



Newsletter 2021, No. 48

**Newsletter of the Global Network: “Child Support Worldwide”**

**Dear network members and child support experts  
all over the world,**

### **France: new benefits of the maintenance advance funds**

As of 01.01.2021, French maintenance advance funds can be called upon to act as an intermediary in non-contentious collections, in addition to their regular function of collecting maintenance in case of non-payment. The aim of this measure is to increase the regularity of payments, to assist in communicating with the debtor and to enable the rapid granting of advance maintenance payments in the event of non-payment. You can find further information concerning this interesting new offer under [www.caf.fr](http://www.caf.fr).

### **UK: Report about Child Maintenance: Fees, enforcement and arrears**

In May 2021, the House of commons library published an interesting [report](#) on the activities of the child maintenance service. This Library briefing describes what steps the Child Maintenance Service (CMS) may take when a Non-Resident Parent fails to pay child maintenance on time or in full. It also provides information on the application, collection and enforcement fees charged by the CMS, and briefly summarizes analysis on the effectiveness of the CMS's enforcement and collection system. Please note that CMS does not process cross-border maintenance cases.

### **Meeting of the Experts' Group on International Transfer of Maintenance Funds (8 – 11 February 2020)**

From 8 to 11 February 2021, the Experts' Group on International Transfer of Maintenance Funds (EGITMF) met for the second time, via videoconference. The meeting was attended by 46 participants representing 17 Members, one Observer, and members of the Permanent Bureau.

At its 2021 meeting, the EGITMF took stock of the implementation by States of the Conclusions and Recommendations adopted during its first meeting, in September 2019 and exchanged views on their implementation. The experts also addressed any new developments in this area, such as the elimination of the use of cheques. The possibility to enforce payments in the currency of the State where the decision was made was also discussed.

The aide-mémoire summarising the outcomes of the meeting is available [here](#).

### **Preparations for the upcoming Special Commission meeting on the 2007 Child Support Convention**



Preparations continue for the First Meeting of the Special Commission to review the practical operation of the 2007 Child Support Convention and 2007 Maintenance Protocol. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the meeting, initially scheduled to take place in June 2020, was postponed until the second quarter of 2022 (dates not yet determined), in order to facilitate as much in-person attendance as possible.

Despite the Covid-19 restrictions, preparatory and consultative work in this area continued to be fruitful throughout 2020 and CGAP mandated the PB to continue this momentum. Pursuant to the decisions taken by CGAP, on the occasion of its annual meeting of March 2021, the Administrative Cooperation Working Group (ACWG) and the Experts' Group on International Transfer of Maintenance Funds (EGITMF) will be meeting again, ahead of the SC in 2022. The ACWG met on 10-11 May 2021 to develop a Draft Statistical Report under the 2007 Child Support Convention. The Draft Statistical Report, which is available in the form of **Prel. Doc. No 16 of June 2021**, is now with Members of the HCCH for consultation by 13 August 2021. The ACWG is likely to meet again before the end of 2021 to discuss how to proceed with the completion of the Statistical Report and the possible inclusion of a glossary. The next meeting to take place in relation to the Special Commission will be an information session in the fourth quarter 2021, to raise awareness for the iSupport case management system. A general information session between Contracting States and non-contracting States is foreseen in the first quarter of 2022, followed by a session of bilateral meetings during the same period. The next meeting of the EGITMF is tentatively scheduled for February 2022.

For more information, please visit the [Child Support](#) section of the HCCH website.

### **Nigeria Group on Private International Law - Inaugural Event**

On 21 June 2021, the inaugural event of the Nigeria Group on Private International Law was held in digital format. Among other very interesting presentations, Dr Onyoja Momoh (English Barrister at 5 Pump Court; Research Fellow at University of Aberdeen) presented the prospects that would accompany ratification of the Hague Conventions on Family Law. Even though the area of cross-border maintenance enforcement appeared to be less of a priority than, for example, the very practical area of international adoptions, it is very welcome that the group, consisting mainly of academics, has undertaken to work for the further development of IPR in Nigeria and to promote the ratification of the Hague legal instruments.

### **CSW-Newsletter – get involved!**

Thank you for your feedback on the latest contributions!

In order to strengthen interactions between our readers and discuss relevant developments in the national legal systems more often, you are cordially invited to share with us information regarding:

- Your national child maintenance law and public supporting instruments,
- Private international law related to child support,
- The practice of cross-border recovery of child maintenance in your states.

### **Enforcing Maintenance despite the Coronavirus Measures**

The impact of the Covid-19 restrictions on the operational status of child maintenance authorities seems to be steadily decreasing all over the world, with the exception of Latin America. Thank you for your assistance in keeping the status table up to date.



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