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Democratic Republic of the Congo

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The Department of State Strongly Recommends Against Adopting from the DRC at this time:

In light of the DRC's September 26, 2014 announcement that its exit permit suspension for adopted children remains in effect indefinitely, the Department of State has asked all adoption agencies to cease referring new DRC adoption cases for U.S. prospective adoptive parents at this time. The Department of State strongly recommends against initiating an adoption in the DRC at this time, as adoptive children cannot leave the DRC without an exit permit issued by the DRC's Directorate of General Migration, even with a finalized adoption. Congolese courts continue to issue adoption decrees under existing Congolese law, despite the exit permit suspension.

We continue to press the DRC government on lifting the suspension so that Congolese children with finalized adoptions waiting for an exit permit can join their adoptive families as soon as possible. We are committed to working with the DRC government to address their concerns and continue to advocate for opportunities to engage on long-term adoption reforms in the DRC.