

# HAGUE CONVENTION OF 5 OCTOBER 1961

## ABOLISHING THE REQUIREMENT OF LEGALISATION FOR FOREIGN PUBLIC DOCUMENTS

### QUESTIONNAIRE

**QUESTION 1** In practice, what are the kinds of public documents (e.g., commercial documents, birth certificates) for which the competent authority(ies) in your state is (are) most commonly called upon to issue apostilles?<sup>9</sup>

**Swaziland has not issued apostilles for any public document as yet.**

**QUESTION 2.** Do you have statistics at your disposal with respect to the number of apostilles issued by your competent authorities (by type of document, if possible)?<sup>9</sup>

**No statistics are kept on apostilles.**

**QUESTION 3.** Pursuant to the application by the European Community for membership of the Hague Conference, it will need to be determined to what extent the Hague Conventions, and in particular the "Apostille" Convention, should or could be extended to regional economic-integration organizations. Do you consider that it would be necessary or appropriate to adopt a protocol favouring the adoption of a clause similar to that of Article 18 of the Hague Convention on the law applicable to certain rights in respect of securities held with an intermediary?<sup>9</sup>

**Yes.**

**QUESTION 4.** Would you be in favour of the adoption of a protocol designed to enable a State with several units to extend the application of the Convention to one or several of its territorial units?<sup>10</sup>

**Yes.**

QUESTION 5~ Can you specify the price charged by the competent authorities in your country for issuance of the apostille? 11

Since apostilles are not issued, no price is charged.

QUESTION 6. In practice, have you encountered difficulties connected with the formal requirements provided for under the Convention? 12

None as yet.

QUESTION 7.- Practical information relating to the methods used to affix the apostille would be very useful. In particular, how do you proceed when the public document to receive the apostille has several pages? 15

**Information not available since apostilles have not been issued.**

QUESTION 8-' Is consultation of the register or card index for verification requested frequently? 16

**Not at all.**

QUESTION 9. Do you use signatures by mechanical means, stamp and/or electronics, to fill in apostilles? If so, have security measures been taken to avoid any fraud? If so, which? 18

**No experience in this regard.**

QUESTION 10. Do you use an electronic medium to keep the "register or card index" provided for under Article 7 of the Convention? If so, do you also keep a paper copy of the entries and if not, do you contemplate doing so? What are your reasons? 18

**No.**

QUESTION 11. Do you issue apostilles for electronic documents? If SO, can you provide us with details of the manner of that issuance and if not, do you think this possibility can be contemplated? 18

**No.**