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DIRECTORATE OF LEGAL RESEARCH

RE: LL File No.2001-11800
December 28, 2001

Dear Mr. Biggs:

In response to your request for information on adoption procedures in Cambodia, in the absence of a legal specialist for Cambodia on staff also conversant with the language, a reasonable search of the Law Library's collection for Cambodia in English was undertaken. The material on hand did not contain a current law on adoption. The Embassy of the Kingdom of Cambodia supplied several pages from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation that outline the procedures for the adoption of children in the country. The document does not discuss the procedure by which a child becomes eligible and available for adoption; instead the information concerns conditions to be met by potential parents, the information needed on an adoption application, a statement on the selection of the child to be adopted, procedures for the adoption, reporting requirements, and the expenses to be born by the adoptive parents. The expenses include a required "voluntary donation" to the Ministry of Social Affairs, Labour, Vocational Training, and Youth Rehabilitation. The document confirms that adopting parents must come to Cambodia themselves; adoptions through third persons are not permitted.

It is hoped this material will be of use to you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Constance A. Johnson".

Constance A. Johnson
Senior Legal Research Analyst

Enclosure

Michael Biggs, Assistant Director
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