

Important information on International adoption from Rwanda.

The Government of Rwanda has enacted several national laws and put in place a number of regulations with a view to protecting its children's rights.

Alternative family care for children who have no family of their own has been of special concern to the Government of Rwanda.

Relevant instruments to address this concern draw inspiration mainly from the Constitution of the Republic of Rwanda of 4th June, 2003, as amended to date, especially in its Articles 27, 28 and 42 and from the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child of 20th November 1989, especially in its Articles 3, 5, 9, 11, 19, 20, 21, 27, 34. The Law n° 27/2001 of 28 April 2001 on the right and protection of the children against violence, especially in its Articles 2 and 9 is another illustration of the commitment of the Government in this respect.

In order to continue protecting Rwandan Child's best interests in adoption and at the same time combating possible abuses (abduction, sale and trafficking in children through inter-country adoption), the Government of Rwanda, on 07 May 2010 ratified the Hague Convention on Protection of Children and Cooperation in respect of Intercountry Adoption, concluded on 29 May 1993 in the Netherlands.

Within the context of the implementation of the above named Hague Convention, the Government of Rwanda is now in the process of putting in place the structures, mechanisms and tools required of a newly signatory country of this Hague Convention.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Mufu', is written over a horizontal line.

Because of that, the Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion has decided to temporarily suspend all new applications for inter country adoption as from August 31, 2010.

This decision means that no new adoption requests will be handled after this date until the above mentioned structures and mechanisms are in place.

A communication in this respect will then be issued announcing the end of this temporary measure.

Applications from Prospective adoptive parents already received and those that could reach the Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion before 31 August 2010 will be taken care of as usual.

