

## SWEDISH-ZAMBIAN ASSOCIATION

### Annual Report to the AGM 2006 for the year 2005

The year 2005 saw the start of our project in support of the Dag Hammarskjöld Library at Mindolo Ecumenical Foundation at Kitwe, Zambia. The project - with a budget of SEK 120 000 of which SEK 108 000 from Sida via Forum Syd - aims at upgrading the children's corner of the library to a Youths Rights Information Centre focusing on books and activities on Gender, Human Rights and HIV/Aids. Generous contributions from our own members have made the Mindolo project possible not only for 2005, but also resulted in an extension of our project for the years 2006 and 2007 with a combined budget of SEK 252 000. In addition, board member Anna Tyllström will be a volunteer at the project for three months, also financed by Forum Syd. A monitoring visit in September by five members to Mindolo, timed in conjunction with the Dag Hammarskjöld commemoration, helped speed up the project from a slow start into an impressive activity and several important actions for youths' rights have taken place. One HIV/Aids theatre event gathered over 500 young Zambians!

The Annual General Meeting was held on 12 March 2005 at Ethnographic Museum in Stockholm together with other friendship organisations. The AGM approved the Annual Report, the Financial Report and the Auditors' Report and gave the Board a vote of confidence. The AGM also approved some changes in the constitution and elected the following Board for 2005/2006:

Tell Åke Dahllöf	Chairman	1 year left
Rolf Svanström	Vice chairman	1 year left
Lennart Simonsson	Secretary	1 year left
Göran Midman	Treasurer	Reelection 2 years
Kerstin Fagerlund	Programme Officer	New election 2 years
Siw-Inger Halling	Vice Secretary	1 year left
Anna Tyllström	Vice Progr Officer	New election 2 years
Carin Hedlund	Alternate	New election 1 year
Tommy Hemmingsson	Alternate	New election 1 year
Sigurd Wallén	Alternate	New election 1 year
Göran Häggfeldt	Auditor	Reelection 1 year
Karl-Johan Sonnegård	Auditor	Reelection 1 year
Jan Ölander	Alt. Auditor	New election 1 year

In the Nominating Committee Margareta Sonnegård (convenor), Lennart Lindholm and Paula Maritz were re-elected for 1 year. The Board met on 10 January, 14 February, 15 March, 20 April, 31 May, 20 August, 20 October and 22 November. A meeting was also held on 17 January 2006 in preparation of the AGM. Newsletter was distributed in May and November. The Association was officially registered as NGO during the year.

At the end of the year the total number of members was 150, a decrease from last year by 5. Thanks to a Sida/Forum Syd support of SEK 25 000 we are intensifying work on the web site ([www.swedish-zambian.org](http://www.swedish-zambian.org)). When ready in 2006, this will improve contact with members and save costs. Leaflets have been developed on Mindolo and our Association, the latter being distributed by the Zambian Embassy to approved visa applicants. Another proof of the excellent relations with the Embassy is the fact that the Board now meets at the Embassy Conference room. Together we organised a very pleasant Independence Day celebration in late October.

In May Lennart Simonsson attended the Africa Union Day. In July, honorary member Lennart Lindholm represented the Association at the 100 years' memorial of Dag Hammarskjöld's birth, held at Backåkra. Present were also former president K. Kaunda and Mindolo Chairperson Lucie Kasanga. Also in July the Chairman, the vice Chairman and Carin Hedlund participated at the Zam-Nordic Golf Tournament where Carin organised a raffle for the 50 participants, that (with prizes donated by the Zambian Embassy and a Sida/Forum Syd boosting) resulted in SEK 50 000 extra to Mindolo. In August the Sonnegårds arranged the traditional summer board meeting/lunch at their residence.

The Association was represented by Mr. Simonsson on the Board of the Network Southern Africa. Our Association continues as a member of Forum Syd but our Chairman resigned from their Aid Committee for Africa after six years' voluntary work. The vice Chairman is active in ICT4Africa, an NGO trying to bridge the digital divide between North and South and he also took part, together with Göran Midman, in a programme for a visiting Zambian delegation. In March Mr. Svanström organised a well attended MFS-seminar at Uppsala University. The Financial Report shows Association finances in good order after a small surplus in 2005. Stockholm, in February, 2006

The Board