

P R E F A C E

This is the fifth in a series of 'accession kits' being prepared by the Commonwealth Secretariat primarily to assist governments of Commonwealth countries in acceding to selected international conventions. To date these have been confined to the area of private international law and include-

- (i) The Hague Convention on the Service of Process, The Taking of Evidence and Legalisation
- (ii) International Conventions in the Field of Succession
- (iii) The Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction
- (iv) International Conventions concerning Applications for and Awards of Maintenance

The present 'accession kit' has been prepared for the Commonwealth Secretariat by Professor Keith Patchett, whose continuing work with Professor David McClean in the field of private international law has been widely acclaimed throughout the Commonwealth and beyond.

Further work concerning Legal Aid and related matters is being done by Professor McClean which will complement the first 'kit' (on the Service of Process etc.), also prepared by him.

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