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Refugee Documentation Centre (Ireland)
LEGAL AID BOARD

Cote d'Ivoire – Researched and compiled by the Refugee Documentation Centre of Ireland on 28 February 2011

Information on the LMP – Liberation for Presidential Majority, also known as Presidential Majority? What are the aims of this organisation? When was this organisation founded? Who is the current leader of the organisation? Where is the LMP based in the Ivory Coast (most probably Abidjan)? Does this group have political ties to any other political organisations in the Ivory Coast?

A Radio France Internationale report states:

“In Abidjan, the official campaign for the 31 October presidential elections kicked off yesterday [15 October]. Some 16 candidates are in the running, and among them, three heavy weights which include, first of all, outgoing president Laurent Gbagbo. He is the candidate of LMP, which is The Presidential Majority.” (Radio France Internationale (18 October 2010) *Candidates in Ivorian presidential poll launch campaign*)

A Reporters Without Borders report on media monitoring of the presidential elections in Cote d'Ivoire states:

“The first phase of the monitoring began on 15 October and ran until two days before the first round. The second phase will finish on 26 November, two days before the run-off election between the head of The Presidential Majority (LMP), incumbent President Laurent Gbagbo, and the head of the Houphouëtiste Rally for Democracy and Peace (RHDP), Alassane Ouattara.” (Reporters Without Borders (19 November 2010) *Media monitoring resumes as second-round campaign gets under way*)

An article published by Africabiz magazine states:

“It is all over the news worldwide, and at the time of this writing on January 14, 2011, Ivory Coast has two presidents and two appointed prime ministers. This being the result of disputes after the presidential ballot of November 28, 2010, which opposed the incumbent president (in place since 2000) - Laurent Gbagbo, the leader of the so-called Presidential Majority (LMP) - an alliance of Gbagbo's Popular Front of Ivory Coast (FPI) and several other minor parties and individuals, against Alassane Dramane Ouattara, anointed by the Alliance of the Houphouëtists (RHDP), a combination of Ouattara's the Rally of the Republicans (RDR), and Bedié's PDCI - The Democratic Party of Côte d'Ivoire.” (Africabiz, Issue 121-Vol2 (15 January 2011) *Facts to Understanding the Post-Electoral Imbroglio in Ivory Coast*)

The *African Elections Database* webpage on elections in Cote d'Ivoire, in a paragraph titled “Coalitions”, lists the parties which constitute the Presidential Majority (LMP) as follows:

“The Presidential Majority (LMP) [Supported Laurent Gbagbo in the 2010 Presidential Election] Member parties include the Ivorian Popular Front (FPI), Ivorian Alliance for the Republic and Democracy (AIRD), Citizens' Alternative National Movement (MNC), Republican Party of Côte d'Ivoire (PRCI), Party for Unity and the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire (PURCI), Rally for Peace, Progress, and Sharing (RPP), Citizens' Democratic Union (UDCY), Union of the New Generations (UNG), Republic Union for Democracy (URD), and the Union of Social Democrats (USD).” (African Elections Database (6 January 2011) *Elections in Côte d'Ivoire*)

This response was prepared after researching publicly accessible information among English-language sources 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.

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