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Guatemala

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Notice: CNA Processing Framework for U.S. Cases Under Its Authority

On Friday August 19, 2011, the Guatemalan Central Adoption Authority (CNA) published in the Guatemalan government's official register a new processing framework for the limited group of pending U.S. adoption cases that are under CNA processing authority.

The U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) are in frequent communication with Guatemalan authorities to clarify how this framework will be implemented. While many details are still under review, we confirmed the following points:

- The CNA's announcement affects only the small group of pending cases that are under CNA processing authority. The CNA's announced framework does not apply to cases being processed by the *Procuraduria General de la Nacion* (PGN) as "*notario*" cases. Going forward, more cases may shift from PGN to CNA processing authority and this framework would then apply.
- The CNA requires additional information about the prospective adoptive parents to move forward with the cases.
- No case will move forward until the CNA officially informs the U.S. Embassy in Guatemala City that they are ready to proceed with a given case. (At that point, USCIS will contact the U.S. prospective adoptive parents with further instructions concerning the new procedures and the additional information that CNA requests.)

Department and USCIS officials are working closely with CNA officials to clarify all details of the new procedure in an effort to ensure that cases will move forward successfully. As soon as we have a fully defined process we will provide additional information.