

SWEZAM PROJECT



QUARTER FOUR

(OCTOBER- DECEMBER)

NARRATIVE REPORT

Introduction

This report covers the October to December marking the end of the SWEZAM year calendar of SWEZAM.

THE DAG HAMMARSKJÖLD SEMINAR

This is a yearly activity which is held by Mindolo Ecumenical foundation under the Peace Building centre. The seminar attracts various scholars, lecturers, media practitioners and MEF participants (students). This year, the SWEZAM project was invited to attend this prestigious seminar and two of the youth members were present. Lisa Kafwanka, Gertrude Katongo and Justin Kabwe from Youth club one, youth club two and youth three club respectively.



Their participation in seminar was very much appreciated by the facilitators as they were keen to know a number of issues pertaining to peace and the great Dag Hammarskjöld's life and his works in Africa.

The Crash site trip (Outing)

Introduction

Since its establishment and inception in Kitwe, Zambia, the Swedish-Zambia Association (SWEZAM) has been actively involved in the celebrations of theme days, some of them being the **World AIDS day, the Youth day, the Youth day and Human Rights day, etc.**

In this regard, and in relation to the Human rights, the youth club has been yearly visiting the Dag Hammarskjöld memorial crush site in Ndola, Zambia as one way of honoring the late Dag Hammarskjöld, the former UN secretary for his active involvement in the rights of Humanity.

The Outing

This year, the trip to the crush site was on the 4th of October, 2008 and not on the actual day as usually used to be. This followed after the declaration that the day will now be commemorated once in four years time.



This year's trip was characterized with the youth organizer, some senior youths (YC1) members, YC2 and also the new youth club members (YC3).

It was most interesting to the new club members who were visiting the site for the first time and also interesting for the old members was to find a new man in charge of the site, Mr. Phiri.

He is a new man at the site, and yet with new theories that took most of the visitors' attention as he began to narrate the story concerning Dag Hammarskjöld's mission up to the time of his death. The narration session took the youths for about 30 minutes and they were then taken around the place, seeing the laid stones which were done some time back by the prominent people.



Thereafter, they were then taken into the store room where most of the information about the late Dag Hammarskjöld is being kept. Inside the building, the floor for questions was opened and answers were given them.

The youths participated much in the asking of questions concerning the place management, what they had not understood during the narration session, and also many things concerning the life of Dag up to the time of his death.

SWEZAM PROJECT EXHIBITION DURING THE MEF 50TH GRADUATION CEREMONY

The SWEZAM project was part of the other projects and programmes at MEF that exhibited at the ceremony. This gave the project a platform to explain to some of the MEF board members, the executive and other invited guests an opportunity for them to know more about the Programmes and activities.

The project exhibited the following items;

- ◆ **The books**
- ◆ **The posters**
- ◆ **Event photos**
- ◆ **Project profiles**
- ◆ **The two flags (Swedish and the Zambian)**



VISIT FROM AN OFFICIAL FROM THE DAG HAMMARSKJÖLD PEACE MUSEUM - USPALA SWEDEN

In October, the SWEZAM project was visited by an official from the Dag Hammarskjöld peace museum (Dr. Jasper), the objective of the visit was to see and come up with possibilities of a joint project between his organization, MEF peace centre and the SWEZAM project. The



project centering on youth exchange trips involving Zambian pupils and Swedish pupils and Forum Syd being the would be sponsors.



During his visit, he held meetings with the youth organizer together with Ms. Tasila Mbewe Peace building coordinator; he joined the youth club in their joint meeting and shared in part the ideas that are being developed. And he was taken to the crash

site by the youth members the seniors and youth club two members.

A number of ideas were shared and given out, but it was resolved that a concept paper be worked on which must have all the necessary information that can lead to attracting would sponsors. The Peace Building coordinator and the SWEZAM youth organizer were left with that task and the responsibility of developing the paper from the Zambian side and the visitor together with SWEZAM board Chairperson to work on something from the Swedish side.

SWEZAM BOARD CHAIRPERSON VISIT TO MEF/ SWEZAM PROJECT

In the month of November, the SWEZAM project was visited by the board chairperson for project monitoring and evaluation. During his stay and visit, the board chairperson was held meetings with various people at MEF that a key and play a pivotal role in the operation of YRIC. He held meetings with the following;

- ◆ **The Director**
- ◆ **The Head of Conference Research and Projects**
- ◆ **The Head of Programmes**
- ◆ **The Management Information officer (Projects Accountant)**
- ◆ **The Project Committee**
- ◆ **The Youth Organizer**
- ◆ **The senior Youth Club**
- ◆ **The YC 2 and YC 3**



Refer to attachment for discussions notes and minutes

THE HIV/AIDS VIDEO SHOW AND DISSUCATION WITH HEIDI

In most of the meetings the SWEZAM youths hold, their stagnation of meeting is usually based on the outreach preparations, planning, and new developments, discussions based on the areas of Gender, HIV/AIDS, Human Rights and other youth related issues.

On the 19th of November, 2008, the youth project had a Swedish visitor who is currently is staying in Zambia and working as a nurse.

She came to meet the youth club members on the stated date above and during the meeting, there was an HIV/AIDS video watching. **"People living with HIV/AIDS."**

The video lasted for about 45 minutes and took most of the youths' attention if not all, as it featured the transmission of HIV/AIDS, the deaths in youths and adults and the statistics, etc. This video was captured in the western province of Zambia.

After the video session, the participants had time to analyze it as per individual as most of them expressed sorrowfulness of certain characters.

The visitor/guest speaker then led the youths into discussions based on:

- ◆ **VCT**
- ◆ **Sex**
- ◆ **AIDS Prevention And Transmission**
- ◆ **Youth Relationship**

◆ **The issues male condoms and female**

The visitor had also suggested that the youths should find time to visit one of the hospital wards for AIDS patients so as to get a feel of what they go through.

PEER EDUCATION TRAINING

Introduction

The SWEZAM project since its inception has been holding this type of trainings for all youth members with an over all objective of making them qualified peer educators. Its has along the years been using qualified and professional facilitators from within MEF and outside MEF.

This training was conducted by someone from Youth AIDS network (**YAN**) based at Copperbelt Health Education Project. (**CHEP**)

This year's Peer Education training was held a period of four days and was aimed at equipping the youth club three members.

The training was targeted 14 youth club three members and out of the said number 12 were trained and certified females andmales.

During this training the youths were taken into various practical topics that made them to understand in-depth the issues of peer education.

The topics that were covered were as follows:

- ◆ **Peer Education**
- ◆ **The Role of a peer Educator**
- ◆ **Challenges in HIV/AIDS work**
- ◆ **Definitions of Peer Education**
- ◆ **Communication and Team work**
- ◆ **Sex and Sexuality**
- ◆ **Etc**



At the end of the training the youth club three members were awarded with certificates by the Head of Pogrammes –Mr. Cliven Katebe. Before he presented the certificates Mr. Katebe thanked the youth for the commitment and dedication they had shown during the four days. He emphasized the importance of peer education in terms of peer to peer. And he had no doubt that the youths will



deliver in their roles of peer education in their respective schools.

In the vote of thanks speech given by Namwinda Chipaila, who thanked MEF staff for the support they continue offering the SWEZAM project and the youths in general. She assured the head of programmes that the knowledge they had received will be put to good use as a lot of youths need to be taught on the various youthful issues.

Some Comments captured from one to one questions

“I have knowledge that I never thought I would have.”

“I know now how to approach issues amongst my fellow youths”

“Peer Education, I didn’t know that this is how it is am so excited that now am a qualified peer educator and this knowledge will use it for the many years to come”

PLANNED PARENTHOOD ASSOCIATION OF ZAMBIA (PPAZ) MEETING IN LUSAKA

Introduction

This meeting was suggested during the Forum Syd organizational development workshop held in Pretoria last year 2007. During the same workshop, it was observed that PPAZ and SWEZAM shared commons grounds in terms of activities.

However, the meeting had to wait till this year in December. And it was held in Lusaka at the PPAZ head offices.

The full details refer to the attachment under the heading PPAZ report

THE HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

Introduction

10th December, 2008, is the International Human Rights Day. This is a world wide commemorated event. The SWEZAM youth club was not left out in the commemoration of this day and the way they did their celebration was peculiar.

The Commemoration

The youth members had met in the Dag Hammarskjöld memorial library's American corner with the guest of the day being Mr. Smith (an American) who happens to be the lecture in this field at the Peace centre, MEF.

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Linda Simbeye the American corner coordinator.

She gave her welcoming remarks to the meeting attendants and gave an official brief introduction of Mr. Smith. The youth members were requested to do personal introductions and after that it was Mr. Smith who introduced himself in details.



After the introductions of the meeting attendants, Mr. Smith revised the **Universal declaration of Human Rights, definition of Human Rights, the history of it**, and what happened before the universal declaration, among other issues, with the youth members.

After the revision, the youths were given some Human Rights articles and were requested to make role plays based on the articles they were given. This was done in four small groups. After splitting for preparations, which took them about 15 minutes, they gathered for presentations.



During the presentations, those who were not in a particular group watched what a certain group had presented had thereafter asked to bring out what rights and the violations thereof that were being focused on by the presenters.

After all the presentations were made, it was time for questions which was asked by Mr. Smith and was to be answered by both him and the youth members. But due to time which was so short towards the end, some questions were left hanging such as:

- 1. Should the United Nations intervene to Zimbabwe crisis?**
- 2. Is the decision by government to make the HIV test a mandatory a violations of human rights or not?**

WORLD AIDS DAY FUNCTION

Introduction

1st December, 2008, was the WORLD AIDS day an event which on the SWEZAM calendar appears to one of the theme days. However like always, the SWEZAM youth club had its commemoration of this day on a later date. This year's celebration was held on the 19th of December, 2008.

The commemoration characterized the youth members themselves, guests whom they had invited which are parents and friends and also the guest of honor from MEF.

Amid the audience was also an invited HIV/AIDS activist from Chimwemwe Township within Kitwe.



The arrival and registration of guests started at 08: 30 and they were set by 9:00 hours in the MEF Charles fisher hall.

The Event

The program was packed with a lot of activities the youths had prepared to spice the day some of which being:

- ◆ **The speech**
- ◆ **Drama**
- ◆ **Cultural**
- ◆ **Routine dances**
- ◆ **Poems**
- ◆ **Introduction of the youth club to the audience**
- ◆ **History of the club and also songs.**

The program was officially opened at 09:30 when the two youth members **Verity Lumbe & Don Mwindilila** took the floor as master of ceremonies.

An opening prayer was thereafter offered from the youth organizer **Bruce Mubanga**.

The youth organizer was thereafter called to give his welcoming remarks to which he thanked the invited guests for making it to the event and challenged

them to pay particular attention to the laid presentations of the host (youth members).

The speech this year was read by a youth member **Thelma Zimba** from youth club two.

In her speech, she challenged the auditorium to stick to the theme and remain united had they opted to strongly fight and seize the on going pandemic. She also made emphasis to the awareness of prevention as it being a key starting point to the fighting race against the pandemic.

It was now time for visitors to introduce them selves, everyone was asked to say his or her name and the person who had invited them.

To the visitors who had visited SWEZAM for he first time, were accorded an oppportunity to get to know what SWEZAM is all about as a youth member **Tendai Silwimba** gave an introduction of the club.



It was equally important to also know the background of this group of young people. So, **George Zulu** a senior youth club member came in to give the history of the club.

However, before the participants braked off for tea, it was time for the guest of honor **Mr. Mwanachongo** to make a speech presentation in which he officially welcomed the invited guests to the event. He too like in the youth member's speech challenged them to stick to the theme as the fight called for races, tribes and ages to unite in order to eliminate the pandemic.



The participants had then braked for tea.

After the break, the youths performed a cultural dance which was followed by a play they had titled "**Who is the infector?**"

It took the auditorium attention as they observed how the transmission of the virus cycled from an individual to another.



Thereafter, the master of ceremonies called for a song from an invited guest with an HIV/AIDS message.

The song was followed by a series of poems from the youth members.

Nevertheless, an HIV activist was not forgotten in the celebration as he was also called to share his experience.

In his speech, he informed the audience how many years he has lived with the virus, how he came to discover his status, and the challenges along his life.

He however discouraged the youths from engaging themselves in high risk activities as this would cause them a sad ending.

He also challenged them to go with an HIV message and stick to the theme.

To close the day, the youths had thereafter performed a routine dance which was followed by the vote of thanks which was given by **Miriam Mulenga** a youth club 3 member.



The participants had then gone for lunch as they prepared to return to their different destinations.

Here ends the report

Cc: Director
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