Nationality Instructions
Procedural section

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

1. The Section of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office with which the Nationality Directorate is most often in communication is the Nationality and Passport Section of the Consular Division, at the Old Admiralty Building, London, SW1A 2AF.

2. Consular Division, which deals with nationality and passport policy questions, births and deaths registration and marriages and civil partnerships abroad, etc, should be consulted via NPSCU Policy Section whenever there is difficulty or doubt about these subjects and when advice or information is needed about current foreign laws governing nationality, marriage, civil partnership, divorce, legitimation etc. Reference should also be made to the Consular Division if any difficulty arises in correspondence with a Foreign and Commonwealth Office post abroad or if it is necessary to send a reply by telephone or telegram.

3. An enquiry which relates to other matters may need to be referred to another section of the Foreign & Commonwealth Office. Some of the main sections, which caseworkers may occasionally need to consult, and their respective areas of responsibility, are as follows:

- Joint Entry Clearance Unit (formerly Migration and Visa Department), 89 Albert Embankment, London, handles Foreign Office issues relating to asylum policy, DNA tests, visas, and Hong Kong residual matters

- Protocol Division, King Charles Street, London, deals, amongst other things, with diplomatic immunity, protection, privileges and appointments

- European Union Department, Downing Street, is the section with responsibility for matters relating to the enlargement of the EU, the European Parliament and its institutions, as well as the policy on European immigration and frontiers

4. NB. All enquiries for the F&CO should be conducted via Consular Division as described in paragraph 2 above. Under no circumstances should staff attempt to contact any other F&CO section direct.