BARBARA BUCKLEY HOLDRIDGE
14 FORGE ROAD
WILTON, CONNECTICUT 06897

10-17-03

To: Department of State

Re: Hague Treaty

To Whom It May Concern:

I first began working in adoption in 1957. Since 1977 I have been an Adoption Counselor with the small, caring, personalized agency, Thursday's Child, Inc. of Bloomfield, Connecticut. All of my clients have applied other types of agencies before choosing Thursday's Child, Inc. as best fitting their needs.

As a small agency, our clients have direct access also to the long time experience of the Executive Director Ms. Aranson-Fisher as well as to that of their Adoption Counselor. This would not be possible in a large agency.

I fear that the onerous costs and requirements of the Hague Treaty as it is written at present will force well established, experienced agencies such as Thursday's Child to close. This would be a tremendous loss to prospective adoptive parents.

Sincerely Yours,

Barbara Buckley Holdridge