

**Practice note 17 – Apostille applications for Documents intended for use in China**

Members will be aware from our previous practice note 13, that China has acceded to the Apostille Convention.

Documents intended for use in China no longer required category A authentication. Once notarised, they can now be submitted to the Authentication Unit for an Apostille.

This includes e-Apostilles (with the usual caveat that the receiving Country may not be willing to accept these - always check with the recipient).

As part of the accession to the convention, the Chinese Consulates are no longer required to legalise the document on return from the Authentication Unit. The document(s) can be submitted directly to the party(s) in China.

For more information, please refer to the Embassy notice for these changes at [http://auckland.china-consulate.gov.cn/eng/notices/202310/t20231025\\_11167765.htm](http://auckland.china-consulate.gov.cn/eng/notices/202310/t20231025_11167765.htm)

Note the Embassy's point "IV" about checking the documents before completion and submitting. This is particularly relevant given the recent change, as it may take some time for receiving parties to become aware of/familiar with the new process

As previously noted, the accession of China to the Apostille Convention does not affect Hong Kong and Macao in the continuing issue and use of Apostilles.