

Article 16 Report must be accompanied by:

1. A copy of the child's birth certificate
 - a. In the absence of a birth certificate- secondary information such the notice from the Central Authority or a court decree identifying the child
2. A document identifying that the Central Authority recognizes that the child is available for adoption
3. A copy of the irrevocable consent signed by the parent(s) or documentation that shows the parent's rights have been terminated or the child was abandoned.
4. A social history for the child should be provided, to include: the ethnic background, religion, cultural information, family history and an account of how the child came to be an orphan and what has transpired in the life of the child since entering into care.
5. A medical history report that is complete and as thorough as possible for the child, being sure to indicate any special needs of the child.
6. If a child is being referred more than 6 months after their 15th birthday, and the Article 16 is not available yet, the Central Authority should provide documentation showing that the child was in deed referred for adoption before the child's 16th birthday.
7. The foreign language documentation must be accompanied with an English translation. (We currently have ASPs that state the CA translates the documents for their agency and other ASP that must translate in the U.S.).

This would be the extent of what a Central Authority would need to provide for the Article 16 package.

In addition to the Central Authority documents; the Adoption Service Provider should provide the following to complete their part of the Article 16 for USCIS purposes:

1. A statement signed under penalty of perjury certifying that the information listed above from the Central Authority (Article 16) is a true, correct, and complete copy of the report obtained from the Central Authority of the Convention Country.
2. If a child is being referred more than 6 months after their 15th birthday, and the Article 16 is not available yet, the Adoption Service Provider must provide a statement under penalty of perjury that the verifies that the Central Authority has made the adoption placement as of the specific date that is noted in the statement.
3. The foreign language documentation must be accompanied with an English translation. (We currently have ASPs that state the CA translates the documents for their agency and others that must translate in the U.S.). A statement must be present identify the translator as competent to provide translation services.

Other items the adoption service provider must provide outside of the Article 16 are:

1. A statement signed under penalty of perjury that the pre-placement training and 10 hours of Hague training of the adoptive parents has been completed.
2. In the case of the child being adopted in the U.S., the adoption service provider should provide a statement signed under penalty of perjury detailing the plan for post-placement services.
1. Evidence of compliance with any pre-adoption requirements a particular State may have, must be present with the package.