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e-APP FOR EUROPE PROJECT
First Regional Meeting, Helsinki, Finland

Project funded by the European Union

The Permanent Bureau of the Hague Conference on Private International Law and the Ministries of Justice of Spain and Finland present their compliments to the National and Contact Organs of the Members and to the Competent Authorities designated under the *Hague Convention of 5 October 1961 Abolishing the Requirement of Legalisation for Foreign Public Documents* (Apostille Convention) and have the honour to provide them with additional information regarding the first regional meeting of the *e-APP for Europe Project* to take place in Helsinki, Finland on Monday 14 February 2011.

The current draft programme and other relevant information such as registration, venue and hotels are now available on the website of the Hague Conference (< www.hcch.net >) under “Latest developments” or via the “Apostille Section”.

Please note that registration is required to participate in this event. Completed registration forms should be sent before **28 January 2011** to Ms Lucía Prieto, Project Manager of the *e-APP for Europe Project* at < lucia.prieto@mjusticia.es >, with a copy to < central.authority@om.fi >.

In principle, the regional meeting is open to any Contracting State of the Apostille Convention, Member of the Hague Conference and to any interested State. However, since places are limited and as this regional meeting is part of the *e-APP for Europe project* (funded by the European Union), priority will be given to States of northern Europe and other EU Member States if need be.

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The Permanent Bureau and the Ministries of Justice of Spain and Finland avail themselves of this opportunity to renew to the National and Contact Organs of the Members and to the Competent Authorities designated under the Apostille Convention assurances of its highest consideration and esteem.

The Hague, 17 December 2010

The e-APP for Europe is a transnational e-justice/e-administration project designed to develop best practices in relation to the Apostille Convention by promoting the e-APP, in particular the use of e-Registers of Apostilles. This is a joint initiative of the Hague Conference and the Ministry of Justice of Spain in association with Finland, France and the Czech Republic, which is being funded by the European Commission under its "Civil Justice" programme. The 18-month project is comprised of three interrelated elements: 1) The development and implementation of a central e-Register of Apostilles for all Competent Authorities in Spain; 2) The holding of three regional meetings across Europe to encourage all participating States to implement e-Registers; 3) The holding of the 6th International Forum on the e-APP (which took place on 29 and 30 June 2010). The Conclusions and Recommendations of the Forum are available [here](#) as well as on the Apostille Section of the Hague Conference website.

To the National and Contact Organs of the Members (by e-mail only)

To the Competent Authorities designated under the Apostille Convention (by e-mail only)

Copy for information to the Diplomatic Missions of the Members (by e-mail only)

Copy for information to the participants of the 6th Forum on the e-APP (by e-mail only)