

Ministry of Justice

Directorate-General for Prevention, Youth and Sanctions Judicial Youth Policy Division

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To the Director-General of the China Center of Adoption Affairs No 7 Baiguang Road Xuanwu District BEIJING Peoples Republic of China 200053 Address for visitors Schedeldoekshaven 100 2511 EX Den Haag Telephone +31 (0)70 3 70 69 73 Fax +31 (0)70 3 70 79 75 www.justitie.nl

Department Contact Extension no. E-mail Date Our reference

Management Department J.A.Th. Vroomans 31-70 370 6552 j.vroomans@minjus.nl 23 July 2007

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Adoption of Chinese children by Dutch citizens Concerning

Please quote date of letter and our ref. when replying. Do not raise more than one subject per letter.

Dear Mr. Lu Ying,

During the most recent visit of a delegation from the central authority of the Netherlands to the China Center of Adoption Affairs (CCAA) in May 2006, items for discussion included the importance of a procedure that is as clear as possible in the case of intercountry adoption. The discussions also addressed the reports that have appeared in the international media regarding a number of procedures in the provinces of Henan and Changsha, in which irregularities had been identified.

You stated that this concerned 65 cases in which the correct procedure with regard to registering the abandoned child had allegedly not been followed. In all of those cases in which children had been adopted abroad, you stated that you had informed the relevant authorities.

It was possible to jointly establish that none of the children involved have been placed with families in the Netherlands.

However, since then, there have again been reports in the international media concerning irregularities in relation to the adoption of children in China.

I have been following these reports with great concern.

In view of the sensitive nature of the subject matter and the damage that could be inflicted upon the interests of the children in question, I would be very grateful if you could inform me as to whether any new information has come

to light since the Dutch delegation's visit to CCAA and whether any facts have emerged regarding possible irregularities in respect of adoptions to the Netherlands. I would also be grateful if you could provide me with information regarding any efforts being made on your part to prevent or combat trafficking in children in light of (intercountry) adoption and any preventative measures that are being taken in order to prevent children from becoming available for intercountry adoption in an unlawful manner, i.e. contrary to the basic principles of international treaties.

I look forward to receiving your reply.

Yours sincerely,

The Minister of Justice, on his behalf, the Director of Judicial Youth Policy Division,

N.P. Levenkamp