

Japan Parental Child Abductions
Selected Highlights Of High-Level Department of State Actions
January 1 to December 23, 2010

- January 30 Ambassador Roos heads multilateral international parental child abduction (IPCA)-focused demarche on Foreign Minister Okada. Joint press statement issued following the meeting. The Japanese print media covered this demarche extensively.
- February 2 Assistant Secretary Campbell meets parents in Tokyo and holds press conference on IPCA. Transcript:
<http://www.state.gov/p/cap/rls/2010/02/134165.htm#families>
- March 17-18 Multilateral Symposium on IPCA hosted by eight embassies.
- April 8 Embassy official attended study session sponsored by Diet Member Shimomura and organized by Japanese parental group. Prof. Tanase presented his draft legislation calling for joint custody and enforceable visitation rights.
- April 19 CG Baca held his regular meeting with LBPs in Japan.
- May 1-21 After nomination by the U.S. Embassy, Japanese attorneys participated in the multi-regional project "Children in the U.S. Justice System" through the International Visitor Leadership Program
- May 21 Secretary Clinton pressed Foreign Minister Okada to ratify the Hague Convention and enact measures to address existing cases.
- June 9 Deputy Chief of Mission Zumwalt met with Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) Director General Umemoto; he urged Japan to ratify the Hague Convention and resolve current cases.
- June 18 Assistant Secretary Campbell and Ambassador Roos met with Vice Foreign Minister Yabunaka, urging Japan to ratify the Hague Convention and resolve current cases.
- June 18 Assistant Secretary Campbell raised IPCA with Minister of Justice, Keiko Chiba.
- July 20-21 Japan Federation of Bar Association seminar on Hague Convention and Practice of Child Custody in Japan, cosponsored by MOFA. This was the

first time that the Government of Japan sponsored a Hague-focused event. U.S. Embassy officials attended.

- July 6 Department of State Legal Adviser Harold Koh raised the Hague Convention with Japanese officials.
- July 23 Secretary Clinton raised IPCA with Foreign Minister Okada at the ASEAN Ministerial in Hanoi.
- August 25 Deputy Chief of Mission Zumwalt met with Special Assistants to the Prime Minister and urged Japan to ratify the Hague Convention and resolve current cases.
- September 1 Tokyo Shinbun published IPCA/Hague-related op-ed by Ambassador Roos.
- October 6 Ambassador Roos raised IPCA with Vice Justice Minister Suematsu.
- October 6 Assistant Secretary Campbell raised IPCA with Vice Foreign Minister Sasae.
- October 22 Ambassador Roos led 11 other diplomatic missions in demarche on new Justice Minister calling for a framework to address existing cases and ratification of the Hague.
- October 27 Secretary Clinton raised IPCA in her bilateral meeting with Foreign Minister Maehara.
- October 29 PDAS Joe Donovan raised IPCA with Ambassador Masafumi ISHII, Deputy Director-General, Foreign Policy Bureau, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- October 29 Ambassador Susan Jacobs led a roundtable discussion on the Hague Abduction Convention discussion with officials from 11 East Asian and South Central Asian Embassies.
- November 4 Department of State officials met with Embassy of Japan officials at the Japanese Embassy for a tour of their passport issuance facilities and to discuss MOFA's passport issuance rules and regulations.
- November 9 Deputy Steinberg raised IPCA with Chief Cabinet Secretary Sengoku
- December 6 Secretary Clinton raised IPCA in her bilateral meeting with Foreign Minister Maehara