



Intercountry Adoption Central Authorities Meeting Communiqué

The Department of Social Services as the Australian Central Authority (ACA) for intercountry adoption and State and Territory Central Authorities (STCA) met virtually on 27 March 2025. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss intercountry adoption matters.

Updates from Australian governments

The ACA provided updates on key intercountry adoption policy and program management matters.

STCAs shared their insights on key developments in adoption practices and processes in each jurisdiction.

National Action Plan (NAP)

The ACA provided an update on the review of the draft NAP, a document outlining deliverables under the *Commonwealth-State Agreement for the Continued Operation of Australia's Intercountry Adoption Program* (CSA), developed in consultation with STCAs in the first quarter of 2025.

The NAP is reviewed and updated every 2 years to ensure it remains focussed on the changing global intercountry adoption landscape. The new NAP will cover the 2025-2026 period and will be submitted to the Children and Families Secretaries (CAFS) Group for endorsement, following formal agreement from STCAs.

Review of the CSA

The ACA provided an update on the commencement of the review of the CSA, which was agreed by the CAFS Group in March 2025. Review of the CSA is undertaken 5 years after coming into force.

The ACA will lead the review in 2025, with the assistance of a working group established by the CAFS Group, consisting of nominated representatives from each Australian jurisdiction and relevant Commonwealth agencies.

Once the review is complete, CAFS Group and state and territory ministerial endorsement will be required to bring the new CSA into effect.