TRANSLATION

# LAW REFORMING ADOPTION

Given the Republic Constitution,
Given (…)

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(…)
Considering that in adoption matters, national legislation is facing the need to adapt to advances in international law, specifically for human rights and child protection, in the light of the *International Convention on children's rights* dated 20 November 1989 and *the Hague Convention* dated 29 May 1993 on the protection of children and cooperation in international adoption.

Considering that certain fundamental principles now govern international adoption, namely: the principle of the best interest of the child, the subsidiarity principle that considers international adoption as a measure of last resort, the principle of non discrimination prohibiting every distinction of race, gender, religion, birth, incapacity, ethnic origin, national or social, or any other situation, giving to adoptees the same rights than to biological children.

Considering that the State has the duty to promote and facilitate the implementation of policies, programs and services and the creation of structures to improve the living conditions of families, to preserve the family unit and to protect children.

Therefore it is appropriate for the Haitian government to modernize its national system of child protection, taking into account the best interests of the child and the right to a permanent and supportive family environment to blossom; that for this purpose it is necessary to amend the provisions of the Decree of 4 April 1974 on adoption

The Executive branch has presented and the Parliament has voted upon the following law :

## Chapter 1
## Subject and definitions

Article 1
The present law is intended to govern domestic and international adoption.

Article 2
Under the present law, the following concepts should be understood as such:

**Adoption :** a solemn decree pronounced by a court that establishes between a heterosexual couple or between a single person and a child who is not his biologically, family relationships similar to those resulting from a filiation through blood. This decree is a protection measure established in the best interest of the child, offering him a permanent family environment that will benefit his development and respect his fundamental rights.

**Private/direct adoption**: adoption where adoption provisions have been agreed directly between (one of the) biological parents or by individuals or organizations to whom the child has been entrusted and future adoptive parents.

**Independent/ Individual adoption**: situation where future adoptive parents considered qualified and able to adopt by their Central Authority or by their adoption agency travel independently in a country of origin to seek a child to adopt without the assistance of a central Authority or an organization authorized in the State of Origin.

**International adoption**: action by which a child residing in Haiti is adopted by a person residing in a foreign country according to the rules established by law.

**Intrafamilial adoption**: action by which an individual adopts a child with whom he has family relationships, either by blood either by alliance.

**Domestic adoption**: action by which an individual residing in Haiti for at least 5 years, without any intention to leave the country, having his business and his personal and professional interests there, adopts a Haitian child habitually residing in Haiti according to the rules established by this Act.

**Plenary adoption**: action by which the adoptee benefits from all the effects of filiation rights in his adoptive family and breaks in a definitive and irrevocable way the filiation relationship with his biological family.

**Simple adoption**: action by which the adoptee benefits in his adoptive family of some effects of the filiation right such as name, inheritance rights, but stays related to his biological family. It does not terminate the parent/child relationship existing prior to adoption but creates a new family relationship between the child and his adoptive parent(s), who possess parental rights to the child.

**Agreement**: Official license delivered by the Central Authority to an adoption agency, allowing the agency to undertake some aspects of the adoption process.

**Matching process**: process to identify, among parents deemed qualified and suited to adopt, those that meet the needs of the child in light of the reports regarding the child and the prospective adoptive parents.

**Authorization**: Official license by which an organization licensed in a hosting country is granted the permission to operate in another country.

**Central Authority**: Public organization appointed by a Country and in charge, exclusively, to prepare dossiers for domestic or international adoption, to control adoptions and to meet the requirements of The Hague Convention about international adoption.

**Capacity of discernment:** a child is considered to have sufficient capacity of discernment if he is able to understand what happens to him and can consequentially give his opinion.

**Special needs children**: are considered as (special needs children) : children with behavior troubles or suffering from a trauma, or having a physical or mental incapacity, or being older than 6 or are members of a sibling group.

**Licensed Adoption Agency (OAA):** Foreign or domestic organization specializing in adoption, that has been granted approval in its country of origin and is entitled to work in Haiti and that, according to The Hague Convention, performs certain functions under the Convention in place of the Central Authority or jointly with it. The OAA performs tasks entrusted to it by IBESR.

## Chapter 2
## Regarding domestic and international adoption

### Section 1
### General principles

**Article 3**
Adoption is a measure of protection based upon the best interest of the child in order to offer him a permanent family environment that will contribute to his development.

The poverty or extreme poverty of parents cannot under any circumstances be sufficient grounds for adoption. The State has the duty to promote and facilitate the implementation of politics, programs and services and the creation of structures to enhance living conditions of families and to protect the family unit.

**Article 4**
Based on the principle of subsidiarity in international adoption, it will be resorted to only when all other forms of family custody and permanency in Haiti have been duly evaluated.

**Article 5**
In every adoption case, administrative and legal authorities must take all the necessary provisions to avoid any improper financial gain.

**Article 6**
Are prohibited :
a) Private and independent adoption
b) For the child's biological parents or legal guardians to decide which person(s) will adopt their child, except when it is the adoption of the child of the spouse in an intrafamilial adoption. The case of a foster care family who had previously welcomed the child and wants to adopt him constitutes the other exception.
c) Contacts between future adoptive parents and biological parents of the child or any other person who can influence the consent of the authorized person or with the institution involved in the adoption process, except if the adoption takes place between members of the same family
d) That biological parents give their consent to adoption prior that the child is 3 months old
e) Undue material gain by people, organizations and authorities involved in the adoption process

Procedures impacted by one of the prohibitions described will be immediately suspended and the adoption petition will be rejected, with possible legal actions. The relevant authority shall take necessary steps to protect the child.

## Section 2
## Regarding future adoptive parents

**Article 7**
Any individual meeting the criteria established by the current law, having the moral, psychological and socio cultural qualities and abilities to enable the growth and development of the adopted child, having never be convicted for any crime and having never lost his civil and political rights is eligible to adopt.

In the case of a domestic adoption, candidates must be considered as qualified and able to adopt by the Central Authority.

In the case of an international adoption, candidates must be considered as qualified and able to adopt by the relevant authorities of their country of residency.

**Article 8**
Adoption can be required jointly by a heterosexual couple married and not separated, after 5 years of marriage and when one of the spouses is at least 30 years old.

The set age condition is not required in case of adoption of the spouse's or partner's child.

**Article 9**
Two people of different genders living together for at least 5 years and if one of the partners is 30 years old can request to adopt a child. Cohabitation must be established by a certificate delivered by relevant authorities and consent of both cohabitants is required except if one of them cannot express his will.

**Article 10**
Applications of single individuals over 35 years old are accepted. The single adoptive individual cannot be older than 50 years old.

~~**Article 11**~~
~~Priority is given to heterosexual couples married or living together and residing in Haiti~~

**Article 11**
Adoptive parents' age cannot be over 50 years old for the eldest of both spouses or partners. This age limit does not apply when adopting the spouse's child or in intrafamilial adoptions.

**Article 12**
Adoptive parents must be 14 years older than the child that they want to adopt. If they are children of their spouse or of a close relative, the difference of age required is reduced to 9 years.

**Article 12.1**
In the case of the adoption of the biological child of one of the spouses, the other spouse adopts alone.

**Article 13**
The birth in the home of one or several biological children is not an obstacle to adoption by two spouses of one or several children that were taken care of previously by them and who are still in their care.

**Article 14**
If the adoptive parent already has biological or adopted children, these must give their opinion when they are older than 8 years.

**Article 15**
An individual residing in Haiti can adopt a child residing in another country according to the laws of the habitual country of residence of the child.
However the prospective adoptive parent must be previously declared qualified and able to adopt and receive the necessary advice prior to approval from IBESR.

**Article 16**
*(this article is not relevant to adoption by children from Haiti by US citizens)*

## Section 3
## Regarding adoptees

**Article 17**
Only children younger than 16 years old when the dossier is presented to the Central Authority can be adopted. However, if the child over 16 years old has been welcomed before reaching that age by people who did not meet the legal requirements to adopt, or if he was the subject of a simple adoption prior to reaching that age, plenary adoption can be requested until his majority if the necessary conditions are fulfilled.

**Article 18**
The Central Authority must make sure that the child's opinion is taken into account from the age of 8.
The Central Authority must make sure that the child's free consent is given from the age of 12.
The Central Authority must make sure that the child is informed about the consequences of adoption.

**Article 19**
A child can be adopted when his adoptability is decided by the Central Authority.
May be adopted:
1. Children who are orphaned by father and mother;
2. Abandoned children whose parentage is not established;
3. Children whose biological parents lost their parental rights because of a court decision;
4. Children whose biological parents gave their consent to adoption. In this case, both biological parents must give their consent.

**Article 20**
The Central Authority makes sure that brothers and sisters who could be adopted are not separated at any time during the adoption process and are adopted by the same family, except for reasons justified by their best interest, established by the relevant authority.

**Article 21**
The possibility of referral must be considered by the Central Authority for all children declared adoptable. Particular attention shall be paid to children with special needs.

**Section 4**
**Regarding the legal form of adoption**

**Article 23**

Domestic adoption can be simple or plenary. International adoption is always plenary. **§1 –**

**Regarding the effects of simple adoption**

*(do not apply to American citizens adopting from Haiti)*

**Section 5**
**Regarding the effects of plenary adoption**

**Article 33**

Plenary breaks definitively every filiation relationship between the adoptee and his family of origin. However the adoption of the spouse's child sustains his filiation of origin towards that spouse and his family.

The adoptee loses his surname of origin and his right to inheritance in his biological family.

Plenary adoption is irrevocable, and not subject to cancellation, revision, or revocation.

**Article 34**

The adoptee has, in the family of the adoptive parent, the same rights and obligations as a biological child.

**Article 36**

Plenary adoption grants to the child the surname of the adoptive parent and, when the adoption is done by a couple, the surname of the husband/male partner.

Upon request of the adoptive parent(s), the court can modify the first name(s) of the child and will ask the opinion of the child if he has the sufficient capacity of discernment.

Full adoption gives to the child the right to Haitian citizenship if one of the adopting parents has Haitian citizenship.

**Article 36**

Plenary adoption of the spouse's child is allowed only with the consent of the other biological parent of the child when the parentage of mother and father is established.

In this case, effects of the plenary adoption will only affect rights and obligations of the other biological parent of the child, without affecting those of the spouse.

## Chapter 3
## Regarding the Central Authority

**Article 37**

Until the new law organizing IBESR is adopted, this technical and administrative Department of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor will serve as the Central Authority in adoption matters, by delegation of the Ministry in charge of Social Affairs and Labor.

The Central Authority is responsible to review all adoption requests, to prepare dossiers, to authorize adoption according to the standards and administrative process adopted by IBESR prior to transferring the cases to the relevant court. It is in charged with the promotion of partnership between competent authorities in order to ensure children's protection and to take all necessary provisions to avoid illegal practices and improper material gain occurring upon placement in a children's institution or during the adoption process.

Furthermore, the Central Authority ensures cooperation with foreign Central Authorities to disseminate information regarding national adoption law and to remove barriers to the application of The Hague Convention and take all necessary measures to prevent illegal practices and improper financial gain.

**Article 39**

The Central Authority has the duty to:
1. Inquire about the family and social situation of children proposed for adoption;
2. Prepare the child's dossier and decide his adoptability;
3. Centralize all adoptive candidates' dossiers as well as these of the children in process of adoption and to maintain records relating thereto;
4. Match families and children;
5. Decide upon the placement of the future adoptee during the adoption process;
6. Guide and evaluate the socialization period between future adoptive parents and future adoptee;
7. Grant approval to adopt to adoptive parents residing in Haiti and ensure relevant training;
8. Monitor child post placement services
9. Maintain the dossiers and data relative to the adoption process according to the conditions provided by law;
10. Ensure that the adoption law, and the principles of best interest of the child, adoptability and subsidiarity are respected;
11. Provide and disseminate information about domestic and international adoption;
12. Authorize and supervise OAA (adoption agencies) to operate in Haiti provided that they respect the provisions of the current law; and proceed with the revocation or non-renewal of licensure granted for non-compliance with the current law or for any other relevant reason.
13. Decide of any procedure and rules according to this current law.

**Article 39**

The Central Authority has a multi-disciplinary staff (lawyers, doctors, sociologists, psychologists, social workers etc) which works under the supervision of the Director.

~~**Article 40**~~

~~The Central Authority is in charge of the writing of a code of ethics that must be signed by all the employees of the institution and by any adoption agency operating in Haiti.~~

**Article 40**
Public officers directly or indirectly involved in the adoption process cannot own, manage nor be members of the Boards of Directors of children's homes, adoption agencies or have vested relationships with people or private organizations caring for or being in contact with children susceptible to adoption. These agents must treat adoption dossiers impartially and never use their position to facilitate the adoption process.

## Chapter 4
## Regarding the adoptability process and the adoption process

### Section 1
### Regarding the adoptability process

**Article 41**
Biological parents or the family counsel, residing in Haiti, must address their petition to the Central Authority which will register it and inform those responsible for the child of the consequences of the decision taken prior to proceeding with their social evaluation.

Maintaining the child within his biological family must be encouraged throughout the evaluation period. During that time, the Central Authority must support the family and give it orientation in order to preserve the family unit.

**Article 42**
International adoption is considered only once all other forms of family and permanent care of the child in Haiti have been duly evaluated.

Forms of care include social welfare support to families, placement in a foster family, intrafamilial adoption, domestic adoption or any other solution answering to the specific needs and best interests of the child.

**Article 43**
Adoption consent must be given by biological parents or by the legal representative and must be stated in writing in front of the family court Judge. It cannot be given before the child reaches the age of three months.

When one of both biological parents is deceased or is unable to express his will, or is unknown, the other's consent is sufficient, provided that he provides evidence of the death of the other spouse, or his absence legally recognized, or that he is legally missing.

In the case of a child orphaned by both father and mother or a child both of whose parents cannot express their will, the Family Council gives its consent to adoption.

In the case of adoption of a spouse's child, the consent of the other parent is required except in the case where the other biological parent is unknown, deceased, missing or worn legally deprived of parental authority

An individual under 18 years old cannot, without a legal authorization, give his/her consent to the adoption of his/her child.

When the child has been abandoned, the Mayor of the municipality where the child was found declares the birth of the child and gives his consent to the adoption before of the family court Judge.

**Article 44**
Adoption consent is valid only if biological parents or legal representative of the child were previously the subjects of a social evaluation by the Central Authority. The Central Authority provides the necessary guidance and support in order to achieve family reunification and simultaneously ensures that the consent of the people responsible for the child has not been obtained induced by payment.

Consent to the adoption becomes final after a 1 month period, beginning from the written consent to adoption in front of a judge for children. However the judge cannot accept the consent of biological parents or the Family Council prior to receipt of the Central authority report.

**Article 45**
Adoptability must be established by Central Authority to ensure that adoption is the appropriate measure for the child, taking into account his best interest.
This evaluation includes the following steps:

1. An evaluation that includes:

a) Information about the child's identity;
b) His social environment;
c) His personal and familial background;
d) His legal status;
e) Medical status of the child and of his family;
f) His particular needs;
g) His expressed willingness to be adopted, according to his discernment capacity, and his consent from the age of 12

2. The identification of special needs children upon conclusion of the evaluation and their inclusion on a specific list by the Central Authority in order to facilitate the search for a family for them.

3. The social evaluation of the parents or of the legal representative of the child by the Central Authority

4. A report including the above information after the conclusion of the study by the Central Authority

**Article 46**
The Central Authority has parental authority after the consent to adoption has been duly signed and the withdrawal period has elapsed, as stipulated in Article 46

## Section II
## Regarding the adoption process

**Article 47**
Persons desiring to adopt a child in Haiti must submit their request to the Haitian Central Authority for domestic adoptions or to the Central Authority or an accredited adoption agency in their country of residency for international adoptions.

If the Haitian Central Authority, for domestic adoption cases, or authority of the receiving country for international adoptions, considers that petitioners are qualified and eligible to adopt, it shall prepare a report including information about their identity, their legal capacity to adopt, their personal familial and medical situation, their social background, their motivation to adopt, their ability to undertake an adoption and the children that they could care for. The central Authority must prepare dossiers of adoptive parents residing in Haiti.

Dossiers of adoptive parents residing abroad must be transmitted to Haiti Central Authority by the Central Authority or by an adoption agency of the hosting country.

**Article 48**
Adoption dossiers of prospective adoptive parents must include documents as established by the internal regulations of the Central Authority.

Said regulations will be diligently published in the Journal Officiel de la Prépublqiue by the Ministry of Social Affaires and Labor.

**Article 49**
The Central Authority shall make referrals for adoptable children following established procedures and always considering the best interest of the child;

The Haitian Central Authority shall transmit the referral directly to candidates in domestic adoption. For international adoption, the Central Authority shall transmit the decision to the Central Authority of the hosting country or to the adoption agency involved.

**Article 50**
Future adoptive parents must give their approval, in writing, of the referral of the child proposed for adoption within the 15 working days after the referral notification. This approval must be communicated to the Haiti Central Authority either directly for domestic adoptions either through the adoption agency or through the central Authority of the receiving country for international adoptions.

**Article 51**
For international adoptions, the Haiti Central Authority and the Central Authority of the hosting country must agree to the referral and agree to the continuation of the adoption process.

**Article 52**
One the express approval of the adoptive parents has been received, the Haiti Central Authority authorizes a socialization period between the adoptive parents and the child. This socialization period is mandatory; it can be less than 2 weeks, for domestic or for international adoption.

**Article 53**
The Central Authority, within the 10 days after the socialization period, delivers or rejects authorization for the adoption based upon an evaluation rapport.

**Article 54**
All documents included in the dossier are given to the responsible Clerk of the Court for approval, through the attorney chosen by the adoptive parents. The Central Authority will give a copy of the dossier to the chosen attorney for necessary actions.

**Article 55**
After deliberation, the Court, by reasoned decision, grants or refuses the adoption. In case of refusal of the approval on procedural grounds, the dossier shall be transmitted to the Central Authority for necessary action.

In case of refusal on the substance of the case, adoptive parents can, within the 30 days after the judgment, appeal. The decision of the Court of Appeals may be appealed to the Supreme Court.

**Article 56**
The appeal to the Supreme Court against the judgment of the Court of Appeals is vested in the provisional request in terms of form and normal period as prescribed by the Code of Civil Procedure.

**Article 57**
The Clerk of Vital records of the residence of the adoptee shall register the adoption decision and shall issue an adoption certificate within 5 days.

**Article 58**
Adoption takes effect from the date the sovereign decision of adoption has been pronounced.

**Article 59**
In the case of international adoptions realized with Countries that have signed the Hague Convention, the Central Authority delivers a certificate of compliance after the expiry of the time limit for appeal, in a period not exceeding ten (10) business days following the issuance of the Act of Adoption.

**Article 60**
Only costs and expenses can be charged and paid, including reasonable professional fees of persons involved in the adoption.

Directors, administrators and employees of organizations involved in an adoption shall not receive disproportionate remuneration for rendered services.

## Section 3
## Regarding post-placement supervision

**Article 61**
The Central Authority must provide, for each domestic or international adoption, post placement supervision through reports submitted on a regular basis by the adoptive parents, under the responsibility of the adoption agency that assisted them with the adoption process in order to enable the follow up of the development and integration of the child in his adoptive family and environment, during a 8 year period.

All reports will be included in the dossier of the adopted child.

**Article 62**
The central Authority shall maintain in its archives, on paper and electronically, all documents included in the dossier of each domestic and international adoption.

**Article 63**

The Central Authority is required to maintain the information it has about the origins of the child, including those relating to the identity of his mother and his father, as well as data on the medical history of the child and his family.

When permitted by law, such information will only be accessible to the child or to his legal representative, with the appropriate counsel.

**Article 64**
Personal data cannot be used for other purposes than the ones that they have been gathered or transmitted, particularly the report including information about the future adoptive parents' identity, their legal capacity and aptitude to adopt, their personal, familial and medical situation, their social environment, their motivations to adopt, their ability to undertake an international adoption and background information about children that they are able to care for.
The same applies to the adoptability report on the social background of the child.

## Chapter 4
## Regarding Adoption Agencies

**Article 65**
Accredited foreign adoption agencies are authorized to operate in Haiti by the Haiti Central Authority in accordance with the needs in the field of adoption which the Central Authority evaluates on an annual basis.

The Central Authority, depending of the evolution of domestic adoption and number of adoptable children, has the right to license domestic adoption agencies to facilitate the promotion of domestic adoptions.

**Article 66**
The Central Authority shall regulate the issuance, renewal and revocation of authorization of OAAs. Activities and obligations as well as these of their representatives are determined by the present law.

**Article 67**
To receive authorization to operate in Haiti, a domestic or foreign adoption agency must meet the following criteria:
1. Be officially licensed by its country of origin's authorities and authorized, by the same authorities, to work in Haiti.
2. Demonstrate competency, professionalism and ethics in its work;
3. Respect laws, rules and politics of Haiti and those of the country where it has its headquarters;
4. Have sufficient resources and qualified personnel to perform its mission;
5. Work only for non-profit purposes;
6. Not to derive any improper financial gain or disproportionate remuneration for services rendered;
7. Not exert any pressure to find children in order to satisfy adoptive parents' demand;
8. Adopt guidelines or internal policies organizing the management of its professional functions and its internal management;
9. Send an annual report to the Haiti Central Authority, about its activities in Haiti, including financial;
10. Avoid any contact with biological parents or the person in charge of the future adoptee prior to a referral being made.

Required documents to obtain the agreement or its renewal, and the duration of it, are established by the Central Authority.

**Article 68**
Responsibilities and functions of foreign adoption agencies working in Haiti are to:
1. Represent prospective adoptive parents in the adoption process;
2. Inform prospective adoptive parents who want to adopt children from Haiti regarding the technical and legal aspects of the adoption process and of the regulations of the Republic of Haiti;
3. Assist prospective adoptive parents to prepare for their planned adoption and provide advice for the dossier preparation;
4. Verify the legal capability of future adoptive parents;
5. Evaluate prospective adoptive parents' ability to adopt;
6. Verify that prospective adoptive parents are completely prepared to adoption;
7. Route the prospective adoptive parents' dossiers to the Haitian Central Authority for the adoption process;
8. Direct prospective parents who wish to adopt special needs children towards specialized professional resources to support them;
9. Support future adoptive parents after the child's arrival, including the preparation of post placement reports.

**Article 69**
Responsibilities of domestic adoption agencies are :
*(not relevant for US citizens)*

**Article 70**
Adoption agencies authorized to operate in Haiti are supervised by the Central Authority. At the beginning of each fiscal year, at the latest, they must send an annual report, including a financial report.

**Article 71**
The central Authority can suspend or revoke the operating license of a foreign or domestic adoption agency if it sends false information or if it doesn't comply with the provisions of the present law.
These measures do not preclude any judicial or criminal prosecution by the authorities.

## Chapter 5
## Penal measures

**Article 72**
Anybody who has intentionally provided money, material goods or any other benefit, or promised a material gain to biological parents or to the family council, to the guardian, to the legal representative, or to any other individual taking care of the child, or to an authority or to individuals involved in the adoption process, to facilitate or make the adoption will be sentenced to jail during five (5) to ten (10) years or will be paying a fine of minimum one hundred thousand (100,000) to five hundred thousand (500,000) gourdes maximum,.
The biological parent, the family council, the guardian, the legal representative of any other individual involved in the adoption process that will have received money, material goods or any other benefit to facilitate or make the adoption will be punished by the same sentence.

**Article 73**
Any individual who kidnaps or sells children , or trafficks children for adoption purposes will be sentenced to jail, for minimum fifteen years (15)or to life imprisonment.

**Article 74**
The withdrawal of organs or tissues and the adoption process realized for exploitation purposes will be sentenced to jail, for minimum fifteen years (15) or to life.

**Article 75**
Every individual, employee or representative of an institution that facilitates adoptions without going through the Central Authority will be punished by a fine of at least one hundred thousand gourdes (100,000) to five hundred thousand (500,000) gourdes maximum or sentenced to jail for five (5) to ten (10) years.

## Chapter 6
## Transitory and final measures

**Article 76**
The current law applies to all dossiers in progress for which biological parents' adoption consent has not yet been given in front of the family court Judge.
For dossiers in process where the consent has been given in front of the Justice of the Peace, the Court will order that biological parents appear in person on the set day and hour, either to confirm their informed consent to simple adoption or to give their informed consent to full adoption.

~~**Article 79**~~

~~The Central Authority will have a budget allocation to meet its responsibilities per the present law, for the time of this fiscal year.~~

~~Subsequently the Central Authority will receive a budget from the National Budget of the State proportional to its mission.~~

**Article 77**

In case of natural disaster or other emergencies, the Central Authority shall suspend all adoptions for a specific period in order to allow the family reunification of separated children. Suspension of all adoptions can also be implemented when there are serious irregularities in adoption process or weaknesses in policies and practices of adoption, preventing the Central Authority from accomplishing its mission in accordance with the provisions of the present law.

## Chapter 7
## Clause of abrogation

**Article 78**

This law repeals all laws and all decrees , in particular the Decree of 4 April 1974 on adoption, and shall be published and performed at the behest of the Ministers of Justice and Public Safety, Social Affairs and Labor, Interior and Territorial Communities, and Foreign Affairs as concerns each.

Presented to the Senate of the Republic, on 10 May 2013, the 210th year of the Independence.