## Preliminary analysis of proposed intercountry adoption by relatives from a contracting state to the Hague Convention: *[Country]*

**Child to Adopt**

Name:

Date of Birth and Age:

Gender:

Citizenship:

Place of Residence (country, region, city/town/village):

If the child is in New Zealand, include when the child arrived in New Zealand, and the child’s New Zealand visa status – visa type, any special visa conditions, duration, expiry date, potential extension[[1]](#footnote-2).

**Biological Mother**

Name:

Date of Birth/Age:

Ethnic Group and Religion:

Occupation:

Place of Residence (country, region, city/town/village):

Citizenship:

**Biological Father**

Name:

Date of Birth/Age:

Ethnic Group and Religion:

Occupation:

Place of Residence (country, region, city/town/village):

Citizenship:

**Current Caregiver/s**

Name:

Date of Birth/Age:

Gender:

Place of Residence (country, region, city/town/village):

Citizenship:

Relationship to the Child:

**Prospective Adoptive Applicant/s[[2]](#footnote-3)**

Name:

Date of Birth/Age:

Gender:

Ethnic Group and Religion:

Place of Residence (country, region, city/town):

Citizenship:

Immigration Status in New Zealand:

Relationship to the Child:

Name:

Date of Birth/Age:

Gender:

Ethnic Group and Religion:

Place of Residence (country, region, city/town):

Citizenship:

Immigration Status in New Zealand:

Relationship to the Child:

**Information Provided by Prospective Adoptive Applicant/s**

*The information below should focus on the facts that are relevant to your recommendation.*

**Reasons for the Proposed Adoption and Motivation of the Prospective Adoptive Applicants**

* How did the adoption proposal come about?
* Why would the child need new parents in another country?

What are specific motivational factors in this adoption proposal, such as care and protection concerns, infertility, welfare of the child, cultural or religious factors, status at birth, rights of succession and inheritance, or other?

**Opinion of the Child**

* Has the child been informed about the proposed intercountry adoption, having regard to their age and degree of maturity?
* What is their understanding of the proposed intercountry adoption?
* Do they want to be adopted by the prospective adoptive parents? Why?
* How do they feel about the separation from their parents, siblings, and current caregivers?
* What do they know about life in New Zealand?

**Development and Specific Needs of the Child**

* Does the child have any special needs to be considered, such as health, education, emotional issues, or behavioural challenges?
* Does the child speak English? What level of proficiency?
* Has the child experienced abuse, neglect, or other trauma? What happened?
* Describe the child’s community, school, friends, and other significant connections in their country of origin.
* At this stage of their life, how would the child benefit from having new parents in another country?
* What losses would the child experience if adopted in another country?
* How would the separation from important attachment figures, such as birth parents, siblings, and current caregivers, impact on the child?

**Sibling Relationships of the Child**

* Does the child have siblings (both paternal and maternal)?
* What are the siblings’ names and ages? Where do they live?
* What is the relationship and attachment of the child with their siblings?
* Are the siblings aware of the proposed intercountry adoption? What are their views?

**Biological Parents**

* Describe the background and current circumstances of the biological parents.
* How do the prospective adoptive applicants describe their relationship and contact with the biological parents?
* What are the reasons for the biological parents’ agreement to intercountry adoption?
* Do the biological parents understand and agree that the proposed adoption will result in the termination of the legal relationship between the child and their biological parents and siblings?
* How are the prospective adoptive applicants planning to maintain the contact of the adopted child with their biological parents and siblings after the adoption?

**Primary Caregivers**

* Who are the current caregivers of the child? How long do they have the child in their care for? What is the child’s care history?
* Who are the primary attachment figures of the child?
* What relationships and contact does the child have with their primary caregivers and attachment figures?
* What are the identified reasons why the child cannot remain with their current caregivers?

**Extended Family**

*You may use a genogram which includes the child’s parents, siblings, and extended family relationships.*

* What is the extended family composition of the child (i.e., aunts, uncles, grandparents – both maternal and parental)? How old are they? Where do they live?
* What is the relationship and attachment of the child with the extended family members?
* How have the extended family been supporting the biological parents or current caregivers of the child? What are the reasons this support has not been effective or cannot continue?

**Prospective Adoptive Applicants**

* How do the prospective adoptive applicants describe their relationship with the child?
* What is the nature and frequency of their contact with the child?
* Have they ever acted as the primary caregivers of the child? If yes, when, how long for, and under what circumstances?

**Supports Available to the Child and their Family in their Country of Origin**

* Have the prospective adoptive applicants considered provision of supports to the biological parents or current caregivers by the extended family and/or the government or community welfare services of the country of origin?
* Have the parents and family considered other family care options in the country of origin?
* What is the evidence that these supports and/or family care options are not available, have not been effective, or cannot continue?

**Cultural Considerations**

* Detail here any specific identified cultural aspects which may need to be considered in this adoption proposal.

**Other**

* Include any other factors considered relevant or important in this adoption proposal.

**Preliminary Analysis of the Adoption Proposal**

Based on your analysis, provide your preliminary view on the best interests of the child in this proposed intercountry adoption by relatives.

* Analyse how the described circumstances evidence the need of the child for intercountry adoption. Why may the child need new parent/s in another country? How would the benefits outweigh the losses for the child in the proposed intercountry adoption by relatives in New Zealand?

*In your analysis, consider the rights of the child/ren to live with their parents and family in their country of origin and retain their identity and nationality, set out in the UNCRoC[[3]](#footnote-4).*

*[Name of Social Worker] [Name of Supervisor]*

Social Worker Supervisor

Date:

**New Zealand Central Authority Comments**

*Forward the completed template to the Intercountry Adoption Team for review and advice about a potential ability of the New Zealand Central Authority to eventually agree to the proposed adoption under Article 17 of the Hague Convention.*

Date:

1. If prospective adoptive applicants agree, social worker should get copies of the child’s documents – birth certificate, passport, and visa. This helps to have accurate information about the child’s legal parents/guardians, citizenship, and residential status in New Zealand. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. If prospective adoptive applicants agree, social worker should get copies of their IDs. This helps to confirm their correct full legal names and dates of birth for recording purposes. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. Refer to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRoC) – Articles 7, 8, 9, 18, 20, and 21

<https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/crc.aspx> [↑](#footnote-ref-4)