



26-27 March 2018

## **Intercountry Adoption Central Authorities Meeting** ***Communiqué***

The Australian, State and Territory Central Authorities for intercountry adoption, together with the Department of Social Services (DSS) met on 26 and 27 March 2018. Representatives from the Department of Home Affairs (Home Affairs), the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) and the New Zealand Central Authority also attended parts of the meeting.

### **Updates from Australian governments**

DSS gave updates on key program and policy developments concerning intercountry adoption country program management.

Home Affairs and Central Authorities discussed guardianship and expatriate adoption issues.

State and Territory Central Authorities also provided updates on key developments in each jurisdiction.

### **Country program updates**

Attendees discussed a number of country program matters, with a focus on the Philippines and the status of the on-hold India program.

### **Roles and responsibilities**

Attendees discussed the finalisation of the revised *Commonwealth-State Agreement for the Continued Operation of Australia's Intercountry Adoption Program*.

### **Update from the International Reference Centre - International Social Service, Geneva (ISS/IRC)**

ISS/IRC provided an update by teleconference on global intercountry adoption developments and adoption related projects of the ISS/IRC.

### **Update from AIHW**

AIHW sought advice on definitions to inform data collection on intercountry adoptions and advised the meeting about upcoming data collection plans.