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| <b>Title</b>              | Report on Post-Convention Assistance<br>(1 January – 31 December 2024)                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Document</b>           | Prel. Doc. No 17 of February 2025                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Author</b>             | PB                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Agenda Item</b>        | Item III. 7.                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Mandate(s)</b>         | C&R No 18 of CGAP 2015 (Strategic Framework for Post-Convention Assistance)                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Objective</b>          | To report on post-Convention assistance provided by the PB in 2024                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Action to be Taken</b> | For Decision <input type="checkbox"/><br>For Approval <input type="checkbox"/><br>For Discussion <input type="checkbox"/><br>For Action / Completion <input type="checkbox"/><br>For Information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>Annexes</b>            | Annex I: Post-Convention Assistance                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Related Documents</b>  | N/A                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

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# **Report on Post-Convention Assistance (1 January – 31 December 2024)**

## **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 ([C&R No 18](#)), the Permanent Bureau (PB) provides a range of post-Convention assistance activities for the benefit of HCCH Members (and, in exceptional circumstances, non-Member Contracting Parties).
- 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 requesting 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 2024.

## **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.

## **ANNEX**

## Annex I

### I. Post-Convention Assistance

| Date(s)           | Instrument(s)                                                           | Beneficiary | Activity                                                                                                          | Objectives                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Outcomes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Selection Criteria*                          | Prioritisation Criteria**         | Funding Source(s)                                |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| April – June 2024 | 1993 Adoption Convention                                                | Paraguay    | Technical assistance to Paraguay on the 1993 Adoption Convention                                                  | (1) To ensure that Paraguay's adoption practices are in line with the 1993 Adoption Convention through the development of a Manual on staff functions and a Guide on internal procedures on adoption.<br>(2) To strengthen the professional practices of Paraguay's Central Authority and, with them, its ability to ensure the effective implementation and operation of the 1993 Adoption Convention. | (1) Development of a Manual on staff functions and a Guide on internal procedures on adoption aimed at ensuring that Paraguay's adoption practices are in line with the 1993 Adoption Convention.<br>(2) Staff members of Paraguay's Central Authority received guidance on the correct adoption process under the 1993 Adoption Convention, including guidance on specific situations that may arise. | i, ii, iii, iv, v, vi, vii, viii(a), viii(b) | i, ii, iv, vi, vii, viii, iv      | Monetary voluntary contribution from Norway      |
| September 2024    | 2007 Child Support Convention and 2007 Maintenance Obligations Protocol | Georgia     | Three-day training for Georgia on the 2007 Child Support Convention and the 2007 Maintenance Obligations Protocol | To ensure that the staff of Georgia's Central Authority and other relevant actors are equipped with the knowledge required to ensure the proper and effective implementation and                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Several Central Authority officials and enforcement officers, as well as one judge, were trained on the implementation and operation of the 2007 Child Support                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | i, ii, iii, iv, v, vi, vii, viii(a)          | i, ii, iii, iv, vi, vii, viii, iv | Non-monetary voluntary contribution from Georgia |

|  |  |  |  |                                                                                                                                     |                              |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|--|--|--|
|  |  |  |  | operation of the 2007 Child Support Convention and its Protocol in light of their entry into force for Georgia on 1 September 2024. | Convention and its Protocol. |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|--|--|--|

\* Requests for post-Convention assistance must meet the following selection criteria:<sup>1</sup>

- i) an official request has been received from the State concerned;
- ii) the requesting State has expressed a commitment to fully co-operate with the Permanent Bureau (PB);
- iii) the requested assistance is likely to achieve the intended objectives in light of relevant social, political and economic factors;
- iv) the requested assistance is reasonably expected to produce measurable benefits;
- v) the requested assistance falls within the specific area of expertise of the PB;
- vi) the PB is the only or best placed entity to provide or coordinate the requested assistance;
- vii) where relevant, conditions in the requesting State are conducive to the effective provision of post-Convention assistance; and
- viii) where relevant, the requesting State expresses a commitment to:
  - a. actively cooperate with the PB or other relevant experts in the establishment and the realisation of an action plan for the provision of post-Convention assistance; and
  - b. move forward in achieving set milestones within a reasonable timeframe established in consultation with the PB.

\*\* The prioritisation of selected requests is based on several factors, listed below, that determine the order in which post-Convention assistance will be provided to eligible States:<sup>2</sup>

- i) the requesting State is a Member of the HCCH or is actively committed to pursuing Membership;
- ii) the requesting State is in the process of preparing to join or is already a Contracting Party to the relevant HCCH Convention;
- iii) the urgency of the request;
- iv) the offer of financial and / or in-kind support from Members or Contracting Parties;
- v) the requesting State is already receiving or is likely to receive additional relevant support or assistance from other governmental, non-governmental, or intergovernmental entities;
- vi) the request reflects the diversity of regions in which the HCCH operates;

<sup>1</sup> Strategic Framework for Post-Convention Assistance of the HCCH, Section IV.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, Section V.

- vii) the lasting and substantive impact that providing post-Convention assistance is expected to have on the recipient State and the region, including the possibility that such assistance may enable the recipients to later provide training to other States in need of assistance;
- viii) the post-Convention assistance will be provided in a cost-effective and efficient way; and
- ix) the request pertains to a widely ratified or recently adopted HCCH Convention for which broad participation is reasonably expected.