

**Questionnaire Concerning Practical Mechanisms for Facilitating Direct
International Judicial Communications in the Context of the Hague Convention
of 25 October 1980 on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction**

III. The Questions.

A.1.

Yes, as from July 24. 2002 Jónas Jóhannsson, judge at the District Court of Reykjanes in Hafnarfjörður, has been nominated as the Icelandic contact judge in accordance with the responsibilities set forth in question nr. A.1.

A.2.

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B.1.

(a) The Icelandic Central Authority entrusted the Icelandic Judges Assembly to appoint the contact judge. Jónas Jóhannsson was then contacted and asked if he would be willing to undertake the responsibilities that follow, but Jónas attended the Fourth Special Commission Meeting in The Hague in March 2001 on behalf of the Icelandic Judges Assembly.

B.1.

(b) The contact judge has been entrusted with the role of being advisory to other Icelandic judges on The 1980 Hague Convention on the civil aspects of international child abduction in general and about its application in practice. Furthermore he will be able to answer inquiries from foreign judges and Central Authorities about general matters concerning The Convention and its operation in accordance with Icelandic legislation etc. He will also be participating in the judicial conferences in so far as it is relevant and possible for him to do so.

B.1.

(c) As the contact judge has just recently been nominated there has been little discussion on this matter but it will be taken into closer consideration as soon as possible. However the contact judge has been working in close co-operation with the Central Authority since March 2001.

B.1.

(d) No. However, the contact judge and the Central Authority agree on that international communication should take place in English. Furthermore any judicial communication between Scandinavian judges could take place in the nordic languages.

B.1.

(e) No, but it will be done without delay.

B.1.

(f) Same as B.1. (e).

B.2.

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B.3.

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C.1.

In the terms of international judicial communications concerning the 1980 Child Abduction Convention little effort has yet been made to establish such communications in general, but the Icelandic Central Authority and the Icelandic Judges Assembly are both willing to improve such communications in future. As to the matter of examples see the following answer.

C.2.

No not exactly, but in a number of cases either the parties concerned or the Icelandic Central Authority have made formal enquiries on the international

level concerning foreign legislation and interpretation of legal conceptions. In all instances direct contact was made with the Central Authority in each country.

C.3.

The contact judge and the Icelandic Central Authority agree on procedural and legal safeguards set forth by The Special Commission after the Fourth Special meeting in March 2001, as they are listed on page 2 of the questionnaire (five commonly accepted safeguards).

D.1.

No.

D.2.

The Icelandic Judges Assembly is a member of the International Association of Judges and has participated in the European Section of the Association. Furthermore The Icelandic Judges Assembly has participated in co-operation with the Associations of Judges in the other Nordic countries.

D.3.

Yes.