

[travel.state.gov](#) > [Intercountry Adoption](#) > [Country Information](#) > [Alerts & Notices](#) > **Democratic Republic of the Congo**



Democratic Republic of the Congo

May 12, 2014

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Invitation to Adoptive Families and Adoption Service Providers to Participate in Conference Calls Regarding Adoptions from the Democratic Republic of the Congo

On May 4, U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry met with the Democratic Republic of the Congo President, Joseph Kabila, in Kinshasa. Secretary Kerry raised the ongoing suspension on exit permit issuances for Congolese adopted children during the meeting, urging President Kabila to move as rapidly as possible in the review of the intercountry adoption process and also to lift the new suspension on exit permit issuances for Congolese adopted children. In light of this development, and the recent news highlighted in the Department of State's [April 28 Adoption Notice](#), the Department of State and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) will host three conference calls. The invitation for a call with Congressional staffers will be sent out separately.

Invitation to adoptive families: Adoptive families who are waiting for the suspension on exit permits to lift and prospective adoptive families seeking to adopt from the Democratic Republic of the Congo are invited to participate in a conference call on May 16 from 10:00-11:30 a.m. (Eastern). Please see the USCIS invitation for call-in details.

Invitation to adoption service providers and stakeholders: Adoption service providers operating adoption programs in or supporting prospective adoptive families seeking to adopt from the Democratic Republic of the Congo are invited to participate in a conference call on May 16 from 1:00-2:00 p.m. (Eastern). We will have limited lines available.

Call line: 1-888-363-4749

Passcode: 6276702 #

Please direct questions related to this notice, or a specific adoption from the DRC, to the Department of State, Office of Children's Issues at 1-888-407-4747 within the United States, or 202-501-4444 from outside the United States. Email inquiries may be directed to AskCI@state.gov.