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FINAL REPORT

on the

8th European Country of Origin Information Seminar

**28 – 29 June 2002
Vienna**

Danish Refugee Council
Danish Immigration Service
German Federal Office for the
Recognition of Foreign Refugees



Sponsored by the Odysseus Programme of the EUROPEAN UNION

The reports are based on the presentations during the 8th European Country of Origin Information Seminar on 28-29 June 2002 in Vienna as well as on the written notes provided by Mr. Byaruhanga, Mr. Mbaidjol and Mr. Restoy. The final report was prepared, and where necessary, updated by ACCORD (Martin Stübinger: Armenia; Bettina Scholdan: Democratic Republic of the Congo and Nigeria; Maike Vergin/Svetlana Gannushkina: Russian Federation) with the assistance of Susanne Fraczek and cleared with the respective experts.

The Table **Ethnic & Language Communities in Nigeria** was compiled by Bettina Scholdan. The country bibliographies were compiled by Susanne Fraczek.

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The country reports are accessible on <http://www.ecoi.net>

A print version of the report can be ordered from UNHCR and ACCORD

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November 2002

Editorial Board: Martin Stübinger, Bettina Scholdan, Maike Vergin, Susanne Fraczek

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8th UNHCR/ACCORD Country of Origin Information Seminar on

Armenia, DR Congo, Nigeria and the Russian Federation
28-29 June 2002, Vienna

Gartenhotel Altmannsdorf

Hoffingergasse 26-28
A-1120 Vienna, Austria
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AGENDA

28 June 2002

Opening

09:00

Welcome and Introduction by:

Mr. Wolfgang Kopetzky

Deputy Secretary General of the Austrian Red Cross

Ms. Karola Paul

Representative, UNHCR BO Vienna

Mr. Jean-Claude Forget

Regional Legal Coordinator, UNHCR BO Budapest

After the opening the Seminar participants will be divided into two groups to allow for better working conditions. In both groups the same countries will be dealt with alternately on the respective days, i.e. DR Congo and Nigeria on 28 June and Armenia and the Russian Federation on 29 June.





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**28 June 2002, morning session
Nigeria**

DR Congo /

Group A: DR CONGO

09:30 Country of Origin Background

Mr. Godfrey Byaruhanga
*Central Africa Researcher,
Amnesty International, London*

Additional remarks:

Mr. Ngonlardje Kabra Mbaidjol
*Regional Representative,
UNHCR RO Kinshasa*

Questions and answers

11:00 Coffee break

11:30 Refugee Status Determination and
Human Rights related Issues

Mr. Ngonlardje Kabra Mbaidjol
*Regional Representative,
UNHCR RO Kinshasa*

Additional remarks:

Mr. Godfrey Byaruhanga
*Central Africa Researcher,
Amnesty International, London*

Questions and answers

13:00 Lunch

Group B: NIGERIA

09:30 Country of Origin Background

Dr. Heinz Jockers
*Institute for African Studies,
Hamburg*

Additional remarks:

Mr. Enrique Restoy
*Nigeria Researcher,
Amnesty International, London*

Questions and answers

11:00 Coffee break

11:30 Refugee Status Determination and
Human Rights related Issues

Mr. Enrique Restoy
*Nigeria Researcher,
Amnesty International, London*

Additional remarks:

Dr. Heinz Jockers
*Institute for African Studies,
Hamburg*

Questions and answers

13:00 Lunch





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UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

28 June 2002, afternoon session

Nigeria / DR Congo

Group A: NIGERIA

14:30 Country of Origin Background

Dr. Heinz Jockers
*Institute for African Studies,
Hamburg*

Additional remarks:

Mr. Enrique Restoy
*Nigeria Researcher,
Amnesty International, London*

Questions and answers

16:00 Coffee break

16:30 Refugee Status Determination and
Human Rights related Issues

Mr. Enrique Restoy
*Nigeria Researcher,
Amnesty International, London*

Additional remarks:

Dr. Heinz Jockers
*Institute for African Studies,
Hamburg*

Questions and answers

18:00 Closure of the first day

19:30 Social Supper

Group B: DR CONGO

14:30 Country of Origin Background

Mr. Godfrey Byaruhanga
*Central Africa Researcher,
Amnesty International, London*

Additional remarks:

Mr. Ngonlardje Kabra Mbaidjol
*Regional Representative,
UNHCR RO Kinshasa*

Questions and answers

16:00 Coffee break

16:30 Refugee Status Determination and
Human Rights related Issues

Mr. Ngonlardje Kabra Mbaidjol
*Regional Representative,
UNHCR RO Kinshasa*

Additional remarks:

Mr. Godfrey Byaruhanga
*Central Africa Researcher,
Amnesty International, London*

Questions and answers

18:00 Closure of the first day

19:30 Social Supper





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**29 June 2002, morning session
Federation**

Armenia / Russian

Group A: ARMENIA

09:00 Country of Origin Background

Dr. Gerayer Koutcharian
*Chairperson of the Coordinating
Group Armenia of the Society for
Threatened Peoples*

Additional remarks:

Mr. Ayaki ITO
*Protection Officer,
UNHCR BO Yerevan*

Questions and answers

10:30 Coffee break

11:00 Refugee Status Determination and
Human Rights related Issues

Mr. Ayaki ITO
*Protection Officer,
UNHCR BO Yerevan*

Additional remarks:

Dr. Gerayer Koutcharian
*Chairperson of the Coordinating
Group Armenia of the Society for
Threatened Peoples*

Questions and answers

12:30 Lunch

Group B: RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Consecutive translation of Ms. Gannushkina's
presentation will be kindly provided by Ms. Irina
Sherbakova - please note the earlier beginning!

08:30 Human Rights Situation in the RF;
the Situation in Chechnya

Ms. Svetlana Gannushkina
*Chairperson of Memorial Legal
Network*

Additional remarks:

Mr. Jean-Paul Cavalieri
*Senior Protection Officer,
UNHCR BO Moscow*

Questions and answers

10:30 Coffee break

11:00 Refugee Status Determination and
IDPs in the Russian Federation

Mr. Jean-Paul Cavalieri
*Senior Protection Officer,
UNHCR BO Moscow*

Additional remarks:

Ms. Svetlana Gannushkina
*Chairperson of Memorial Legal
Network*

Questions and answers





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Austrian Centre for Country of Origin
and Asylum Research and Documentation



29 June 2002, afternoon session

Russian Federation / Armenia

Group B: RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Consecutive translation of Ms. Gannushkina's presentation will be kindly provided by Ms. Irina Sherbakova - please note the earlier beginning!

14:00 Human Rights Situation in the RF:
The Situation in Chechnya

Ms. Svetlana Gannushkina
*Chairperson of Memorial Legal
Network*

Additional remarks:

Mr. Jean-Paul Cavalieri
*Senior Protection Officer,
UNHCR BO Moscow*

Questions and answers

16:00 Coffee break

16:30 Refugee Status Determination and
IDPs in the Russian Federation

Mr. Jean-Paul Cavalieri
*Senior Protection Officer,
UNHCR BO Moscow*

Additional remarks:

Ms. Svetlana Gannushkina
*Chairperson of Memorial Legal
Network*

Questions and answers

18:30 Closure of the seminar

Group B: ARMENIA

14:30 Country of Origin Background

Dr. Gerayer Koutcharian
*Chairperson of the Coordinating
Group Armenia of the Society for
Threatened Peoples*

Additional remarks:

Mr. Ayaki ITO
*Protection Officer,
UNHCR BO Yerevan*

Questions and answers

16:00 Coffee break

16:30 Refugee Status Determination and
Human Rights related Issues

Mr. Ayaki ITO
*Protection Officer,
UNHCR BO Yerevan*

Additional remarks:

Dr. Gerayer Koutcharian
*Chairperson of the Coordinating
Group Armenia of the Society for
Threatened Peoples*

Questions and answers

18:00 Closure of the seminar

