Conclusions and Recommendations
Adopted by the Special Commission

ABDUCTION, SALE AND TRAFFIC IN CHILDREN AND THEIR ILLICIT PROCUREMENT IN THE CONTEXT OF INTERCOUNTRY ADOPTION

1. Concerned to prevent, in the context of intercountry adoption, the abduction, sale and traffic in children and their illicit procurement, the Special Commission draws the attention of States to the following as essential features of a well regulated system:

   a) effective application of Hague Convention procedures and safeguards including, as far as practicable, in relation to non-Convention adoptions;
   b) independent and transparent procedures for determining adoptability and for making decisions on the placement of a child for adoption;
   c) strict adherence to the requirements of free and informed consent to adoption;
   d) strict accreditation and authorisation of agencies, and in accordance with criteria focussing on child protection;
   e) adequate penalties and effective prosecution, through the appropriate public authorities, to suppress illegal activities;
   f) properly trained judges, officials and other relevant actors;
   g) prohibition on private and independent adoptions;
   h) clear separation of intercountry adoption from contributions, donations and development aid;
   i) regulated, reasonable and transparent fees and charges;
   j) effective co-operation and communication between relevant authorities both nationally and internationally;
   k) implementation of other relevant international instruments to which States are parties;
   l) public awareness of the issues.

2. The Special Commission acknowledged the generous contribution of the Government of Australia for making possible the special day on the abduction, sale and traffic in children and their illicit procurement, which raised awareness of the nature and extent of the problem. An informal group co-ordinated by the Australian Central Authority with the participation of the Permanent Bureau will consider the development of more effective and practical forms of co-operation between States to prevent and address specific instances of abuse. The result of this work will be circulated by the Permanent Bureau for consideration by Contracting States.

DRAFT GUIDE TO GOOD PRACTICE ON ACCREDITATION

3. The Special Commission gave its general endorsement to the draft Guide to Good Practice No 2 entitled Accreditation and Adoption Accredited Bodies: General Principles and Guide to Good Practice (hereinafter the draft Guide to Good Practice No 2) prepared by the Permanent Bureau. The Special Commission requested the Permanent Bureau to make revisions to the text, in particular Chapters 9 and 10, in the light of discussions within the Special Commission. This will include revision of the summaries of each chapter, some re-ordering of material (e.g.,
to avoid repetition), a check on correspondence between English and French texts as well as on the Spanish text, and the drawing up, on the basis of the text, of accreditation criteria. This work will be carried out in consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chairs of the Special Commission and the Working Group which assisted the Permanent Bureau in preparing the draft Guide. The revised text will be circulated to all Contracting States, Members of the Hague Conference and States and organisations represented at the Special Commission for their comments. The final version will then be prepared for publication by the Permanent Bureau.

4. The Special Commission recommended that the Permanent Bureau examine the feasibility of posting on the Hague Conference website tables indicating for each Contracting State the costs associated with intercountry adoption and the charges imposed on prospective adoptive parents (see table 1 and table 2 of Annex 9B of the draft Guide to Good Practice No 2).

REVIEW OF THE PRACTICAL OPERATION OF THE CONVENTION

Guide to Good Practice No 1

5. The Special Commission underlined the value of the Guide to Good Practice No 1 entitled *The Implementation and Operation of the 1993 Hague Intercountry Adoption Convention* to existing and future Contracting States.

Mutual support and assistance in applying the safeguards of the Convention

6. Receiving States are encouraged to consider ways in which to assist and support States of origin in the performance of their functions and in the application of safeguards under the Convention, including by means of capacity-building and other programmes.

7. States of origin and receiving States are encouraged to provide each other with a full description of the manner in which they apply the safeguards under Articles 4 and 5 respectively. This information should also be included in their Country Profile posted on the website of the Hague Conference. States are encouraged to update this information regularly.

Selection, counselling and preparation of the prospective adoptive parents

8. States of origin may assist receiving States in establishing their criteria for the selection of prospective adoptive parents by providing information about the characteristics and needs of adoptable children. This information will also contribute to the development of preparation materials on intercountry adoption directed to prospective adoptive parents, and to the management of their expectations.

9. The Special Commission emphasised the need for country specific preparation and for prospective adoptive parents to have some knowledge of the culture of the child and his or her language in order to communicate with the child from the matching stage.

10. The Special Commission recommended that the Permanent Bureau, in consultation with Contracting States and non-governmental organisations, collect information on the selection, counselling and preparation of prospective adoptive parents, with a view to the possible development of the Guide to Good Practice No 3. This may include a discussion on good practices in dealing with failed adoptions and the period of validity of the “home study” report.
**Scope of the Convention**

11. The Special Commission emphasised that all intercountry adoptions falling within the scope of the Convention under Article 2(1), including in-family adoptions and adoptions by nationals of the State of origin, are subject to Convention procedures and safeguards.

12. Where an adoption falling within the scope of the Convention has been processed in a Contracting State as a non-Convention adoption, the Central Authorities concerned are strongly recommended to co-operate in efforts to address the situation in a manner which respects Convention procedures and safeguards, and to prevent these situations from recurring.

**Co-operation issues**

**Intercountry adoption in the context of globalisation and international mobility**

13. Where the habitual residence of the prospective adoptive parents is uncertain the concerned Central Authority should provide advice on their particular situation before they proceed with an adoption application.

**Co-operation (development aid) projects**

14. The Special Commission emphasised the need to establish, in all cases, a clear separation of intercountry adoption from contributions, donations and development aid.

**Issues concerning Convention procedures**

**Certificate of conformity under Article 23**

15. The Special Commission noted with concern the high number of States that have not designated a competent authority for the purpose of issuing a certificate of conformity under Article 23.

16. The Article 23 certificate is essential to allow the automatic recognition of adoptions made under the Convention and should be issued promptly where the requirements of the Convention have been met.

17. Where a certificate under Article 23 is incomplete or defective, States should co-operate to regularise the situation.

**Recognition and effects of adoption (Arts 23 and 24)**

18. The Special Commission underlined that no additional procedure may be imposed as a condition of recognition.

19. The Special Commission reaffirmed Recommendation No 17 of the Meeting of the Special Commission of September 2005:

"17. The Special Commission recommends that the child be accorded automatically the nationality of one of the adoptive parents or of the receiving State, without the need to rely on any action of the adoptive parents. Where this is not possible, the receiving States are encouraged to provide the necessary assistance to ensure the child obtains such citizenship. The policy of Contracting States regarding the nationality of the child should be guided by the overriding importance of avoiding a situation in which an adopted child is stateless."
20. Central Authorities should co-operate in the completion of any formalities necessary for the acquisition by the child of the nationality, where appropriate, either of the receiving State or of an adoptive parent.

21. The question of whether nationality will be granted to the child may, where appropriate, be a relevant factor when a State of origin is considering co-operation with a particular receiving State.

**Private and independent adoptions**

22. Adoptions which are arranged directly between birth parents and adoptive parents (i.e., private adoptions) are not compatible with the Convention.

23. Independent adoptions, in which the adoptive parent is approved to adopt in the receiving State and, in the State of origin, locates a child without the intervention of a Central Authority or accredited body in the State of origin, are also not compatible with the Convention.

24. It was strongly recommended that training be provided for judges and other authorities or persons exercising functions under the Convention. This training should address in particular the problems surrounding private and independent adoptions, as well as other possible ways in which the procedures and safeguards of the Convention are circumvented.

**International surrogacy and intercountry adoption**

25. The Special Commission noted that the number of international surrogacy arrangements is increasing rapidly. It expressed concern over the uncertainty surrounding the status of many of the children who are born as a result of these arrangements. It viewed as inappropriate the use of the Convention in cases of international surrogacy.

26. The Special Commission recommended that the Hague Conference should carry out further study of the legal, especially private international law, issues surrounding international surrogacy.

**Learning from experience**

**Post-adoption issues**

27. The Special Commission reaffirmed Recommendation No 18 of the Meeting of the Special Commission of September 2005:

"18. The Special Commission recommends to receiving States to encourage compliance with post-adoption reporting requirements of States of origin; a model form might be developed for this purpose. Similarly, the Special Commission recommends to States of origin to limit the period in which they require post-adoption reporting in recognition of the mutual confidence which provides the framework for co-operation under the Convention."

28. It was recommended that receiving States and States of origin preserve adoption records in perpetuity. The record must contain the information referred to in Article 16 and, to the extent possible, any other information or personal items relating to the child or his or her birth family.

29. It was recommended that receiving States and States of origin provide different forms of assistance and counselling for different stages of the child’s development to adulthood, including preparation for origin searches and reunions of the adoptees with members of their biological families.
Statistics

30. The Special Commission underlined the importance for States Parties of submitting general statistics on an annual basis to the Permanent Bureau using the forms contained in Preliminary Document No 5 of April 2010.

31. It was recommended that consultations should continue on options for the future collection of statistical data by the Permanent Bureau.

Technical assistance programme and other training programmes

32. The Special Commission recognised the great value of the Intercountry Adoption Technical Assistance Programme (ICATAP), which has already provided technical assistance and training for several States.

33. The Special Commission acknowledged the limited resources available to the Permanent Bureau to maintain ICATAP and urged all States to consider making financial and / or in-kind contributions to secure the continuity of the programme.

34. Contributions of some States and international organisations, such as UNICEF, have been crucial to the success of ICATAP. In this regard, the horizontal co-operation between States of origin is particularly beneficial.

35. The work undertaken to support the effective implementation of the Convention under the aegis of the International Centre for Judicial Studies and Technical Assistance should be regarded as essential for the proper functioning of the Convention.

Dealing with non-Convention countries

36. The Special Commission reiterated the recommendation that Contracting States, in their relations with non-Contracting States, should apply as far as practicable the standards and safeguards of the Convention.

37. For this purpose attention is drawn in particular to:

   a) Articles 4, 5 and 17;
   b) the requirements of Chapter III of the Convention;
   c) the guarantees concerning recognition;
   d) the child’s right to enter and reside in the receiving State; and,
   e) the requirements concerning the suppression of improper financial or other gain.

Response to disaster situations

38. The Special Commission recognised that, in a disaster situation, efforts to reunite a displaced child with his or her parents or family members must take priority. Premature and unregulated attempts to organise the adoption of such a child abroad should be avoided and resisted.

39. No new adoption applications should be considered in the period after the disaster or before the authorities in that State are in a position to apply the necessary safeguards.

40. The Special Commission also recognised the need for a common approach on the part of Central Authorities in dealing with such situations and for Central Authorities to discuss and review actions taken in response to, and lessons learned from, disaster situations.
The 1996 Convention on Protection of Children

41. The Special Commission reiterated the value of the 1996 Convention on the International Protection of Children in the context of cross-border placement of children as well as other international child protection situations.

The 1961 Apostille Convention

42. The Special Commission stressed the usefulness of linking the application of the Hague Adoption Convention of 1993 to the Hague Convention of 5 October 1961 Abolishing the Requirement of Legalisation for Foreign Public Documents (the Apostille Convention). In the light of the high number of public documents included in a typical adoption procedure, the Special Commission recommended that States Parties to the Adoption Convention but not to the Apostille Convention consider the possibility of becoming a party to the latter.
CARA ORGANISATION CHART

Source: CARA website http://www.adoptionindia.nic.in
Annexure:-

CARA

DOCUMENTS REQUIRED FOR INTER-COUNTRY ADOPTION SCRUTINY

From Recognized Indian Placement Agencies (RIPA)

1. License issued by the central government allowing inter country adoption.
2. Relinquishment deed (for verification only)/ Abandonment certificate of the child from Child Welfare Committee/ District Collector/ Any other authority empowered by the State Government.
4. Physical Examination Report of the child from an authorized pediatrician.
5. No Objection Certificate (NOC) from CARA.
6. Clearance Certificate from ACA.
7. Photograph of Child.

From Enlisted Foreign Adoption Agencies (EFAA)

2. Recent Photograph of the adoptive parents/ family.
3. Certificate of medical fitness of adoptive parents duly certified by a medical doctor.
5. Birth Certificate/ Passport, as proof of age.
6. Documentary proof of citizenship/ nationality of Prospective Adoptive Parents.
8. Three reference letters from acquaintance/ relatives regarding suitability of PAPs to adopt.
9. Power of Attorney from Prospective Adoptive Parents in favour of an official of RIPA.
10. Undertaking Certificates from Enlisted Foreign Adoption Agency (EFAA)

- to the effect that child would be legally adopted by the foreign adoptive parents according to the law of the country within a period not exceeding two years from the time of arrival of the child and as soon as the adoption is effected, the enlisted agency will send certified copies of adoption order each to all concerned.
- that the follow up report relating to the child along with his/her recent photograph would be sent six monthly basis for a period of 2 years or until such time as the legal adoption is completed and citizenship is acquired in the receiving country.
- To the effect that in case of disruption of the family of the foreigner before legal adoption has been effected, it will take care of the child and find a suitable alternative placement for the child with the approval of Central Adoption
Resource Authority. After seeking the necessary approval from CARA, it will report alternative placement to the concerned Indian court handling guardianship proceedings with the help of concerned RIPA and such information shall be passed on to all concerned.

11. License/ Approval of the EFAA by CARA.
12. Eligibility certificate from an Enlisted Foreign Adoption Agency (EFAA) to the effect that adoptive parents are permitted to adopt a child according to the law of their country and the child will receive an entry permit/ visa.
13. Attestation and declaration of personal conditions of Prospective Adoptive Parents.
15. Letter of consent and declaration of willingness from Prospective Adoptive Parents.
   - To act as the parents and look after the child as their own.
   - To adopt the child according to the laws of the country within a period of two years from the time of arrival of the child.
   - To send to Family court and Placement Agency in India report relating to progress of the child.
   - Declaration to encourage the child to maintain interest, knowledge and pride of Indian heritage.

**Additional Documents if applicable:**

1. In case where couple has biological and/or adopted child/children and if they are old enough they will be required to express their views.
2. A copy of the adoption decree, if the couple has adopted child/children earlier.
3. Divorce decree in case the spouse/spouses were earlier divorcees.
4. The consent of the adoptive child above six years.
5. In case of transfer of children from one agency to another agency, transfer order is required from an authorized State Government Official such as District Social Welfare Officer/District Magistrate/Adoption Cell of State Government/Child Welfare Committee.

A.S. Shenoy  
Chairman  
Adoption Scrutiny Committee
LIST OF RIPA

Registered Indian Placement Agencies:

Delhi:

Delhi Council for Child Welfare, “Paina”
Civil Lines, Qudsia Garden, Yamuna Marg, Delhi-110 054.
Ph.: 011-23968907 Fax: 011-23944655
E-mail: Palna@bol.net.in

Church of North India Shishu Sangopan Griha,
St. Michael’s Church Compound, Hospital Road,
Jangpura, New Delhi -110 014.
Ph.: 011-24376806 Fax: 011-24327122
E-mail: admin@cnissg.org

Welfare Home for Children,
1-B, Institution Area, Sarita Vihar, New Delhi-110044
Ph.: 011-26954150 Fax: 26974702
E-mail: Welfare@nda.vsnl.net.in

SOS Children’s Villages of India
Ph.: 011-24357299 Fax: 011-24357298
E-mail: soscvi@vsnl.com

Holy Cross Social Service Centre
Dheer Pur, DDA Project, Near Nirankari Sarovar & ITI,
Delhi – 110 009.
Ph: 011-27418765 Fax: 011 27141736
E-mail: hcssc@vsnl.com

Missionaries of Charity Nirmala Shishu Bhawan
12, Commissioner lance, Delhi-110 054.
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Children of the World A -5/5, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi -110 057
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E-mail: cwd@vsnl.net

Asharan Orphanage (Hope Foundation)
A-21, Vivek Vihar, Phase-II Delhi-110095
Ph.: 011-22160230, 22166941
E-mail: wendy-andrews@hopeww.org
GOA:
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Altinho Panjim-403 001 Goa
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Ph.: 0281-2222071, 2231340 Fax: 0281-2231340

Mahipatram Rupram Ashram
Out Side Raipur Gate, Ahmedabad – 380022, Gujarat.
Ph.: 079-25454007 Fax: 079-25453761

M/s Matru Chhaya Orphanage,
Sisters of Charity of Saint Anne, Nadiad Indira Nagar,
Vaishali Road, Nadiad-387002, Dist. Karia, Gujarat
Ph.: 0268-2558193 Fax: 0268-2559070
E-mail: pillarsr-addl@sancharnet.in

Sh. Kasturba Stri Vikas Gruha
Kasturba Gandhi Marg, Jamnagar – 361 008, Gujarat.
Ph.: 0288-2751728 Fax: 0288-2751730
E-mail: kasturbastrivikasgruh@yahoo.co.in

HARYANA:
Haryana State Council for Child Welfare,
Bal Vikas Bhawan, 650, Sector 16-D, Chandigarh-160 015.
Ph.: 0172-2770393 Fax: 0172-2543453

KARNATAKA:
Ashraya Children’s Home
Jawan’s Quarters, BDA park, Double Road,
Indiranagar Stage-1, Bangalore – 560 003, Karnataka.
Ph.: 080-25251929 Fax: 080-25286195
E-mail: ashchild@bgl.vsnl.net.in / airtelbroadband.in

Society of Sisters of Charity, Holy Angles Convent, C/o Stella Maris Convent, Malleswaram, Bangalore- 560 003, Karnataka.
Ph.: 080-27757235

St. Michael’s Home/Convent Good Shepherd Sisters
80, Feet Road, Indira Nagar Post, Bangalore-560038, Karnataka.
Ph.: 080-25282811 Fax: 080-25273944
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Vathsalya Charitable Trust  
No.246, 8th ‘E’ Main, H.R.B.R., B.D.A. Layout,  
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M/s Canara Bank Relief and Welfare Society Sevakshetra  
Hospital Road, 27th Cross, Banashankari 2nd Stage,  
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Ph.: 080-26713421, 26718067  
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KERALA:

St. Joseph’s Children’s Home  
Kummannoor, P.O. 686572, Kidangoor Via, Kottayam, Kerala  
Ph.: 04822-2255087 Fax: 04822-2257672  
E-mail: childrenshome@sancharnet.in

Dinasevanasabha Snehaniketan Foundling Home,  
Kannur, Dstt. Kerala Pattuvam-670143, Kerala,  
Ph.:04602-220985 Fax:0498-220046

Sisu Bhavan Sisters of Nazareth  
Pauduapuram P.O., -683582,  
Via Karukutty Ernakulam Dt., Kerala  
Ph.: 0484-2451140 E-mail: mailto:Sisubhavan@sofy.com

Sishu Kshema Bhavan, St. Judes Charitable Trust Parathod,  
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E-mail: cwb@bom5.vsnl.net.in
Holy Cross Home For Babies  
Amaravati (Camp) – 444602. Maharashtra.  
Ph.: 0721-2663861 Fax: 0721-2663861

SOFOSH Society of Friends of The Sassoon Hospitals  
Postal Address: P.O Box 94, G.P.O., pune-411001, Maharashtra.  
Ph.: 020-26124660 Fax: 020-26128219  
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Veera Desai Road,  
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M/S Indian Association For Promotion of Adoption & Child Welfare, Flat No. 7, Kanara Brotherhood Co-operative Housing Society, Mogul Lane, Matunga (W) Mumbai-400016 Maharashtra.
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Concord House of Jesus
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Chennai-600102, Tamil Nadu.
Ph.: 044-26202498
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SOC SEAD
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UTTAR PRADESH:

Uttar Pradesh Council for Child Welfare
2, Rana Pratap Marg, Moti Mahal,
Lucknow-226001, Uttar Pradesh.
Ph.: 0522-2627438

UTTARAKHAND:

M/s Rajkiya Shishu Bal Greh
Karnataka Khola, Post Almora,
Dist. Almora, Uttaranchal
Ph.: 05962-265564 Fax: 05962-233652

WEST BENGAL:

Missionaries of Charity (Nirmal Shishu Bhavan)
78, A.J.C. Bose Road,
Indian Society for Sponsorship and Adoption
1, Place Court, 1, KYD Street,
Kolkata – 700 016, West Bengal.
Ph.: 033-22299136 Fax : 033-24795431
E-mail : infladop@cal3.vsnl.net.in

Society for Indian Children’s Welfare
20 Col. Biswas Road, Beckbagan,
Kolkata – 700 019, West Bengal.
Ph.: 033-22807176, 22903121, 30587177/7180
E-mail : sicwind@cal.vsnl.net.in

Indian Society for Rehabilitation of Children
244A, Purna Das Road, Kolkata – 700029
Ph.: 033-24649640
E-mail : isrcindia@yahoo.com / isrcindia@sify.com
## ADOPION STATISTICS

Source:

CENTRAL ADOPTION RESOURCE AUTHORITY, MINISTRY OF WOMEN & CHILD DEVELOPMENT, INDIA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>In-country</th>
<th>Inter-country adoption by NRIs / PIOs / Foreigners NOCs issued by CARA</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>2409</td>
<td>853</td>
<td>3262</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>2494</td>
<td>770</td>
<td>3264</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>2169</td>
<td>821</td>
<td>2990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>1852</td>
<td>666</td>
<td>2518</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>5693</td>
<td>593</td>
<td>6286</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
THE TIMES OF INDIA

Stricter norms for domestic, international adoption

Himanshi Dhawan, TNN, Dec 30, 2010, 01.14am IST

NEW DELHI: The Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA) has moved to tighten adoption norms, proposing stringent monitoring of international and domestic adoptions, including a thorough scrutiny of the sourcing of each child placed for adoption.

The guidelines being framed in the wake of growing incidence of child trafficking aim to streamline the process, facilitate speedy adoption and ensure that the source of each child is verified prior to placement for adoption. CARA is the nodal agency for adoptions in the country.
Some Statistics & Queries on Adoption in India

Number of children placed in adoption through Recognized Indian Placement Agencies and Shishu Grehs during the last 6 years.

Year (Jan. to Dec.) - No. of children placed

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>No. of children placed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2001-</td>
<td>3831</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002-</td>
<td>3770</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003-</td>
<td>3609</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004-</td>
<td>3315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005-</td>
<td>3151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006-</td>
<td>3261</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007-</td>
<td>3175</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(However, this doesn't include in-country adoption figure of other licensed adoption agencies recognized by State Governments.)
# International Adoption

## Country Overview

Adoptive Families is pleased to present this overview of international adoption requirements by country of origin. For more adoption information about each country, please click on the country's name. You'll find photos, articles, and recommended resources for each country.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Select a country for more information</th>
<th># of adoptions in 2007</th>
<th>Profile of Children Adopted in 2006</th>
<th>Parent's Ages</th>
<th>Family Status</th>
<th>Travel</th>
<th>Timeline</th>
<th>Approximate Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>China</strong></td>
<td>5,453</td>
<td>91% female. 44% under 1 year of age; 52% 1 - 4 years of age. Special needs children are available.</td>
<td>Both spouses must be at least 30 yrs. old.</td>
<td>Married couples only (married 2 years if first marriage; 5 years if prior divorce). Families may have no more than 4 children at home.</td>
<td>At least one parent must travel. Average stay is 10-14 days.</td>
<td>From completion of dossier to referral, approx. 30-36 mos.</td>
<td>$20,000-25,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Guatemala</strong></td>
<td>4,728</td>
<td>51% female. 80% under 1 year of age; 16% 1 - 4 years of age.</td>
<td>No age restrictions.</td>
<td>Married couples or singles.</td>
<td>One brief (2-3 days) trip required. Escort possible.</td>
<td>From completion of dossier to referral of a boy, 0-4 months; girl, 6-10 months. Currently irregular.</td>
<td>$25,000-30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Russia</strong></td>
<td>2,310</td>
<td>49% Female. 7% under 1 year of age; 65% 1 - 4 years of age.</td>
<td>Single parents must be at least 16 years older than child; no other age requirements.</td>
<td>Married couples or single men or women.</td>
<td>Two trips required. Both parents must travel before the referral is accepted; one parent can make the second trip.</td>
<td>From completed dossier to referral, 6-12 mos., though currently irregular</td>
<td>$35,000+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country</td>
<td># Adopted</td>
<td>Gender</td>
<td>Age Breakdown</td>
<td>Selection Requirements</td>
<td>Length of Process</td>
<td>Cost Range</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>---------------</td>
<td>------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Ethiopia     | 1,255     | Female: 50%  
29% under 1 year of age; 34% 1 - 4 years of age.  
Older children and sibling groups are available. | Parent must be no more than 40 years older than adoptee  
Married couples & singles may adopt | Six to 24 months from completion of dossier to referral. May be faster for children older than 1. | $12,000-21,000 |
| South Korea  | 939       | Female: 37%  
88% under 1 year of age; 11% 1 - 4 years of age. | Both spouses must be between the ages of 25-44. | Parents may choose to travel to Korea or have the child escorted to the U.S. | From completed dossier to referral of a boy, 5-6mos.; girl, 8-12mos. | $20,000-25,000 |
| Vietnam Adoptions currently on hold. | 828       | Female: 64%  
57% under 1 year of age; 37% 1 - 4 years of age. | No age restrictions. | Married couples or singles. | From completion of dossier to referral 9-14 months. Currently irregular. | $20,000-27,000 |
| Ukraine      | 606       | Female: 50%  
44% 1 - 4 years of age. Special-needs children, children older than age 10, or siblings of adoptees. | Both parents must be 21 yrs. of age and no more than 45 years older than adoptee | Married couples only. | Two trips required. Both parents must travel on first trip (2-3 weeks); one parent may make second trip (1 week). | $30,000+ |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Marital Status</th>
<th>Age Requirements</th>
<th>Fees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kazakhstan</td>
<td>540</td>
<td>Married couples and singles.</td>
<td>At least 16 years of age; 37% 1 - 4 years of age; 30-45 days in country required; may be broken into 2 trips.</td>
<td>$30,000+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>416</td>
<td>Married couples or singles.</td>
<td>At least one parent must travel (8-12 days).</td>
<td>$20,000+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberia</td>
<td>314</td>
<td>Married couples and singles.</td>
<td>May travel (14 days) or choose to have the child escorted.</td>
<td>$10,000-12,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Statistics

All statistics correspond with the U.S. Government fiscal year, which begins on October 1 and ends on September 30. For example, adoption statistics for FY2010 show the period from October 1, 2009 to September 30, 2010.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2010 from INDIA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>India</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is India Hague Adoption Convention Partner?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>YES</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2010 Total Adoptions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>241</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GENDER:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MALE: 83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FEMALE: 158</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AGE GROUP:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNDER 1 YEAR: 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-2 YEARS: 130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-4 YEARS: 46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-12 YEARS: 42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13-17 YEARS: 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 AND OLDER: 0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SOURCE: The Office of Children's Issues (CI), part of the Bureau of Consular Affairs at the U.S. Department of State, plays an active role in the inter country adoption process. In our work, we are dedicated to assisting parents as they seek to provide a home to orphans abroad.
We carry out the Department of State’s responsibilities as the U.S. Central Authority for the Hague Adoption Convention. The Office of Children’s Issues is responsible for the day-to-day oversight and implementation of the Hague Adoption Convention in the United States.

Note: Only U.S official website on Adoption have full data of all the countries
### India

#### Yearly Adoptions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Adoptions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>11058</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>12744</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>17456</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>19608</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>20680</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>22734</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>22991</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>21654</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>21467</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>19647</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>18857</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>15719</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Top 5 Adopting Countries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Country</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Russia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>South Korea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ukraine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Russia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>South Korea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Guatemala</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Guatemala</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Russia</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>South Korea</td>
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<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>China</td>
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<td>Guatemala</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Russia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>South Korea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Guatemala</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Russia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>South Korea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
GUATEMALA ADOPTION PROCESS

(This is a general guideline of the order of the process. You must refer to your dossier guide for details.)

1. **Send Application to FTIA**

2. **Begin Home Study**
   - Being working on the Parent Education Workbook-Completion Record (Download from My FTIA).
   - If you need help choosing a Home Study agency, please contact your coordinator.

3. **Submit 1-600A to CIS**
   - Instructions for I-600A are in our International Adoption Guide or at www.ftia.org.

   - Home Study Completed (Part of Dossier)
     - Send Dossier Packet to FTIA – includes:
       - Dossier
       - I-171H/I-797C
       - Parent Education Workbook Completion Record for each parent (if not already submitted)

   - Family waits for Referral. (1-4 months)

   - Referral received and accepted. FTIA sends Dossier, G-28, I-600, I-171H/I-797C, Power of Attorney, and CIS letter to Guatemala.

   - Dossier & Power of Attorney translated & to Foreign Affairs Ministry for certification. POA to Files of Protocol, legalizing attorney as representative. (4-8 weeks)

   - File (parents’ dossier & documents prepared in Guatemala) submitted to Family Court:
     - Birth Mother’s interview & approval. (6-12 weeks)

   - DNA Results sent from laboratory to US Embassy for approval. (2-3 weeks)

   - Family Court Approval & US Embassy Pre-Approval obtained.

   - File (including US Embassy pre-approval) submitted to PGN for legal review of documents. (4-12 weeks)

   - File approved by PGN, Final Adoption Decree is signed, then registered in child’s place of birth. New birth certificate and passport issued. (3-5 weeks)

   - Paperwork is submitted to US Embassy for final review. Visa interview packet (pink sheet) is generally issued 2-5 business days later. Attorney notifies FTIA of visa interview date. **Family makes travel arrangements!**

On your appointment date you will go to the US Embassy to file the paperwork for your child’s visa. The next business day our FTIA in-country coordinator will pick up the visa & deliver it to you.

Once you have the visa you are free to return to the US.

Remember, this is a general guide & does not contain all details. For specific information regarding each stage, please refer to your Dossier Guide.

- **Dossier Completed**
- **Parent Education Workbook Completed**
- **Receive I-171H/I-797C Advance Approval from CIS.**
Foreign nationals waiting to take Indian babies home will have to wait a little longer. The Bombay high court, with which their petitions are pending, wants to first decide on its own power to grant the adoptions.

Justice DG Karnik, who is currently hearing foreign adoption petitions (FAP), has cited the Juvenile Justice (JJ) Act, 2000, to question the power of the high court to hear and decide adoption petitions.

Under section 41 of the act, the power is vested with the district court, city civil court or the family court. Justice Karnik has raised the question over why the city civil court or the family court in Mumbai cannot decide the cases.

However, since Mumbai does not have a district court, the authority is vested with the high court.

The court was hearing a FAP filed by Danish nationals Chris and Lindda Andersen who wished to adopt a one-year-old male child from the Bal Vikas Shishu Welfare Trust in Malad.

According to sources, there are at least 20 other FAPs awaiting a decision before justice Karnik. However, they cannot be decided until the court settles the issue of jurisdiction.

Out of the 750 children adopted from India annually, about 250 are adopted by non-resident Indians and about 500 by foreign nationals. Of these, at least 200 are adopted from Maharashtra, a large number of them from Mumbai.

Representing the Andersens, senior counsel Milind Sathe told the court earlier this week that another single judge of the high court, justice Abhay Oka, in December 2009 has already held that the power to decide adoption petitions rests exclusively with the high court in Mumbai.

Sathe argued that under clause 17 of the letters patent - an enactment that granted jurisdiction to the chartered high courts - the Bombay high court would have jurisdiction over infants.

‘Infant’ refers to minors, Sathe said. Citing the latin phrase of paren patriea, Sathe said the state was the parent of every citizen. In case of an adoption, the child is released from the custody of the state and handed over to its adoptive parents.

The authority to grant adoptions is vested with the Bombay high court under the English law since 1862, Sathe said.

After hearing the case, justice Karnik has reserved his judgment. If he differs in his views from the findings of justice Oka, the case may be referred to a larger bench of the court.

However, adoption cases before the court may have to stay on hold until then.
Maharashtra officials linked to adoption scam: CBI

DNA / Aditya Kaul / Tuesday, May 18, 2010 0:31 IST

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) suspects the connivance of government officials with a Pune-based foundation in a racket involving the kidnapping of children of poor families and putting them up for adoption. The agency has booked Joginder Singh Bhasin, managing trustee of the Balwant Kartaar Foundation, also known as Preet Mandir, in this connection.

The CBI, in its FIR against the managing trustee and others, has alleged that between 2002 and 2010, Bhasin and associates kidnapped children belonging to poor families in Maharashtra under a criminal conspiracy. Preet Mandir has rebutted the allegation and said all its adoption cases followed a judicial process. The CBI’s statement said: “He (Bhasin) used to send the children for inter-country adoption and extorted huge amounts of money from the adopting parents...Plus, he was also into illegal trafficking of children. For this purpose, he had opened a rehabilitation centre at Kanhe Phata,” it added.

The agency filed the FIR after being directed by the Mumbai high court to do so.

Maintaining that the racket could not have thrived for so long without the active support of officials of the state government, the CBI said: “Some officials of the Maharashtra government connived with Bhasin. He managed to traffic children to his rehabilitation centre Kanhe Phata in Pune in violation of existing norms.”

Preliminary investigations have found that Bhasin extorted money from Indian parents. “The amount prescribed in adoptions is Rs25,200 per case. In as many as 70 instances between 2005 to 2010, he charged money in excess of Rs50,000,” the statement added.

Evidence has also emerged that he had misappropriated nearly Rs26 lakh from the Balwant Kartaar foundation during 2002 to 2007 by using his personal credit card. “He also used to fraudulently procure rejection slips of Indian parents with a motive to use them to send children for foreign adoptions,” CBI release stated.

The CBI’s case is the outcome of criminal writ petitions filed by NGO’s Advait foundation and Sakhee in 2006 and 2007.

Reacting to the CBI’s charge, the agency’s spokesperson said adoptive parents were given children only after obtaining orders from the family court or the district court.

‘’Each and every child was admitted to Preet Mandir through judicial process and every child was given in adoption after completing all legal formalities as per the government’s Cara (Central Adoption Resource
Authority) guidelines, the Juvenile Justice Act, 2000, as well as Supreme Court directions,” he said. Preet Mandir has given more than 2,000 children in adoption in the past 33 years, he added.

With regards to the charge that the Kanhe Phata rehabilitation centre was opened for illegal activities, Preet Mandir said the centre was opened after obtaining the necessary licences from the state government and that it was closed after a damaging TV report in 2006.

Preet Mandir stressed that it was the CBI which twice in the past had given a clean chit to it in the same case.

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