

TFI Family Services, Inc. PROGRAM PROCEDURE	No. Hague Standard 96.50(e,f) 96.51(d)
Section: International Adoption Subject: Child Return to Country of Origin	
Issue Date: 3/10	Revision Date: 6/13

### Purpose

To establish criteria for a child's return to country of origin in circumstances of disruption or dissolution.

### Procedure

In situations of disruption or dissolution, the agency shall not return a child to the country of origin without written approval from the Secretary and Central Authority of the country of origin.

The agency shall not solicit said approval until documented efforts to permanently place the child with another adoptive family have occurred, including:

1. Referral to existing State and/or private adoption resources
2. Assessment of the child's wishes, considering age, maturity, length of time in the U.S.
3. Inclusion of any information provided on opportunities for the child if he/she should remain in the U.S. or return to the country of origin
4. Determination by the following individuals (when applicable) that a return to the country of origin is in the child's best interests: International Adoption Manager, case worker, therapist, child, adoptive parent(s), Central Authority of country of origin.

In situations of disruption, the worker shall be responsible to gather the information listed above and submit a detailed summary to the Director of Program Expansion and Initiatives who shall then review the summary, and make determination whether the agency will solicit return of the child.

In situations of dissolution, the agency acknowledges it may not necessarily be made aware of the dissolution. If the agency is made aware of a dissolution, the worker shall be responsible to attempt to gather the information listed above and document attempts if information is not available. The worker will submit a detailed summary to the Director of Program Expansion and Initiatives shall then review the summary, and make determination whether the agency will solicit return of the child.

If the agency receives proper approval to return the child, either solicited or unsolicited, the worker or Director of Program Expansion and Initiatives shall coordinate the safe transfer of the child's return. Coordination may include staff, providers (foreign or domestic, supervised or otherwise), or experienced other persons to act as escort to the child.

The Director of Program Expansion and Initiatives shall be responsible for completing and submitting the required reports to State and Convention entities.