

## Second Forum on Domestic Violence and the 1980 Child Abduction Convention

### *With a focus on the Operation of Article 13(1)(b)*

Fortaleza, Brazil, 27-30 October 2025

*Centro de Eventos do Ceará*

**PROGRAMME [last updated: 22 October 2025]**

#### *Monday 27 October 2025*

Time	Item
19:00 – 20:00	<b>Welcome addresses</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Mara Gabrilli</b>, Senator, Brazil (<i>video</i>)</li> <li>2. <b>Elmano de Freitas</b>, Ceará State Governor, Brazil</li> <li>3. <b>Enrique Ricardo Lewandowski</b>, Minister of Justice, Brazil</li> <li>4. <b>Jorge Rodrigo Araújo Messias</b>, Attorney General, Brazil</li> <li>5. <b>Márcia Loureiro</b>, Secretary for Consular and Legal Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Brazil (<i>video</i>)</li> <li>6. <b>Estelizabel Bezerra</b>, National Secretary for Combating Violence Against Women, Ministry of Women, Brazil</li> <li>7. <b>Maria da Penha</b>, Founder and President (<i>Fundadora e presidente vitalícia</i>), Instituto Maria da Penha, Brazil</li> <li>8. <b>Reem Alsalem</b>, UN Special Rapporteur on violence against women and girls, its causes and consequences (<i>video</i>)</li> <li>9. <b>Christophe Bernasconi</b>, Secretary General, HCCH</li> </ol>
20:00 – 22:00	<b>Opening reception and group photo</b>

*Tuesday 28 October 2025*

Time	Item
8:00 – 9:00	Arrival and Registration
9:00 – 9:30	<b>Opening remarks</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Clarice Calixto</b>, Solicitor General, Brazil</li> <li>2. <b>Jean Keiji Uema</b>, National Secretary for Justice, Brazil</li> <li>3. <b>Christophe Bernasconi</b>, Secretary General, HCCH</li> </ol>
9:30 – 11:00	<b>Session 1 – Sharing developments on domestic violence and Article 13(1)(b) since the First Forum in Sandton</b>  Moderator: <b>Martina Erb-Klünemann</b> (Germany), Judge at the Family Court, District Court of Hamm, Member of the International Hague Network of Judges (IHNJ)  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Judge Guilherme Calmon</b> (Brazil), President, Regional Federal Court of the Second Region, Rio de Janeiro, Member of the IHNJ</li> <li>2. <b>Adrienne Barnett</b> (United Kingdom), Reader in Law at Brunel University &amp; <b>Yuko Nishitani</b> (Japan), Professor at Kyoto University Graduate School of Law (<i>online</i>)</li> <li>3. <b>Merle Weiner</b> (United States of America), Philip H. Knight Professor, University of Oregon</li> <li>4. <b>Judge Baratang Constance Mocumie</b> (South Africa), Justice at the Supreme Court of Appeal Member of the IHNJ (<i>online</i>)</li> <li>5. <b>Aagje Leven</b> (Belgium), Secretary General, Missing Children Europe</li> <li>6. <b>Lord Justice Cobb</b> (United Kingdom), Court of Appeal of England and Wales</li> <li>7. <b>Chief Justice William Alstergren AO</b> (Australia), Chief Justice's Chambers, Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia, Melbourne, Member of the IHNJ (<i>online</i>)</li> </ol> <p>Q&amp;A</p>
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee break
11:30 – 13:00	<b>Session 2 – Raising awareness about the impact of wrongful removal / retention and of the impact of domestic violence on a child</b>  Moderator: <b>[TBC]</b>  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Ms Pereira</b> (Brazil), taking parent with lived experience of domestic violence</li> <li>2. <b>Video message</b> from young adult with lived experience of domestic violence and return proceedings under the 1980 Convention</li> <li>3. <b>Jeffery Morehouse</b> (United States of America), Executive Director and Co-Founder, Bring Abducted Children Home</li> <li>4. <b>Annelies Hendriks</b> (Netherlands), Psychologist, Anaguía Practice for mediation, psychology and pedagogic consultation (<i>online</i>)</li> </ol>

	<p>5. <b>Noelle Hunter</b>, Clinical Assistant Professor, Founding Partner in the Coalition to End International Parental Child Abduction and <b>Maayimuna N'Diaye</b> (United States of America), University of Alabama in Huntsville &amp; video presentation by adult with lived experience of child abduction</p> <p>6. <b>Jessica Raffal</b> (Australia), Managing Lawyer ISS Australia (<i>online</i>)</p> <p><i>Q&amp;A (no direct questioning of persons with lived experience)</i></p>
13:00 – 14:30	Lunch break
14:30 – 15:30	<p><b>Session 3 – Using support and awareness-raising to prevent international child abduction in situations involving domestic violence</b></p> <p>Moderator: <b>Gustavo Teixeira Chadid</b> (Brazil), Diplomat, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Brazil</p> <p>1. <b>Janaina Albuquerque</b> (Brazil), Lawyer and legal coordinator at Revibra</p> <p>Presentations on domestic violence shelters and other support services:</p> <p>2. <b>Chisato Kitanaka</b> (Japan) Co-chair, All Japan Women's Shelter Network (<i>online</i>) and <b>Makiko Ishii</b> (Japan) Lawyer, All Japan Women's Shelter Network (<i>online</i>)</p> <p>3. <b>Ana Paula Costa</b> (Portugal), President of Casa do Brazil in Lisbon, Researcher at NOVA School of Law [TBC]</p> <p>4. [TBC]</p> <p><i>Q&amp;A</i></p>
15:30 – 16:00	Coffee break
16:00 – 17:30	<p><b>Session 4 – Using legal mechanisms and access to justice to prevent international child abduction in situations involving domestic violence</b></p> <p>Moderator: <b>Nadia Rusinova</b> (Netherlands / Bulgaria), Lawyer, lecturer in European / International private law at the Hague University, consultant</p> <p>1. <b>Nishat Hyder-Rahman</b> (Belgium), Postdoctoral Fellow, MSCA Impact Fellowship Programme, Vakgroep privaatrecht en economisch recht (PREC) Vrije Universiteit Brussel</p> <p>2. <b>The Honourable Associate Chief Justice Gwen B. Hatch</b> (Canada), Court of King's Bench of Manitoba (Family Division), Winnipeg (Common Law), Member of the IHNJ</p> <p>3. <b>Yvette Cehel</b> (Australia), lawyer &amp; DV professional Women's Legal Services Australia</p> <p>4. <b>Javiera Verdugo Toro</b> (Chile), Lawyer, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Chile (<i>online</i>)</p> <p><i>Q&amp;A</i></p>

Time	Item
9:00 – 10:30	<p><b>Session 5 – Assessing allegations of domestic violence and determining grave risk under Article 13(1)(b) in international child abduction cases where domestic violence is raised</b></p> <p><i>Panellists presentations will be based on a <a href="#">hypothetical case and targeted questions</a>.</i></p> <p><i>Session to be followed by break-out groups</i></p> <p>Moderator: <b>Senior Judge Mary Sheffield</b> (United States of America), Missouri Court of Appeals, Member of the IHNJ</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Justice Steven Arnold Majiedt</b> (South Africa), Justice of the Constitutional Court (<i>online</i>)</li> <li>2. <b>Judge Martina Erb-Klünemann</b> (Germany), Judge at the Family Court, District Court of Hamm, Member of the IHNJ</li> <li>3. <b>Judge Marcela Trillini</b> (Argentina), Judge at Family Court No 9, San Carlos de Bariloche, Río Negro, Member of the IHNJ</li> <li>4. <b>Vitor Veloso Barros e Santos</b> (Brazil), Coordinator for International Law Disputes, Attorney General's Office</li> <li>5. <b>Lord Justice Moylan</b> (United Kingdom), Court of Appeal of England and Wales, Head of International Family Justice for England and Wales, Member of the IHNJ</li> </ol> <p>Q&amp;A</p>
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee break
11:00 – 12:30	<i>Break-out groups following session 5 &amp; reporting to plenary</i>
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch break
14:00 – 15:15	<p><b>Session 6 - Obtaining evidence of domestic violence in international child abduction cases where such allegations have been made</b></p> <p><i>Panellists presentations will be based on a <a href="#">hypothetical case and targeted questions</a>.</i></p> <p><i>To be followed by break-out groups</i></p> <p>Moderator: <b>Judge Myriam de Hemptinne</b> (Belgium), Family and Juvenile Judge at the Court of Appeal of Brussels, Member of the IHNJ</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Ben Keith</b> (New Zealand), barrister at Woodward Street Chambers</li> <li>2. <b>Rodrigo Santos Meira</b> (Brazil), General Coordinator, ACAF (Central Authority)</li> <li>3. <b>Judge Joanna Guttzeit</b> (Germany), Judge of the Family Court, Local Court of Pankow-Weißensee, Member of the IHNJ</li> <li>4. <b>Miguel Vara</b> (Portugal), Head of the International Judicial Cooperation Division, Portuguese Central Authority</li> <li>5. <b>Nthabiseng Thokoane</b> (South Africa), Chief Family Advocate, RSA Central Authority (<i>online</i>)</li> </ol>

	<p>6. <b>Forum Shah</b> (United Kingdom), Practitioner at Dawson Cornwell, London</p> <p>Q&amp;A</p>
15:15 – 16:30	<p><b>Session 7 – Using protective measures (with references to the 1996 Child Protection Convention and other relevant mechanisms)</b></p> <p><i>Panellists presentations will be based on a <a href="#">hypothetical case and targeted questions</a>.</i></p> <p><i>To be followed by break-out groups</i></p> <p>Moderator: <b>Judge Annette C. Olland</b> (Netherlands), Senior Judge, Family Law and International Child Protection Division, District Court of The Hague, Member of the IHNJ</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Nieve Rubaja</b> (Argentina), Professor of Private International Law and Family Law, University of Buenos Aires</li> <li>2. <b>Roz Osborne</b> (United Kingdom), CEO of Global Action on Relocation &amp; Return with Kids (GlobalARRK) &amp; <b>Ruth Dineen</b> (United Kingdom), FiLiA Hague Mothers, International Coordinator</li> <li>3. <b>Judge Myriam de Hemptinne</b> (Belgium), Family and Juvenile Judge at the Court of Appeal of Brussels, Member of the IHNJ</li> <li>4. <b>Justice Steven Arnold Majiedt</b> (South Africa), Justice of the Constitutional Court (<i>online</i>)</li> <li>5. <b>Lady Morag Wise</b> (United Kingdom), Judge of Scotland's Supreme Courts, President of the Scottish Tribunals, Member of the IHNJ</li> <li>6. <b>Alexandre Boiché</b> (France), Practitioner at Alexandre Boiché &amp; Associés</li> </ol> <p>Q&amp;A</p>
16:30 – 17:00	Coffee break
17:00 – 18:00	<i>Break-out groups following sessions 6 and 7</i>

Thursday 30 October 2025	
Time	Item
9:00 – 10:00	<i>Break-out groups following sessions 6 and 7 report to plenary</i>
10:00 – 11:30	<p><b>Session 8 – The effects of return and non-return decisions</b></p> <p>Moderator: <b>Noelle Hunter</b>, Clinical Assistant Professor, Founding Partner in the Coalition to End International Parental Child Abduction (United States of America)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Philippe Lortie</b>, First Secretary (HCCH)</li> <li>2. <b>Juliana Wahlgren</b> (Belgium / Brazil), Founding Director of Revibra Europe</li> <li>3. <b>John Gomez</b> (Japan), Chairperson of Kizuna Child-Parent Reunion</li> <li>4. <b>Alison Shalaby</b> (United Kingdom), Chief Executive Officer at reunite International Child Abduction Centre (<i>online</i>)</li> </ol>

	<p>5. <b>Judge Liina Naaber-Kivisoo</b> (Estonia), President of the Viru County Court, Ida-Viru maakond, Member of the IHNJ</p> <p><i>Q&amp;A</i></p>
11:30 – 12:00	Coffee break
12:00 – 13:30	<p><b>Session 9 – Domestic violence in the Guide to Good Practice on Article 13(1)(b) - five years after</b></p> <p>Moderator: PB</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Boni de Moraes Soares</b> (Brazil), National Solicitor for International Affairs</li> <li>2. <b>Lord Justice Andrew Moylan</b> (United Kingdom), Court of Appeal of England and Wales, Head of International Family Justice for England and Wales, Member of the IHNJ</li> <li>3. <b>Leslie Kaufman</b> (Israel), Central Authority under the 1980 Convention</li> <li>4. <b>Judge Graciela Tagle de Ferreyra</b> (Argentina), Coordinator of the Office of International Judicial Cooperation of the High Court of Justice in the Province of Cordoba, Member of the IHNJ</li> <li>5. <b>Christian Höhn</b> (Germany), Central Authority under the 1980 Convention (<i>online</i>)</li> <li>6. <b>Caroline Harnois</b> (Canada), Lawyer at Lavery, Montreal</li> </ol> <p><i>Q&amp;A</i></p>
13:30 – 15:00	Lunch break
15:00 – 16:30	<p><b>Session 10 – Lessons learned and next steps</b></p> <p><i>Open moderated discussion</i></p> <p>Moderators: <b>Lord Justice Andrew Moylan</b> (United Kingdom), Court of Appeal of England and Wales, Head of International Family Justice for England and Wales, Member of the IHNJ and <b>Justice Jhosep Y. Lopez</b> (Philippines), Associate Justice, Supreme Court of the Philippines</p>
16:30 – 17:00	Coffee break
17:00 – 18:00	<b>Closing</b>