



## RESPONSES TO INFORMATION REQUESTS (RIRs)

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<b>The Board</b>		
About the Board		29 April 2009
Biographies	<b>TCD103079.FE</b>	
Employment	Chad: Leadership of the United Front for Democratic Change (Front uni pour le changement, FUC) in 2005-2006; the signatories to the peace agreement with the government; the positions they were offered in the government; FUC members who joined splinter groups, also known as the United Front for Change (FUC)	
Legal and Policy	Research Directorate, Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, Ottawa	
References		
Organization Chart		
Publications		
<b>Tribunal</b>	<b>Overview of the creation of the United Front for Change (Front Uni pour le changement, FUC)</b>	
Decisions		
Forms	Sources consulted by the Research Directorate indicate that when the United Front for Change (Front Uni pour le changement, FUC) was founded at the end of December 2005, it was led by Mahamat Nour Abdelkerim (HRW 9 Jan. 2007; May and Massey Mar. 2007; <i>Le Figaro</i> 15 Oct. 2007).	
Immigration Appeal Division		
Immigration Division		
Refugee Protection Division	According to a January 2007 report published by Human Rights Watch (HRW), the FUC as a coalition that brought together eight rebel factions:	
Statistics	[HRW English version]	
<b>Research</b>		
Research Program	The eight groups included: RDL [Rassemblement pour la Démocratie et la Liberté (Rally for Democracy and Freedom)], SCUD [Socle pour le Changement, l'Unité nationale et la Démocratie (Platform for Change, Unity and Democracy)], CNT [Concorde Nationale du Tchad (Chadian National Concord Movement)], FNTR (Front Nationale pour le Tchad Rénové, National Front for the Renewal of Chad), CNR (Conseil National pour le Redressement, National Council for Recovery), FRRRT (Force pour le Ratissage, le Regroupement et le Redressement du Tchad, Force for the Cleansing, Reunification and Resurgence of Chad), Groupe du 8 Décembre, and FIDL. FUC was originally known as the Front Uni pour le Changement Démocratique au Tchad, FUCD (United Front for Democratic Change in Chad). (Emphasis in original)	
National Documentation Packages		
Issue Papers and Country Fact Sheets		
Responses to Information Requests		
Recent Research		
<b>Media Centre</b>	<b>Break-up of the FUC</b>	
News		
Information Sheets	According to Radio France Internationale (RFI), [translation] "the personality of Mahamat Nour, the leader chosen by the Sudanese at that time, the power of regional bodies and the ambitions of certain lieutenants, led to the FUC's breakdown" (RFI 7 Dec. 2007).	
Media Relations		
Proactive Disclosure	An article published on 1 August 2006 on Afrik.com indicates that following the attempted coup of April 2006, Ahmat Yacoub, advisor, founder and former secretary	

general of the FNTR indicated that there was [translation] “divisiveness between Nour and several elements.” Afrik.com added that Mahamat Béchir, deputy foreign representative, resigned from the FUC on 30 July 2006 (Afrik.com 1 Aug. 2006). Also, Albissaty Saleh Allazam, coalition spokesperson, called for the leader’s resignation (ibid.). In addition, denying Ahmat Yacoub’s allegations pointing to the withdrawal of the CNT from the FUC, Allazam stated that [translation] “the only group that withdrew from the coalition is Mahamat Nour’s RDL” (ibid.).

At the end of December 2006, the FUC’s leader signed a peace agreement with President Idriss Déby Itno in Libya (AI 2008; AFP 19 Oct. 2007; HRW 9 Jan. 2007). Under this agreement, the FUC’s troops were integrated into the Chadian National Army (Armée nationale tchadienne, ANT), and their leader, Mahamat Nour, was appointed Minister of Defence (AI 2008; UN 28 May 2007; May and Massey March 2007; see also *PHW 2008* 2008).

A 9 March 2007 article published by *Marchés Tropicaux et Méditerranéens* indicates that two other members of the FUC, Lona (or Laona) Gong Raul and Ismael Idriss Ismael, were appointed to positions in the Chadian government, as [translation] “secretary general for relations with the National Assembly and secretary of state for foreign relations responsible for African integration, respectively (see also Reuters 4 Mar. 2007 and UN 28 May 2007).

The Associated Press (AP) indicates that in response to this agreement, the FUC leadership dismissed their leader at a [translation] “crisis committee” meeting (AP 26 Dec. 2006).

According to the *Political Handbook of the World 2008 (PHW 2008)*, dissident members of the FUC formed a new group under the same name, led by Abderman Koulamallah (*PHW 2008* 2008, 241). However, according to a March 2007 report by Roy May and Simon Massey, published by Writenet, a network of researchers and writers on human rights, forced migration, and ethnic and political conflict, the FUC witnessed the formation of a second and much more [translation] “political” group of the same name, led by Abdelwahid Aboud Makay (or Makaye). May and Massey add that other FUC members have returned to the Rally of Democratic Forces (Rassemblement des Forces Démocratiques, RAFD) (Mar. 2007).

HRW states that the dissident faction of the FUC reportedly led by Abdelwahid Aboud Makaye rejoined the Union of Forces for Democracy and Development (Union des Forces pour la Démocratie et le Développement, UFDD) in 2006 after signing the 24 December 2006 peace agreement with the Chadian government, which officially disbanded the FUC (HRW 9 Jan. 2007).

Further information on the FUC signatories to a peace agreement with the government, the positions they were offered in the government, and the members who joined dissident factions of the FUC could not be found among the sources consulted by the Research Directorate.

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.

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#### Additional Sources Consulted

**Internet sites, including:** AllAfrica.com, British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), United Nations Security Council.

  
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