



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Social Services**

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

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The Department of Social Services as the Australian Central Authority (ACA) for intercountry adoption, State and Territory Central Authorities (STCA) and the New Zealand Central Authority, met virtually on 25 May 2023. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss intercountry adoption matters and actions arising from the 31 March 2022 STCA meeting.

Representatives from the Department of Home Affairs (Home Affairs) and the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) also attended.

### **Updates from Australian governments**

The Children and Families Secretaries Group formally endorsed the *2022-23 – 2023-24 National Action Plan (NAP)* of the *Commonwealth State Agreement for the Continued Operation of Australia's Intercountry Adoption Program* in early March 2023. Work to implement key actions of the NAP is currently under way.

The status of the Philippines-Australia Intercountry Adoption Program was discussed, including ongoing negotiations to lift the current program hold.

AIHW presented an overview of the Adoptions Australia 2021-22 report. Key findings and format of the new web-based report were discussed.

Home Affairs presented on Adoption visa (subclass 102 adoption visa) processes.

### **Updates from New Zealand Central Authority**

The New Zealand Central Authority provided an update on current business and key priorities for their jurisdiction.