

	Inter-Country Adoption Board (ICAB)	Issue Date	June 21, 2018
	<b>ACCOMPLISHMENT REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019</b>	Doc. Code	ICAB-PDU-R-2020-001
		Revision No.	0

## I. INTRODUCTION

The Inter-country Adoption Board (ICAB) is the Central Authority of the Philippines and acts as policy making body for purposes of carrying out the provisions of Republic Act 8043 (The Inter-country Adoption Act of 1995). It has undertaken activities and strategies to ensure protection of Filipino children placed for international adoption through monitoring and regulation of its partner agencies (FAAs) and ensuring compliance with the standards, and deterring trafficking of Filipino children.

## II. HIGHLIGHTS OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- A. Successful Conduct of the 15<sup>th</sup> Philippine Consultation on Child Welfare Services held on September 4-6, 2019 at the Manila Hotel, Manila, Philippines. With the theme, "Identifying the Needs of Children in Inter-country Adoption," the Global Consultation participated by three-hundred thirty-eight (338) adoption advocates, experts, guests and local adoption community workers.
- B. ISO 9001:2015 Certification issued on February 6, 2019. Valid for 3 years.
- C. On-going Construction of the Five-Storey Building of ICAB.
- D. Organized FY 2011-2015 ICAB Case Files for Digitization.
- E. Renewed accreditation of four (4) Foreign Adoption Agencies (FAAs) and one (1) new FAA in Italy compliant with ICAB standards and requirements.

## III. MAJOR ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED

- a. The CY 2018 Program review and Evaluation Workshop and the CY 2019-2020 Strategic Planning was held last January 2019.
- b. ICAB employees attended the preparation and submission of the CY 2018 GAD Accomplishment Report (GADAR) and Preparation of the CY 2020 GAD Plan and Budget. The participants had a better understanding and appreciation of the GAD issues and how GAD can be mainstreamed into the agency programs and services.
- c. The ICAB GAD Focal Point System Members participated in the finalization of the CY 2020 GAD Plan and Budget and the identification of the ICAB's GAD Agenda. It was clarified that unlike in the previous years, the CY 2020 GPB will no longer be submitted together with the GADAR. The submission of FY 2020 GPB shall be moved to the 2nd semester of 2019. This will synchronize the schedule of the GAD planning and budgeting process with the fiscal activities conducted by government agencies as provided under DBM-DOF-NEDA Joint Circular 2017-1 or the National Fiscal Calendar.
- d. The ICAB participated in various conferences, dialogues, workshops and meetings which equipped the ICAB Secretariat with new knowledge and skills in the efficient and effective delivery of intercountry adoption program and services, understood ISO Standards and requirements, CSC standards and protocols, familiarized with the performance governance system, government records management policies/procedures:
  - ISO QMS Refresher Course where the ICAB Quality Management System and ISO Clauses were reviewed.

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- Seminar on values formation
  - Leave administration course for effectiveness
  - ISO Risk Management
  - Lakbay Aral sa Baler
  - Basic Records and Archive Management
  - Capacity Building Workshop on Principles and Protocols for Record Keeping and Compliance with the Rules Making Requirements of Administrative Issuance
  - Training workshop on statistical package for social science
- e. One (1) Summer Hosting Program Hosting Program by Sacred Portion Children's Outreach (SPCO) held at Bozeman and Whitefish, Montana, United States of America (USA) beginning July 31 to August 27, 2019. Five (5) children travelled to the U.S. accompanied by ICAB Social Worker, Ms. Sarah Jane Balla-Cabredo. Three (3) of the five (5) host families signified interest in adopting the children that they hosted while one (1) child will be adopted by a family she met during the program. SPCO was not able to find a family for one (1) child (i.e., Joel Rigonan)
- f. The ICAB participated in the 7<sup>th</sup> national Organizing Committee Meeting for the evaluation of the CY 2018 National Adoption Consciousness Celebration which was spearheaded by the Department of Social Welfare and Development, in partnership with the national government agencies (NGAs) and members of the Association of Child Caring Agencies of the Philippines (ACCAP).
- g. The Executive Director attended and Operations Social Worker attended and participated in the deliberation for the crafting of the Implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act no. 11222 which is an act allowing the rectification of simulated birth records and prescribing administrative adoption proceedings for a child who has been living with the person/s who simulated the birth record for at least 3 years.
- h. The ICAB Executive Director had a consultation meeting the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) and the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) regarding the registration of children born in Brunei, and the increasing number of direct adoption placement of Filipino children to Brunei in couples by Filipino biological mother/parents.
- i. A Meeting of the Working Group on Preventing and Addressing Illicit Practices in Intercountry Adoption was attended by Executive Director which tackled discussions on the different illicit practices and systemic weaknesses of sending and receiving countries on the intercountry adoption program. Deliberation on how to prevent and respond to these illicit practices were undertaken.
- j. The ICAB Executive Director attended the DSWD CARAGA Consultation Dialogue on Alternative Parental Care in Butuan City which discussed the various nuances of the intercountry adoption program.
- k. Technical assistance and advocacy visits provided to DSWD/LGUs/NGOs to assist in the case movement and management of children for ICA:
- DSWD CALABARZON (IV-A)
  - DSWD National Capital Region
  - DSWD FO X
  - RSCC Cebu