



## RESPONSES TO INFORMATION REQUESTS (RIRs)

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2 February 2009

### COG103072.FE

Republic of the Congo: Treatment of members of the Pan-African Union for Social Democracy (Union panafricaine pour la démocratie sociale, UPADS) (2008 - January 2009)  
Research Directorate, Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, Ottawa

Information on the treatment of members of the Pan-African Union for Social Democracy (Union panafricaine pour la démocratie sociale, UPADS) was scarce among the sources consulted by the Research Directorate. In an Agence France-Presse (AFP) article published 11 December 2008, the Congolese Observatory of Human Rights (Observatoire congolais des droits de l'homme, OCDH) reported that Gilbert Tsonguissa Moulangu, a member of the UPADS, the main opposition party in the Republic of the Congo, had been in prison in Brazzaville since 3 December 2008. The article did not provide the reason for his detention (AFP 11 Dec. 2008). The OCDH also stated that the government of the Republic of the Congo has used [translation] "threats and other types of intimidation" against political opponents (ibid.).

This Response was prepared after researching publicly accessible information currently available to the Research Directorate within time constraints. This Response is not, and does not purport to be, conclusive as to the merit of any particular claim for refugee protection. Please find below the list of sources consulted in researching this Information Request.

#### Reference

Agence France-Presse (AFP). 11 December 2008. "Congo : détention d'un membre du principal parti de l'opposition." (Factiva)

#### Additional Sources Consulted

**Oral sources:** The Observatoire congolais des droits de l'homme (OCDH) in Brazzaville did not respond to a request for information within time constraints.

**Internet sites, including:** Afrik.com, AllAfrica, Amnesty International (AI), British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), *Le Choc* [Brazzaville], Les Dépêches de Brazzaville -Agence d'information d'Afrique Centrale (ADIAC), European Country of Origin Information Network (ecoi.net), Fédération internationale des ligues des droits de l'homme (FIDH), Freedom House, Human Rights First, Human Rights Watch (HRW), International Crisis Group, Jeune Afrique, Office of the United

Nations (UN) High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR Refworld), Radio France internationale (RFI), ReliefWeb, Reporters sans frontières (RSF), Union panafricaine pour la démocratie sociale (UPADS), UN Integrated Regional Information Networks (IRIN).

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