



RESPONSES TO INFORMATION REQUESTS (RIRs)

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Republic of the Congo: A duplicata d'acte de naissance, including the authority who issues it, the reason for and time of its issuance and its various uses; the difference between a duplicata d'acte de naissance and the original birth certificate; whether one or both of these documents feature the name of the arrondissement in which they were issued or where the birth was registered
Research Directorate, Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, Ottawa

During a 19 May 2010 telephone interview with the Research Directorate, a consular representative of the Republic of the Congo in Toronto stated that the duplicata d'acte de naissance is a document that replaces the original birth certificate. Although the two documents appear identical, the duplicata d'acte de naissance has a stamp indicating that it is replacing the original birth certificate (Republic of the Congo 19 May 2010). In addition, like the original birth certificate, the duplicata d'acte de naissance displays the name and number of the arrondissement in which the birth was registered, the parents' citizenship and the signature of the civil status officer who issued it (ibid.). During a 3 June 2010 telephone interview with the Research Directorate, a consular representative of the Republic of the Congo in Toronto added that the occupation of the father and mother are indicated on the duplicata d'acte de naissance (ibid. 3 June 2010). According to the Consular Representative, birth certificates enable individuals to take advantage of various services, such as family benefits, school registration and medical care (ibid. 19 May 2010). Additional information on the duplicata de l'acte de naissance 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.

References

Republic of the Congo. 3 June 2010. Consulate General of Congo in Toronto. Telephone interview with a consular representative.

_____. 19 May 2010. Consulate General of Congo in Toronto. Telephone interview with a consular representative.

Additional Sources Consulted

Oral sources: Attempts to contact the embassy of the Republic of the Congo in Bruxelles and the Brazzaville town hall were unsuccessful.

Internet sites, including : Afrol News, AllAfrica.com, Association internationale des maires francophones (AIMF), European Country of Origin Information Network (ecoi.net), Government of the Republic of the Congo, Grioo.com, InfoSud Belgique (InfoSud), Internationale de l'éducation (IE), Office of the United Nations (UN) High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Organisation internationale de la francophonie (OIF), Réseau des médias francophones (MEDI AF), UN Integrated Regional Information Networks (IRIN), UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), United States (US) Department of State.

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