

# Intercountry Adoption = Approved

Having to wait a month for one of the biggest decisions of your life was somewhat painful and well.... the longest month ever! So here we are on March 31st and we have received the following - against all odds - an absolute miracle as Rwanda is NOT one of the countries that Australians can ordinarily adopt from - my little girl IS the first Rwandan adopted in NSW under the Intercountry Adoptions, because her Mumma didn't take no as an answer, because her Mumma wrote to our Prime minister and convinced people to find flexibility within their laws.



This is not a newsletter - just a quick update - here is what we received today....

Dear Michele,

Just wanted to let you know that your assessment has been approved today. You are approved as a suitable adoptive applicant under NSW legislation. Congratulations!

As I head off to bed, with a grateful heart tonight, grateful that I never gave up, grateful that I never stopped advocating for one of Rwanda's most vulnerable - my Flora, grateful that five years of my life has been spent in Rwanda raising a little girl who I never thought I would be raising when I left Sydney in 2015, grateful for so many friends who have been in our corner since day one, many have come and gone but for the stayers - we thank you - we are grateful you have believed in us and our mission here in Rwanda of training teachers and educating little people and raising Flora.

Next we need to receive a compliance certificate from Rwandan authorities and once we have that as an Intercountry adoption, Flora is automatically entitled to Australian citizenship and then a passport - so we still have a little way to go but we are making progress and it's happening overwhelmingly quickly.

Tomorrow afternoon we start 12 days of school break and then we will send out a newsletter of other things happening in and around Kigali, including some Teacher training.

Much love, Michele and Flora xo

