HAGUE AND ORPHAN INTERCOUNTRY ADOPTION PROCESSES
Flow Chart of Key Steps

HAGUE PROCESS
Each case must follow this specific order:

1. **Determination of Suitability & Eligibility to Adopt**
   - PAP files Form I-800A with USCIS. USCIS adjudicates.

2. **Dossier Filed With Central Authority in COO**
   - ASP transmits Form I-800A approval & home study to COO.

3. **Article 16: Referral of Child**
   - COO compiles report on child & matches child with PAP.

4. **Preliminary Determination of Child’s Eligibility**
   - PAP accepts match & files Form I-800 with USCIS. If child appears eligible, USCIS provisionally approves & transfers to DOS.

5. **Article 5/17: Review of Immigration Eligibility**
   - DOS reviews visa application & transmits letter of notification to COO.

6. **Adoption/Custody of Child**
   - PAP completes adoption/custody in COO.

7. **Article 23: COO Certifies Compliance**
   - COO reviews & transmits letter of compliance to DOS.

8. **Final Approval & Hague Certificate and Visa Issued**
   - DOS issues final approval, Hague Certificate, and visa.

ORPHAN (NON-HAGUE) PROCESS
Steps outlined here may occur in a different order:

1. **Determination of Suitability & Eligibility to Adopt**
   - PAP files Form I-600A with USCIS. USCIS adjudicates.

2. **Dossier Filed in Child’s COO**
   - ASP may transmit Form I-600A approval & home study to COO.

3. **Identification of Child**
   - PAP identifies or is matched with a child (generally by COO or ASP).

4. **Adoption of a Child**
   - PAP completes adoption/custody in COO.

5. **Determination of Child’s Eligibility**
   - PAP files Form I-600 for a specific child. USCIS or DOS adjudicates.
   - (USCIS makes suitability determination for “combo filing.”)
   - USCIS/DOS completes Form I-604 determination in child’s COO.

6. **Visa Issued to Child**
   - DOS issues visa.

KEY:
- ASP - Adoption Service Provider
- COO - Country of Origin
- DOS - Department of State
- PAP - Prospective Adoptive Parent

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