RWA102860.FE

Rwanda: Whether recent changes have been made regarding the issuance of identity cards
Research Directorate, Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, Ottawa


A 6 July 2008 article in The New Times of Kigali cites the Coordinator of the National Identity Card Project as stating that "the new electronic national identity cards for Kigali city residents are ready" and will be distributed once the law on citizenship and nationality is passed (The New Times 6 July 2008).

The new identity cards will be electronic (ibid. 12 Apr. 2008; Syfia Grands Lacs 20 Sept. 2007), and two types of card will be offered. The first type of identity card, costing 500 Rwandan francs (approximately 0.93 Canadian dollars [Oanda 16 July 2008]), is designed for the general public and will have a computer chip containing [translation] "basic information: name, father's and mother's names, region of origin and of residence, occupation, date of birth, marital status, dependent children under 16 years of age, and spouse's name" (ibid.; see also East African Business Week 31 Mar. 2008). The second type of identity card, costing 15,000 Rwandan Francs, is intended for the most affluent citizens, and its chip will contain "numerous types of information, such as health insurance information, Social Security Fund number, voter's registration number, driver's licence number ..." (Syfia Grands Lacs 20 sept. 2007; see also East African Business Week 31 Mar. 2008). The cards will be issued in two separate phases (East African Business Week 31 Mar. 2008).

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.
Response to Information Request RWA102860.FE

References


[Accessed 14 July 2008]


Additional sources consulted

Oral sources: The Embassy of the Republic of Rwanda in Washington and the Canadian High Commission in Kenya did not respond to requests for information within time constraints.

Internet sites, including: AllAfrica.com, Factiva, Freedom House, government of Rwanda, United States Department of State.
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.