



RESPONSES TO INFORMATION REQUESTS (RIRs)

[New Search](#) | [About RIR's](#) | [Help](#)

19 January 2005

SEN43292.FE

Senegal: Procedure for a man who was born in Nigeria to a Senegalese father and an Ivorian mother in 1973 to be recognized as a Senegalese citizen; whether the fact that his birth certificate was issued by Nigerian authorities and then transcribed by the Senegalese embassy in Lagos means that he is recognized as Senegalese; the effect of his mother's Ivorian nationality on his nationality (2004)

Research Directorate, Immigration and Refugee Board, Ottawa

Under section 5 of the Act No. 61-10 of 7 March 1961 on the determination of Senegalese nationality, [translation] "the legitimate child of a Senegalese father" (Senegal 7 Mar. 1961) automatically receives Senegalese nationality. However, the consul of the Embassy of the Republic of Senegal in Ottawa provided the following information in a 18 January 2005 telephone interview with the Research Directorate. The man in question would automatically have Senegalese nationality as a result of his father's Senegalese nationality. To obtain official Senegalese documents, such as a passport, he must have his birth certificate transcribed at the Senegalese embassy in Lagos. Normally, the embassy would then give him a Senegalese birth certificate. That birth certificate would confirm his Senegalese nationality and would enable him to obtain a passport or any other Senegalese identity document.

The man could have dual Senegalese and Ivorian nationality only if he acquired Senegalese nationality through his father. If his mother was Senegalese and his father was of another nationality, the man in question could not maintain dual nationality. He would have to renounce his Ivorian nationality to obtain Senegalese nationality. However, in the eyes of the Senegalese government, since it is the father who is Senegalese, the mother's nationality would not affect the son's.

According to *Citizenship Laws of the World*, this man could have Ivorian nationality as a result of his mother's nationality (United States Mar. 2001, 58). Côte d'Ivoire also recognizes dual nationality (ibid.).

For additional information on nationality through parentage in Senegal, see SEN43197.EF dated 6 December 2004.

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.

References

Embassy of the Republic of Senegal in Ottawa. 18 January 2005. Telephone interview with the consul.

Senegal. 7 March 1961. *Loi n° 61-10 du 7 mars 1961 déterminant la nationalité sénégalaise*.

United States. March 2001. Office of Personnel Management. *Citizenship Laws of the World*. <<http://www.opm.gov/extra/investigate/is-01.pdf>> [Accessed 19 Jan. 2005].

The attached reproduction is a copy of an official work that is published by the Government of Canada. The reproduction has not been produced in affiliation with, or with the endorsement of the Government of Canada.

