

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF VOLUNTEER – ZAMBIA

In commemorating the International Year of Volunteers the following activities were undertaken;

- A draft booklet on Volunteerism in Zambia was prepared.
- An office space for the establishment of a volunteer centre was secured and office furniture sourced from the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services.
- An Information Cabinet Memorandum on IYV was circulated to all Ministries in the country. This memo informed policy makers about the IYV and the country's involvement in it.
- Maintained a database of names of individuals wishing to engage in volunteer service.

The impact of the IYV in the country has been that the number of people wishing to register themselves as volunteers has increased. During the year a total of 15 individuals wishing to engage in volunteer service registered themselves with the IYV National Committee secretariat.

Having had an overwhelming response on volunteerism from the general public not only in people wishing to engage in volunteer service but also from those that just want to know about volunteer service has been reason enough to think of furthering the idea of creating a volunteer centre in the country. To this end, the IYV National Committee Secretariat in May 2002 prepared a project proposal in which it discussed the need to procure a computer and other accessories that would make the Centre functional. This proposal has since been forwarded to the United Nations Volunteer programme in Bonn and UNDP in Zambia for possible funding.