



Refugee Documentation Centre (Ireland)
LEGAL AID BOARD

Liberia - Researched and compiled by the Refugee Documentation Centre of Ireland on 14 October 2010

Information on the National Patriotic Front of Liberia including activities

In July 1999 a paper published by *Writenet* states:

“Taylor’s National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) became the National Patriotic Party (NPP); Kromah’s ULIMO became the All Liberian Coalition Party (ALCOP), while George Boley lined up behind the late President Doe’s (his kinsman) National Democratic Party of Liberia (NDPL).” (Writenet (1 July 1999) *Liberia, Can Peace Be Consolidated?*,p.17)

A publication in April 2006 by the *United Kingdom Office* includes the following outlines organisations:

“National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL)

Formed in 1989, it began the civil war under the leadership of Charles Taylor, with an invasion into Nimba county that led to its control of large parts of Liberia. It acquired largely Gio and Mano support. Between 1990 and 1994, it controlled much of Liberian territory, but ceased to be active in January 1997. In 1990, a substantial faction of the NPFL split from Taylor, forming the Independent National Patriotic Front of Liberia, but this group collapsed in 1992...

National Patriotic Party (NPP)

Was led by Charles Taylor. Founded 1997 from the former armed faction the National Patriotic Front of Liberia; won the majority of seats in legislative elections in July 1997. Leader Roland Chris Yarkpah Massaquoi.” (United Kingdom (April 2006) *Country of Origin Information Report, Liberia*,p.55)

A report by the *Danish Immigration Service* in January 1999 states:

“The elections, both presidential and parliamentary, were held a few months behind schedule, on 19 July 1997. With 13 parties running in them, they passed off peacefully. The former leader of the NPFL rebel army, Charles Taylor, and his new party, the National Patriotic Party (NPP), won a landslide victory with a full 75,3% of the votes.” (Danish Immigration Service (1 January 1999) *Report on the Roving Attaché Mission to Monrovia, Liberia (7 June - 13 June 1998)*,p.7)

In April 2010 a report by *Freedom House* reviewing events of the previous year states:

“A number of political alliances and coalitions were formed in 2009. The UP, the Liberia Action Party, and the Liberty Party agreed to a merger, and a broad-based coalition between the CDC, the National Patriotic Party, and the Liberia National Union was set to contest the 2011 elections.” (Freedom House (April 2010) *Freedom in the World - Liberia (2010)*)

A *United Nations Security Council* report published in August 2010 states:

“Aspiring candidates and political parties have started preparations for the 2011 elections. So far, seven candidates, including President Johnson-Sirleaf, have declared their intention to contest the presidential election. Meanwhile, the 17 registered political parties have explored mergers and alliances. The Unity Party’s merger with the Liberia Action Party and the Liberia Unification Party is nearly finalized. Eight opposition parties, led by the Congress for Democratic Change, continue discussions to form a “grand coalition”. An emerging third group includes the Liberty Party and some key members of the National Patriotic Party and the new Democratic Alternative Movement (the New Deal Movement) under the umbrella of the Democratic Alliance.” (United Nations Security Council (11 August 2010) *Twenty-first progress report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Mission in Liberia*,p.2)

A report by *Freedom House* in April 2010 states:

“Some groups with links to wartime militia, such as the National Patriotic Party (NPP) of former president Charles Taylor and the All Liberia Coalition Party (ALCOL) of former warlord Alhaji Kromah, are represented in the legislature and therefore continue to exercise considerable authority.” (Freedom House (6 April 2010) *Countries at the Crossroads 2010, Liberia*)

References

Danish Immigration Service (1 January 1999) *Report on the Roving Attaché Mission to Monrovia, Liberia (7 June - 13 June 1998)*

<http://www.unhcr.org/refworld/pdfid/3ae6a5be0.pdf>

(Accessed 12 October 2010)

Freedom House (April 2010) *Freedom in the World - Liberia (2010)*

<http://www.freedomhouse.org/template.cfm?page=22&year=2010&country=7861>

(Accessed 12 October 2010)

Freedom House (6 April 2010) *Countries at the Crossroads 2010, Liberia*

<http://www.freedomhouse.org/modules/publications/ccr/modPrintVersion.cfm?edition=9&ccrpage=43&ccrcountry=201>

(Accessed 12 October 2010)

United Kingdom (April 2006) *Country of Origin Information Report, Liberia*

<http://rds.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/country-reports-liberia.html>

(Accessed 12 October 2010)

United Nations Security Council (11 August 2010) *Twenty-first progress report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Mission in Liberia*

http://www.ecoi.net/file_upload/1226_1282724527_n1047599.pdf

(Accessed 12 October 2010)

Writenet (1 July 1999) *Liberia, Can Peace Be Consolidated?*

<http://www.unhcr.org/refworld/pdfid/3ae6a6c94.pdf>

(Accessed 12 October 2010)

This response was prepared after researching publicly accessible information currently available to the Refugee Documentation Centre 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 read in full all documents referred to.

Sources Consulted

The African Center for the Constructive Resolution of Disputes
Amnesty International
BBC Monitoring
BBC News
Bertelsmann Transformation Index
Electronic Immigration Network
European Country of Origin Information Network
Freedom House
Google
Human Rights Watch
Human Security Gateway
Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada
Institute for Security Studies
International Crisis Group
International Relations and Security Network
IRIN News
Lexis Nexis
Minority Rights Group International
Online Newspapers
A Political and Economic Dictionary of Africa
Political Parties of the World
Refugee Documentation Centre E-Library
Refugee Documentation Centre Query Database
Reliefweb
Reuters
United Kingdom Home Office
United Nations Mission In Liberia
United States Department of State
UNHCR Refworld