on the proper and effective implementation and operation of the 1965 Service, 1970 Evidence, 1980 Child Abduction, 1993 Adoption, and 2007 Child Support Conventions, resulting in:	i, ii, iii, iv, v, vi, vii	i, ii, vi, vii, viii, ix	Non-monetary contribution from the United States of America

				<p>and purpose of HCCH Conventions relevant to child protection and transnational litigation.</p> <p>(3) To foster a coherent interpretation of the HCCH Conventions, in line with international standards and supported by the use of the Guides to Good Practice and Handbooks as interpretative tools.</p> <p>(4) To strengthen inter-institutional collaboration, promote international coordination, and enhance the response of the Salvadoran judiciary in cases involving foreign jurisdictions.</p> <p>(5) To consolidate institutional commitment to the implementation of actions aimed at strengthening the technical and legal capacities of judicial officers.</p>	<p>(1) Enhanced institutional capacity for the proper implementation of HCCH Conventions relevant to child protection and transnational litigation.</p> <p>(2) Improved understanding among participants of the object, scope and purpose of the HCCH Conventions relevant to child protection and transnational litigation.</p> <p>(3) Strengthened ability to interpret and apply the HCCH Conventions in a coherent manner, in line with international standards and informed by the use of the Guides to Good Practice and Handbooks.</p> <p>(4) Access to tools to improve inter-institutional collaboration and</p>		
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					<p>international coordination.</p> <p>(5) Participants demonstrated increased familiarity with the HCCH Conventions and the practical tools available to support their application.</p>			
July 2025	1980 Child Abduction, 1993 Adoption, 1996 Child Protection, and 2007 Child Support Conventions	Barbados	One-day training for Barbados on the 1980 Child Abduction, 1993 Adoption, 1996 Child Protection, and 2007 Child Support Conventions	<p>(1) To provide participants with an introduction to the HCCH Children's Conventions, ensuring a general understanding of their principles and mechanisms.</p> <p>(2) To strengthen the capacity of members of the International Hague Network of Judges (IHNJ) by introducing the core elements of the HCCH Children's Conventions and outlining the role of judges in proceedings relating to the international protection of children.</p>	<p>(1) The Central Authority of Barbados is fully committed to taking all steps necessary to finalise the implementation of the 1980 Child Abduction and 1996 Child Protection Conventions.</p> <p>(2) Participants gained knowledge of specialised legal information and resources related to the HCCH Children's Conventions and of how to access and consult them.</p> <p>(3) Participants expressed interest in assessing the</p>	i, iii, iv, v, vi	v, vi, ix	Non-monetary contribution from the United States of America

				<p>(3) To familiarise participants with the procedural aspects and best practices under the HCCH Children's Conventions, promoting consistent application across jurisdictions.</p> <p>(4) To encourage judicial and administrative collaboration in cases involving the international protection of children, reinforcing the objectives of the HCCH Children's Conventions.</p> <p>(5) To facilitate participants' access to specialised legal information and resources relating to the HCCH Children's Conventions.</p>	1993 Adoption and 2007 Child Support Conventions with a view to a potential accession by Barbados.			
September – October 2025	1965 Service and 2007 Child Support Conventions	Azerbaijan and Kazakhstan	Three-day training for Azerbaijan and Kazakhstan on the 1965 Service and 2007 Child Support Convention	To provide a comprehensive training on the 2007 Child Support Convention, and a shorter session on the 1965 Service Convention, in light of the recent entry into force of these	Several Central Authority officials, as well as representatives of the judiciary and other relevant actors, were trained on the proper and effective implementation and	i, ii, iii, iv, v, vi, vii	i, ii, iii, iv, vi, vii, viii, ix	Non-monetary voluntary contribution from Azerbaijan

				Conventions for Azerbaijan.	operation of the 1965 Service and 2007 Child Support Conventions.			
November 2025	1993 Adoption Convention	Angola	Technical assistance to Angola on the 1993 Adoption Convention	<p>(1) To reflect on the current legal and policy framework for adoption and alternative care in Angola, and the possible need for revisions to align it with international standards and the 1993 Adoption Convention.</p> <p>(2) To promote good practices and analyse the specific challenges faced by Angola's Central Authority under the 1993 Adoption Convention.</p> <p>(3) To strengthen the functioning of Angola's Central Authority under the 1993 Adoption Convention.</p>	<p>(1) Identification of good practices and challenges to be addressed.</p> <p>(2) Representatives of various relevant actors within the child protection system were trained on the principles of the 1993 Adoption Convention and are now more knowledgeable on implementation strategies for domestic and intercountry adoptions.</p> <p>(3) Strengthened cooperation between the different institutions involved in adoption in Angola.</p> <p>(4) A set of Conclusions and Recommendations was approved and presented to the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights of Angola.</p>	i,ii, iii, iv, v, vi, vii, viii, viii	i, ii, iv, v, vi, vii, viii, ix	Monetary voluntary contribution from UNICEF Angola