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RESPONSES TO INFORMATION REQUESTS (RIRs)

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The Board		1 April 2011
About the Board	COD103711.FE	
Biographies		
Organization Chart	Democratic Republic of the Congo: Process for applying for or renewing a passport	
Employment	Research Directorate, Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, Ottawa	
Legal and Policy		
References	Radio Okapi, the United Nations radio station in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), interviewed a spokesman for the Department of Foreign Affairs (ministère des Affaires étrangères) by telephone for a 22 October 2009 article. During the interview, the spokesman reportedly indicated that applicants applying for the DRC's new biometric passport must [translation] "bring their voter card, US\$150 for the passport and US\$20 for the form" (Radio Okapi 22 Oct. 2009). In a telephone interview with the Research Directorate on 16 March 2011, a representative at the Embassy of the DRC in Ottawa explained that the new biometric passport entered circulation in April 2009; he also said that to apply, applicants must provide their current passport or nationality certificate, their residency card or a valid driver's licence, and pay C\$250.	
Publications		
Tribunal		
Refugee Protection Division		
Immigration Division		
Immigration Appeal Division		
Decisions		
Forms	The same embassy representative also said, in a telephone interview with the Research Directorate on 7 March 2011, that the new passport is valid for five years and that it is not renewable; unlike previous passports, the new passport does not include a page for passport extension.	
Statistics		
Research		
Research Program	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.	
National Documentation Packages		
Issue Papers and Country Fact Sheets		
Responses to Information Requests		
Recent Research		
Media Centre		
News		
Information Sheets		
Media Relations		
Transparency		
Completed Access to Information Requests		

References

Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). 16 March 2011. Embassy of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) in Ottawa. Telephone interview with a representative.

_____. 7 March 2011. Embassy of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) in Ottawa. Telephone interview with a representative.

Radio Okapi. 22 October 2009. "Kinshasa : bientôt la fin de la validité des anciens passeports." <<http://radiookapi.net/sans-categorie/2009/10/22/kinshasa-bientot-la-fin-de-la-validite-des-anciens-passeports/#more-23003>> [Accessed 7 Mar. 2011]

_____. N.d. "À propos." <<http://radiookapi.net/a-propos/>> [Accessed 7 Mar. 2011]

Additional Sources Consulted

Oral sources: Attempts to reach representatives at the embassies of the Democratic Republic of the Congo in Brussels, Lusaka and Paris were unsuccessful.

Internet sites, including: Afrik.com; AllAfrica.com; *La Conscience* [Kinshasa]; Digitalcongo.net; InfoSud Belgique (InfoSud); Keesing's Reference Systems; Panapress (PANA); *Le Phare* [Kinshasa]; *Le Potentiel* [Kinshasa].

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