



## RESPONSES TO INFORMATION REQUESTS (RIRs)

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The Board		21 January 2004
About the Board	<b>RDC42351.FE</b>	
Biographies		
Organization Chart	Democratic Republic of Congo: The Liberal Democrats Assembly, including its platform, structure, activities and leaders, in particular, its founding president, Alphonse Mwamba Mulunda (1990-January 2004)	
Employment	Research Directorate, Immigration and Refugee Board, Ottawa	
Legal and Policy		
References		
Publications	No recent information on the Liberal Democrats Assembly (Rassemblement des démocrates libéraux du Zaïre, RDL) or on its founding president, Alphonse Mwamba Mulunda, could be found among the sources consulted by the Research Directorate within the time constraints for this Response. Attempts to reach the party's offices at the telephone number provided on the Internet site of Liberal International proved unsuccessful.	
Tribunal		
Refugee Protection Division		
Immigration Division		
Immigration Appeal Division	Without providing any details, some sources indicated that the RDL was one of the political groups that existed under Mobutu ( <i>Documentation-Réfugiés</i>	
Decisions		
Forms		
Statistics	16-29 Mar. 1993; AP 16 Jan. 1992; Congonline n.d.). However, on the Internet site of Liberal International, which was last updated on 5 December 2000, the RDL is registered as a political party in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Alphonse Mwamba Mulunda, former finance minister under Mobutu ( <i>Le Phare</i> 19 Jan. 2004; AP 16 Jan. 1992) was the president of that party (ibid.; <i>Documentation-Réfugiés</i> 16-29 Mar. 1993; Liberal International 5 Dec. 2000; Congonline n.d.).	
Research		
Research Program		
National Documentation Packages	In a 19 January 2004 e-mail sent to the Research Directorate, the editor-in-chief of the Congolese daily <i>Le Phare</i> , published in Kinshasa, indicated that, pending the results of a thorough investigation, there was some doubt as to the actual existence of this party and that, if it did exist, [translation] "it did not seem to be bustling with activity."	
Issue Papers and Country Fact Sheets		
Responses to Information Requests		
Recent Research	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 to refugee status or asylum. Please find below the list of additional sources consulted in researching this Information Request.	
Media Centre		
News		
Information Sheets		
Media Relations	<u><a href="#">References</a></u>	
Proactive Disclosure	Associated Press (AP). 16 January 1992. Michelle Faul. "Eight Killed in Ethnic Clashes Linked to Democracy Conference." (Dialog)	

Congonline. n.d. "Partis politiques."

<<http://www.congonline.com/Politiq/partis.htm>> [Accessed 19 Jan. 2004]

*Documentation-Réfugiés* [Paris]. 16-29 March 1993. Supplement to No. 212. "Zaire : Partis politiques."

Liberal International. 5 December 2000. "Facts & Figures: Rassemblement des démocrates libéraux de Zaïre (RDL)-Congo (Democratic Republic)."

<<http://www.liberal-international.org/factfig/contacts.html>> [Accessed 20 Jan. 2004]

*Le Phare* [Kinshasa]. 19 January 2004. E-mail sent to the Research Directorate by the editor-in-chief.

#### Additional Sources Consulted

*Africa Confidential* 1990-2003

*Africa Research Bulletin* 1993-2003

Belgium. October 2002. Documentation Centre for Asylum Agencies (CEDOCA). *Rapport de mission à Kinshasa (République démocratique du Congo) du 16 juin au 5 août 2002.*

Dialog

*Info-Congo/Kinshasa* 2000-2001

*The International Who's Who* 1997-2004

IRB Databases

*Jeune Afrique* 1996-2000

*Jeune Afrique/L'Intelligent* 2000-January 2004

*Mondes rebelles.* 2001

Resource Centre country file. RDC

#### **Internet sites, including:**

Africatime

Allafrica

Digitalcongo.net

European Country of Origin Information Network (Ecoi.net)

ReliefWeb

*Le Soir* [Brussels]

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