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Mexico

May 5, 2016

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Notice: Mexican Authorities Working on ASP Authorization Regulations and Acknowledge Potential Delays

The Department of State (Department) wishes to advise U.S. prospective adoptive parents, adoptive parents, and adoption service providers (ASPs) that the Mexican National Welfare System, or *Sistema Nacional para el Desarrollo Integral de la Familia* (DIF Nacional), which is in charge of authorizing U.S. accredited ASPs to provide adoption services in intercountry adoptions involving Mexico, is formulating new ASP authorization regulations.

On April 18, 2016, the DIF Nacional informed the Department that a recently enacted Mexican law restructured the DIF Nacional offices. DIF Nacional is in the process of writing regulations governing its new structure and will develop new procedures for handling U.S. ASPs' requests for authorization or re-authorization. We understand that any applications for authorization or re-authorization received since November 2015 or in the coming months may experience delays. The Department reminds U.S. prospective adoptive parents and ASPs that an ASP's authorization to operate in Mexico must be valid in order for the ASP to provide adoption services in an intercountry adoption involving Mexico.

Please note that DIF Nacional reviews of prospective adoptive parents' applications to adopt from Mexico are not affected by these delays. DIF Nacional will continue to transmit dossiers that meet Mexican eligibility criteria in a timely manner to the State DIF offices responsible for matching children with prospective adoptive parents.

For further information regarding this notice, please contact the Department's Office of Children's Issues via email at Adoption@state.gov. Please continue to monitor our website for updates on adoptions in Mexico.