

PREFACE

In 1981 the Commonwealth Secretariat published explanatory documentation on The Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction, prepared by Mr. J M Eekelaar. This appeared in the series of "Accession Kits" for international conventions prepared by the Commonwealth Secretariat, designed to keep Commonwealth Governments, who are not parties to the Conventions with which they deal, fully informed of relevant international developments and to facilitate accession by them should they wish. A number have chosen to do so.

In 1990, in the light of a significant number of countries which had become parties and of case law that had built up, a fully rewritten "accession kit" on this Convention prepared by Professor David McClean was published by the Secretariat.

Over the past seven years, further developments have taken place which justify the revision of the "kit". This edition has also been prepared for the Secretariat by Professor David McClean who has, for many years, acted as a consultant to the Secretariat on Mutual Legal Assistance matters and in particular on Hague Conventions in that field. The Secretariat takes this opportunity of expressing, again, its indebtedness to Professor McClean for his significant and continuing contributions to Commonwealth law and assistance to Commonwealth Law Ministers in so many tangible ways.

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