

Swedish-Zambian Association
Minutes from the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
March 14, 2009
at Etnografiska museet, Stockholm

§ 1. Chairman Rolf Svanström opened the Annual General Meeting, welcoming all who attended.

§ 2. The meeting approved that the AGM was announced in due time.

§ 3. The meeting adopted the agenda.

§ 4. The meeting elected:

- a) Rolf Svanström as Chairman for the AGM.
- b) Lennart Simonsson as secretary for the AGM.
- c) Paula Maritz and Fredrik Jernqvist to certify the minutes.

§ 5. Mr Svanström presented the board's Annual Report for 2008, noting that the Mindolo Youth Rights Information Centre project was overall progressing well. Regular reports were received from Mindolo, and there was a sense that the project had transformed the youth. They “own” the project and are taking more decisions. Forum Syd, which provides most of the funds for the project, have visited Mindolo and had a favourable impression of how accounts were kept.

Members of the Swedish-Zambian Association were invited to offer ideas on how to raise funds needed for the Association’s stipulated contribution for the pending extension of the project.

During 2009, there are plans for an exchange between three board members and three persons from the Mindolo project to assess the impact of the project on the community. The Swedish group would tentatively visit in June or July and receive the Zambian visitors in the early autumn.

The Swe-Zam website continues to serve as a starting point for groups and schools planning to visit Zambia. Members were invited to offer suggestions on how to further improve the website.

A student conducting a minor field study (MFS) has been in regular contact with board member Lisa Persson.

During the year “After Work” sessions have been held at the Ethio Star restaurant in Stockholm.

The board has a good relationship with the embassy, and has been able to use a conference room at the embassy for its meetings.

§ 6. Treasurer Elisabeth Persson presented the Financial Report for 2008. The Association had 122 paying members at the end of the year, four members left during the year while 10 new members were welcomed. The Association raised 22,150 kronor in membership fees, compared to the 17,200 kronor in 2007.

2008 was another year full of activities. At the year-end, the Association had some 1,300 kronor in collected funds. More funds need to be raised as part of the stipulated contribution for the extension of the Mindolo Project.

The Association posted a profit of some 7,800 kronor for the year; the balance was almost 21,000

kronor at the beginning of 2008.

Two issues of Newsletter were published at a cost of almost 9,000 kronor.

The ongoing Mindolo Project continues to generate extra work (for the board (especially for the treasurer). The project finances are reported separately under terms stipulated by Forum Syd.

No questions were raised over the report.

§ 7. None of the auditors were present. The Chairman read the Auditors' Report. The auditors recommended that the outgoing board should be held free from liability.

§ 8. The Auditors' Report was adopted by the meeting.

§ 9. The Annual Report and Financial Report were adopted by the meeting.

§ 10. The outgoing board was held free from liability by the meeting.

§ 11. Budget and membership fees.

The meeting approved to keep membership fees unchanged (200 kronor/family, 150 kronor/individual, 100 kronor/student) for 2010.

The Treasurer presented the 2009 budget where membership fees for 2009 were estimated to generate 20,000 kronor (2,000 kronor more than 2008). Costs for the Newsletter were estimated at 9,000 kronor.

For 2009, some 14,000 kronor is needed for the voluntary contribution, of which 1,300 kronor have been collected.

The budget proposal was amended to a total income of 26,000 kronor, while costs for administration/representation were raised to 7,100 kronor.

The budget was accepted with the amended sums.

§ 12. Election of members to the Executive Committee:

a) Elisabeth Persson, Treasurer was re-elected for 2 years.

b) Joyce de Maré was re-elected for 2 years.

Karin Johansson was re-elected for 2 years.

Anna Tyllström was elected as alternate for 1 year.

Owen Mwinga was re-elected as alternate for 1 year.

Lisa Arrehag was elected (new) for 1 year.

c) Tommy Hemmingsson was re-elected as auditor for 1 year.

Karl-Johan Sonnegård was elected (new) as auditor for 1 year.

Tell Åke Dahllöf was elected (new) as an alternate auditor for 1 year.

d) No Nominating Committee was active during 2008. The outgoing board served in its place.

The meeting decided not to appoint a new Nominating Committee but instructed the incoming board to contact members for proposals. The board was also advised to provide “timely information” about nominees, should it have to serve as a Nominating Committee again.

§ 13. No members had sent in any proposals as specified in the AGM notice. The board had however mentioned some proposals.

a) Prior to the AGM, members were advised to consider proposed amendments and updates of the Constitution. The meeting approved the proposed changes.

b) The board had proposed that it be allowed to use “a portion” of the Association’s own funds for the voluntary contribution required for the Mindolo Youth project. The meeting discussed various suggestions including a cap of 30 per cent of the turnover. The meeting settled on the wording “a portion” of the funds and that the board take into account the need for sufficient funds for other activities.

c) The meeting approved to extend the Mindolo Youth project after 2009.

§ 14. Other business:

Postcards of the Hammarskjöld library at Mindlo designed by Swe-Zam members Ingemar and Ingegerd Lindaräng were displayed.

A question was raised by Märta Simonsson about the activities of Pamodzi and how to reach out to Zambian nationals. Among responses was that the “After Work” meetings have proved to be an informal venue.

Siw-Inger Halling who visited Zambia recently conveyed a greeting to the Association from President Rupiah Banda.

The Chairman said the board will write to members to sound out how many are willing to receive Newsletter only via e-mail, and donate the 30 kronor saved in distribution/printing costs to the Mindolo project.

§ 15. The Chairman closed the meeting, thanking all who attended.

Rolf Svanström, Chairman

Lennart Simonsson, Secretary

Paula Maritz, Minutes Checker

Fredrik Jernqvist, Minutes Checker