



RESPONSES TO INFORMATION REQUESTS (RIRs)

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The Board		26 October 2010
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Biographies		
Organization Chart	Republic of the Congo/France: Whether someone born in the Congo (Brazzaville), whose parents were born in the Congo in 1940 and 1943, is eligible for French nationality; if so, the process for obtaining it	
Employment		
Legal and Policy		
References	Research Directorate, Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, Ottawa	
Publications		
Tribunal		
Refugee Protection Division		
Immigration Division		
Immigration Appeal Division		
Decisions		
Forms		
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Research		
Research Program	According to two sources consulted by the Research Directorate, persons born in the Republic of the Congo and whose parents were born in the Republic of the Congo between 1940 and 1943 are eligible for French nationality (Republic of the Congo 25 Oct. 2010; France 25 Oct. 2010). In a 25 October 2010 telephone interview with the Research Directorate, a representative of the Embassy of the Republic of the Congo in Paris explained that those individuals may acquire French nationality on the basis of the principle that persons born in the territories that had colony status could become French citizens, provided that they make application to do so. Congolese citizens who cannot prove that they or their parents were born before Congo's independence can consult the archives of the colonial administration at the prefecture in the city of Nantes, which managed them during the colonial period (Republic of the Congo 25 Oct. 2010). The prefecture can provide, among other things, a registration number and a birth certificate in order to create an official nationality application file and can submit the file to the competent authorities in the applicant's place of residence (ibid.).	
National Documentation Packages	Additional information on the process for applying for French nationality could not be found among the sources consulted by the Research Directorate.	
Issue Papers and Country Fact Sheets	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.	
Responses to Information Requests		
Recent Research		
Media Centre		
News		
Information Sheets		
Media Relations		
Transparency		
Completed Access to Information Requests		

References

France. 25 October 2010. Embassy of France in Brazzaville. Telephone interview with a representative.

Republic of the Congo. 25 October 2010. Embassy of the Congo in Paris. Telephone interview with a representative.

Additional Sources Consulted

Proactive Disclosure

Oral Sources: Attempts to reach representatives of the Embassy of the Republic of the Congo in Brussels and the French consulate in Pointe-Noire were unsuccessful.

Internet sites, including: African Press Organization (APO), Afrik.com, Afrol News, AllAfrica.com, *La Conscience* [Kinshasa], European Country of Origin Information Network (ecoi.net), Grioo.com, InfoSud Belgique (InfoSud), Internationale de l'éducation (IE), Keesing Reference Systems, Organisation internationale de la francophonie (OIF), Réseau des médias francophones (MEDI AF), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations — Integrated Regional Information Network (IRIN), United States — Department of State.

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