



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 6 December 2010

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NOTE

from :	the Council Secretariat
to :	Working Party on Civil Law Matters (General Questions)
No. prev. doc. :	13880/10 JUSTCIV 160
Subject :	Possible cooperation between the United States and the Member States in the context of the 1993 Hague Convention on adoption - Reply

Delegations will find attached the letter sent by the Presidency to the US Mission to the European Union following the debate in the Working Party on Civil Law Matters (General Questions) on 10 November 2010 on the letter from the US delegations concerning a possible cooperation between the United States and the Member States in the context of the 1993 Hague Convention on adoption.



CONSILIUM

Brussels, 6 December 2010

Mr. Joseph Pomper
US Mission to the European Union
13 rue Zinner
1000 Brussels

Dear Mr. Pomper,

We are pleased to inform you that your letter on the possible cooperation between the Member States of the European Union and the United States of America in the context of the 1993 Hague Inter-country Adoption Convention, with regard to in particular Cambodia and Vietnam, was examined by the Council Working Party on Civil Law Matters (General Questions) at its meeting on 10 November 2010.

The Members of the Working Party shared the wish of the United States of America to ensure the best possible implementation and application of the Convention. They stressed however that it is for the Member States of the European Union to assess individually the need for closer cooperation with the United States of America in this area as the European Union has currently no competence in matters of international adoption.

You may rest assured that the European Union is willing to cooperate with the United States of America, as indeed with all Members of The Hague Conference, in all areas falling within its competence.

We look forward to maintaining close cooperation with the delegation of the United States of America in the framework of The Hague Conference in all matters of interest to both our delegations.

Best regards,

Bénédicte Maudoux

Chairperson of the Working Party on Civil Law Matters (General Questions)
of the Council of the European Union