



European Network of National Observatories on Childhood

LUXEMBOURG

Form for the compilation of good practises in the post adoption phase for the Seminar on post adoption Art.9 c) Hague Convention

Post-adoption services

1. Do the social services promote the establishment of a trust relation with the prospective adoptive parents before the adoption is pronounced in particular in the meetings that are aimed at their training and preparation (so that in case of problems in the post adoption phase the adoptive parents are more likely to contact the social services).

The prospective adoptive parents get all the information concerning all the available types of services offered by the adoption services and other public services.

2. Please indicate the possible types of services (counselling, groups of mutual aid, psychotherapy, scholastic support, family mediation, etc...)

During the first years after the adoption (depends on the Country of origin), the follow up contains visits to the adoptive family and conversations. The service provided, when the adoptive family, parents or child, apply for it, contains home-calls, visits, conversations, family mediation, psychological help, etc... and any administrative help in the different fields.

3. Who is the subject that has the responsibility of the service?

Post-adoption services are being provided by the adoption services, private organizations which need an authorization issued by the Ministry of Family and Integration, the Central Authority according to article 6.1. of the Hague Convention of 29 May 1993 on Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption.

4. Staff employed at the Service (number, professional characteristics, etc...).

The adoption services employ or work only with qualified people such as social workers, doctors, psychologists, etc... Depending on the adoption service, the number of the staff varies from 5 to 8 people.

5. Duration of the Service (until when?, until the minor is 18 years old?).

Post-adoption services are automatically being provided for the reports requested by the Countries of origin, and, if required by the adoptive parents or the adoptive child, up to the age of 18 years.

6. Is there collaboration and integration among the different public subjects involved (services, school, etc...) and between these and the private bodies in the carrying out of the service?



The adoption services, who only employ or work with qualified people such as social workers, doctors, psychologists, collaborate for their post-adoption services with the other existing public services such as schools, social services, health services, etc... in order to support the adoptive family if they apply for any help.

7. Is there an evaluation system of the service? Are data on the use of the service by families available?

The adoption services, which need an authorization issued by the Ministry of Family and Integration, the Central Authority, to be allowed to provide their services, have a convention with the Ministry of Family and Integration that defines their tasks and obligations. The effectiveness of these services is overseen, monitored and controlled on a regular annual base by the Central Authority. The services must present a biannual report to the Central Authority. A representative of the Ministry of Family and Integration visits the adoption services regularly in order to discuss these reports and to control the effectiveness of the services.

8. Who elaborates the reports on the post-adoption phase required by the authorities of States of origin?

The reports on the post-adoption phase required by the authorities of States of origin are being elaborated by qualified members of the adoption services such as social workers, doctors, psychologists.

9. Are there good practices in the country relating with the beginning of the relation with the adoptive family on the immediately subsequent period after the pronouncement of adoption?

Yes. The good practices have been elaborated by the Central Authority together with the adoptive services.

Access to the origins

10. In the framework of the support services in the post-adoption phase, is there a service to support those who want to collect information about their origins? (Right to the access to the origins recognized also in the art. 7 (1) of the Convention on Rights of the Child).

There is no specific service to support those who want to collect information about their origins. However, all existing adoption services as well as the Central Authority itself offer the necessary support to collect these information.

11. Are there limits and conditions for the access to the information about the origins (age, consent of the adoptive parents and/or biological parents)?

The main conditions for the access to the information about origins are the consent of the adoptive parents and the consent of the biological parents. There is no limit of age for the access to the information.



- 12.** Who is the competent subject to address the request (public services, the central authority, an administrative office...)?

The request can be addressed either directly to an adoption service or to the Central Authority.

- 13.** Are there centres and /or services specialized in the assistance in this sector?

For the moment, there are no centres or services specialized in the assistance in this sector. However, the Ministry of Family and Integration, the Central Authority, is drawing up a program in order to enlarge the existing offer within the framework of post-adoption services.

- 14.** Does a central organ exist which has to collect and preserve the information on the origins?

Yes, the Central Authority itself. It collects and preserves all the information on the origins of the adoptive children.

- 15.** What are the modalities of functioning and access to the service? What are the professional roles engaged in the support phase in the research on information on the origins?

Every adopted child/adult has the possibility to access to the service by addressing a request either directly to an adoption service or to the Central Authority. The adoption service or the Central Authority get in contact with the authorities in the Country of origin (Central Authority or adoption service). If the biological and the adoptive parents consent, the adoption service will give the information on the origins to the adoptive parents/child.

- 16.** How long has the information on the origins to be preserved?

By law the information on the origins must be preserved during a minimum of 20 years. But the Central authority preserves this information after that date.

- 17.** Is it possible to check if and how the valorisation and the preservation of the links with the origins is promoted (cultural and social events with other adoptive parents group, travel opportunities to the country of origin with other adoptive family, etc...)? Is this kind of activity carried out by public or private bodies?

The degree of promotion of the valorisation and the preservation of the links with the origins depends on the different adoptive services. There are no good practices on this subject. This kind of activities, cultural events, social events, travail organization to the country of origin, etc..., are being carried out by private bodies, the adoption services, but they are being co-financed over the convention by the Ministry of Family and Integration.

- 18.** Are there good practices in the country relating to the support to adopted adults who wish to collect information on their origins?

If required, the adoption services and/or the Central Authority offer the necessary support to collect the information on the origins under the condition of the consent of the biological parents.



Adoptive failures

19. Who is responsible of the child in case of an adoption failure?

In case of an adoption failure, the responsibility of the child belongs to the adoptive parents. Together with the adoption service and/or the public services, the adoptive parents have the responsibility to try to find an adequate solution. If a complete failure is being declared, the responsibility of the child belongs to the public services, in particular the Ministry of Family and Integration, whose services will provide a new home for the child.

20. Which kinds of support and accompaniment for the child and the adoptive family are realised in these hypotheses?

The different services, private adoption services and public services, provide any administrative or psychological help (such as counselling, consultations, groups of mutual aid, orientation, psychotherapy, scholastic support, family mediation, ...) available in the various fields, to both the adoptive parents and the adoptive child.

21. Are the authorities of the State of origin informed in the case of intercountry adoption?

In case of intercountry adoption, the authorities of the States of origin are only informed if the failure of the adoption happens during the years when reports on the post-adoption phase are required by the authorities of States of origin.

22. What are the interventions for the minor protection carried out in case of revocation of the adoption? Is an immediate placing in a new family provided or is a first insertion in a welcome structure for children considered?

In case of revocation of the adoption, the services of the Ministry of Family and Integration interfere and in such a case a first insertion in a welcome structure for children is considered.

23. Are there good practices in the country relating to the interventions of support to the adoptive families in difficulty and/or support in cases of removal of the child from the adoptive family?

If required, the adoption services and/or the Central Authority offer the necessary support to assist the adoptive families in difficulty. In cases of removal of the adopted child from the adoptive family, the adoption services as well as the Ministry of Family and Integration provide any psychological or administrative help. The Ministry of Family and Integration takes care to find an adequate home for the child (first insertion in a welcome structure for children, foster family, etc.).