



Library and Information Association of Zambia

“Linking People with Information”

# **Library and Information Association of Zambia**

## **Annual General Conference Report**

**2016 - 2017**

**by**

**Velenasi Mwale Munsanje**

**LIAZ PRESIDENT**

## **INTRODUCTION**

The Library and Information Association of Zambia is happy to present the Annual report for the period August 2016 to July 2017.

The association received a lot of support from members and other stakeholders in the library profession.

## **LIAZ COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

The following were the 2016 office bearers in the committee.

PRESIDENT	-	Velenasi Mwale Munsanje
VICE PRESIDENT	-	Fabian Kakana
SECRETARY GENERAL	-	Otilia Malasa
TREASURER	-	Mutinta Mweemba Nabuyanda
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY	-	Jabulani Moyo
PUBLICITY SECRETARY	-	Brian Chileshe
PROJECT'S OFFICER	-	David Muzi
EDITOR	-	Benson Njobvu
COMMITTEE MEMBERS	-	Robinson Bwato (ex- officio)
	-	Cacious Makalashi
	-	Charles Nonde

## **ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP**

The association has seen a steady rise in the past few years of fully paid up members. There has been an increase in members who participate in association activities and assignments.

The following shows the rise in full membership figures:

Year	Members
2013	52
2014	76
2015	110
2016	137
2017	126*

## **STRATEGIC PLANNING FOR LIAZ**

LIAZ continues to follow the current strategic plan which was done in 2015 and ends in 2019. Annual reviews are done to ensure we are in line with the plan and also taking care of other activities that are cardinal the profession..

### **Our vision**

A professional association promoting excellence and innovation in library and information services.

### **Mission**

To be an association that will promote professional development and excellence in library and information services through advocacy, training, research and networking.

### **Strategic goals**

1. Enhance Membership Portfolio of the Association
2. Improve Administrative and Management structures
3. Develop and Implement a Communications Strategy
4. Champion the Library and Information Services Act Process
5. Develop Capacity Building Strategies for Innovative library services
6. Improve financial base for LIAZ

## **LIBRARY LEGISLATION UPDATE**

The current Library and Information bill and policy was the one drafted with the support of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions in 2015 during a librarian's symposium. This symposium was held with the support of the funding we got from Building Strong Library Association Project. Other funders were the Ministry of General Education and Library and Information Association of Zambia.

The documents have since been reviewed by Planning Department of the Ministry of General Education as well as Ministry of Justice.

The draft is with the Minister of General Education. The draft policy and bill advocacy has taken a new twist in 2017. Following the split of the Ministries of General Education and Higher Education, and consequent changes at both Permanent

Secretary and Minister, the Ministry of General Education is questioning the proposal of housing the National Library and Service Policy and Bill in the ministry considering that libraries are multi sectoral.

This development requires strategizing of the earlier proposal that was made to have a council housed in the Ministry of General Education.

## **COMMUNICATION**

LIAZ has in the period under review been able to update the professional database to capture as many people as possible.

### **Our postal address:**

LIAZ Secretariat

C/O University of Zambia Library

P. O. Box 32379

Lusaka

We have the following media of communication:

#### **1. Use of emails**

Please take note that our official email is [liaz@zambia.co.zm](mailto:liaz@zambia.co.zm)

Our emailing database now has currently about 422 members. We have continued to update our database as we capture more emails for members. The following shows the increase in our email database.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Members</b>
2014	85
2015	298
2016	400
2017	422*

The constant updating of our database has helped us to ensure that many of our professionals have access to information about LIAZ and activities that affect them. We hope to further update the emailing database after capturing

members attending the 2017 conference who have not been receiving emails from LIAZ.

## 2. Facebook

Our Facebook account name: **Library and Information Association of Zambia**

Currently, the use of Facebook is among our most reliable mode of communicating to our members. The number of members on our Facebook page has been increasing. Participation in discussions using this forum has also increased. The following table shows the statistics of members on our Facebook page:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Members</b>
2014	356
2015	683
2016	781
2017	1,004

## 3. Twitter

Our twitter handle: **Liazzambia**

Please follow us!

## 4. Contact Number

LIAZ official contact line is **+260 965 024914**

## 5. Website

In May, 2016, we worked on our LIAZ website which was launched during the 2016 Annual General Conference. We continue requesting for more suggestions on how best we can keep on improving it. Our website is:

[www.libraryassociationofzambia.org](http://www.libraryassociationofzambia.org)

## CONFERENCES

Zambia has been fairing quite well in attending professional national and international conferences, though there is more that needs to be done especially in convincing government agencies and other organizations to support their staff.

Zambia continues to be represented at the AfLIA Summit, as well as IFLA and SCECSAL conferences.

## **LIAZ Annual General Conferences**

As a country we have been successful for many years in holding the Annual General Conferences. Venues are normally voted for by participants. We have seen a steady rise of members participating in the Annual Conferences. Years back the association used to hold Annual General Meetings but due to various concerns of lack of support by organizations to support staff to attend the Annual Meetings, it was resolved to have conferences which would include forums for sharing best practices, professional paper presentations, workshops and/or trainings, etc

In 2017 has seen the largest ever attendance of about 115 delegates attending the conference.

LIAZ has also continued to ensure professional development workshops take place prior to the conference. In 2016 the training workshop was on Customer care and customer service in libraries and in 2017, the training was on SDGs and how librarians can tailor their services in helping achieve them.

## **IFLA Conference**

In August 2016, we had a delegation of 2 members that attended the IFLA conference in Columbus Ohio. This was a drop from the 2015 congress that saw 12 delegates from Zambia attend the congress in South Africa.

## **SCECSAL**

The XXII SCECSAL was held in April, 2016 in Swaziland. Zambia was represented by 9 delegates, with one delegate presenting a paper. LIAZ presented its two year report.

## **AfLIA Public Librarians Summit**

This was a post-SCECSAL conference that was held in May, 2016 in Swaziland and Zambia had two delegates in attendance. This was a 2-day 2<sup>nd</sup> African Public Library summit. A lot of lessons were learnt on how public libraries can be transformed. Following this, LIAZ and Lubuto Library Partners successfully conducted a training for public librarians in Zambia.

In May, 2017, a delegation of 6 members from Zambia participated in the 2<sup>nd</sup> AfLIA Conference in Yaounde, Cameroon. Zambia presented a paper and a poster. Zambia was also privileged to have two librarians awarded grants to attend AfLIA.

## **ASSOCIATION WITH INTERNATIONAL PROFESSIONAL AND REGIONAL BODIES**

LIAZ is fully affiliated to International Federation of Library Institutions and Associations (IFLA), SCECSAL and the African Library and Information Association and Institutions (AfLIA)

### **IFLA**

LIAZ continues to put the library profession visible with the mother body IFLA. Other than just subscribing to IFLA, LIAZ has, in the recent years been recognized and been invited to participate in IFLA activities. LIAZ seeks to participate fully in IFLA related activities in a quest to provide better library services in Zambia.

IFLA has embarked on facilitating a Global Vision discussion through a series of meetings and workshops in different parts of the world. IFLA has planned various face-to-face and online, future-oriented conversations that will take place in various places around world.

In order to make the library field ready for the future, IFLA requires the input of all experts and librarians in this Global Vision discussion. This discussion is meant to involve all countries of the world. Zambia will participate actively in this process to make this a true global brainstorm.

The IFLA Global Vision is an invitation for librarians from all over the world to explore how a united library field can meet the challenges of the future.

The regional workshop for Africa was held from 14-15 May, 2017 in Yaoundé, Cameroon where, African library community leaders representing 37 countries met to discuss how a united library field can tackle to challenges of the future together. The gathering represented a strong community from the African continent to the global discussion. Zambia was part of this workshop and the library profession in the country was represented by Library and Information Association of Zambia President, Mrs. Velenasi Mwale Munsanje

LIAZ has since held its local IFLA Global vision workshop where over 100 librarians and records officers gave input into the global vision. This was during one of the sessions for the 2017 Annual General Conference, at Lake Safari, Siavonga,

### **AfLIA**

We are benefitting from our affiliation with AfLIA as we are receiving guidance from a continental body that understands the development of libraries from an African perspective.

AfLIA is running a 2-year program of emerging public library leaders from Sub-Saharan Africa. LIAZ is pleased to have one public librarian on the programme. The purpose of the programme is to sharpen public librarian's leadership and innovative

skills to enable them offer innovative services in their libraries. We are confident that upon completion, our member enrolled on the programme will be able to train other public librarians. In fact, our delegate, Ms. Kalaba Mweni, Luapula Provincial Librarian has shared the knowledge gained at two different occasions at national level. In March, 2017 she facilitated at a workshop in Monze to 25 public librarians on innovation in libraries. During the 2017 LIAZ Annual General Conference, Ms. Kolandi shared with conference delegates on how to build community partnerships.

We were privileged during our 2016 AGC to have the AfLIA President, Mr. John Tsebe as our key note speaker.

Zambia has representation in African Library and Information Institutions and Association on its governing board. Mrs. Velenasi Mwale Munsanje is the Chairperson for National Library Associations Section of AfLIA for the period 2017 -2019.

## **SCECSAL**

Member states of SCECSAL commenced reviewing the SCECSAL constitution to ensure that it remains relevant and meets member countries expectations. LIAZ has made submissions on this process and also participated in an online discussion regarding this review.

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

LIAZ has lived by its vision of promoting professional development and excellence in library and information services. In the period under review, LIAZ conducted the following training workshops/programmes:

1. Locally, LIAZ organized two training workshops in order to build capacity of our members. In November, 2016, 23 members benefited from a training the association organized with InfoWorld Limited. This saw our members acquiring skills that included amongst others Koha and electronic records management.
2. LLP and LIAZ collaboratively planned, scheduled, and funded a week-long training opportunity for provincial and council librarians from 20 – 24<sup>th</sup> March 2017, that was held at the Mumuni Lubuto Library outside of Monze (Southern Province). The training attracted public librarians from across the country. A total of 26 public librarians including representatives from partner organizations participated in the training.

The training content included the following:

- Digital literacy
  - Library program development for children and youth

- Library services to differently-abled children and youth
- Outreach and marketing
- Child development
- Standard reference services
- Customer care and service in libraries
- Marketing library services
- Early literacy
- Children's literature and collection development
- Innovation in libraries

Facilitators included professionals from University of Zambia, National Institute for Public Administration, Lubuto Library Partners, INELI SSaf delegate, Ms. Kalaba Mweni Kolandi.

In order to encourage full participation, this workshop was fully funded and participants were not requested to make any form of payment. We are very thankful to Lubuto Library Partners and OSISA for this generous gesture and partnership. LIAZ surely looks forward to more of such activities.

3. It has been our aim to promote capacity professional development in our members. Currently, four members of LIAZ are on three different international training programmes both being conducted by AfLIA and IFLA in partnership with other organizations.

Currently, we have three international programmes to which our members are directly benefiting from. These include:

- The Online Computer Library Center (OCLC) Fellowship programme funded by IFLA-OCLC

This is a program that provides early career development and continuing education for library and information science professionals from countries with developing economies. It is jointly sponsored by IFLA and the OCLC. LIAZ is proud to be represented by Ms. Patience Gizi Hara for the 17th class of 2017.

- The International Network of Emerging Innovators in Sub-Saharan Africa(INELI-SSAf)

This programme commenced in 2016. This is a programme comprising 32 African innovators. Our very own Luapula Province Provincial Librarian, Ms. Mweni Kalaba-Kolandi is ably and actively representing LIAZ and Zambia. This is a two year programme aimed at supporting the transformation of libraries as engines of development. It further aims to support emerging library leaders with opportunities to connect

with others, explore new ideas and experiment with new library services. The programme includes among others the following areas of interest; Advocacy, Innovation, Change Management, Conflict resolution, Community Information Needs, Risk Management, Team Work and Team Projects.

- The Initiative Young African Library Innovators (IYALI)

This programme, Initiative Young African Library Innovators (IYALI) is being managed by Electronic Information for Libraries (EIFL), to connect young librarians with their peers elsewhere in Africa and in transitional and developing countries. It is envisioned that this will expand their outlook and also help them gain new ideas and create a network that will assist them support each other in their work.

EIFL works in collaboration with AfLIA, and the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) and with support from the Global Libraries Initiative of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

The programme that commenced in 2017 has been established to empower young and forward looking African public librarians with leadership potential to embrace, set and realize ambitious expectations for innovative library services that contribute to sustainable development. The programme also aims to give the innovators confidence and vision to continue the transformation of library services and ensure that libraries across Africa are constantly evolving to meet individual and community needs in a rapidly changing environment.

IYALI participants are selected on a competitive basis through an open call for applications. Two groups of librarians (15 to 20 each year starting 2017) will be able to attend the Young African library innovators pre-conference before proceeding to the IFLA World Library and Information Congress.

LIAZ is privileged to have two representatives in this 2017 group. Our two young innovators, Allan Hagwelele Mudenda – Provincial Librarian for Southern Province and Ms. Given Besa – Library Manager for Lubuto Library in Ngwerere are representing LIAZ and Zambia. They are both excited and look forward to the programme.

Through its various media fora, LIAZ has adequately advertised these opportunities to members and supported their applications by giving strong recommendations wherever due. We continue to encourage our members to take advantage of every opportunity that comes their way in terms of submitting applications for training and/or funding opportunities.

4. Two young public librarians, Yvonne Kabamba (Lusaka City Council) and Musha Chanda (Ndola City Council) attended the Strengthening Innovative Library Leaders (SILL) training workshop in Cameroon from 15 – 16<sup>th</sup> May, 2017. AfLIA also sponsored them to attend the entire AfLIA conference. The aim of the training workshop was to promote willingness among librarians and leaders to challenge the status quo in order to provide valuable services to users, with their own appreciation of their own leadership skills, strategies of problem solving, and plans to implement their own innovative ideas in their libraries.
5. Two librarians, Sharon Liato and Mary Mamba attended two-day training on Library Statistics and Evaluation from 22-23<sup>rd</sup> May 2017 in Nairobi, Kenya. They shared their knowledge with delegates during the 2017 LIAZ AGC.

### **Upcoming trainings/workshops**

- A SILL AfLIA two days training workshop in Lusaka for 20 public librarians (10 to come from Zambia)
- About three to four training workshops for 24 public librarians for a period of 8 months with the support of Electronic Information for Libraries. (Memorandum of Understanding being worked on)

## **PARTNERSHIPS**

Other than the partnerships LIAZ has with IFLA and AfLIA, we have also had the following partners;

### **Ministry of General Education. Zambia Library Service**

LIAZ has collaborated very closely with MOGE through the Zambia Library Service in the preparation of the National Library and Information Service Policy and Bill documents.

LIAZ has also partnered with ZLS in the National Library Week awareness campaigns.

ZLS has been instrumental in linking the association to national government activities involving the development of libraries in the country.

This partnership has worked well for the association as ZLS is the only legal institution mandated to look into the welfare of provincial public libraries. It therefore has support of the Ministry of General Education and this becomes helpful in conducting national library activities.

## **Priya Education Solution**

Priya Education solution has given LIAZ support during the both the 2016 and 2017 National Library Week celebrations where a donations of books was made. The books were used as some of the prizes to schools that took part in various activities such as debates, poems, reading competitions, etc. Priya Education Solution has also supported LIAZ during the 2016 and 2017 Annual General Conferences.

## **National Council for Construction (NCC)**

NCC supported LIAZ financially during the 2016 and 2017 National Library Week celebrations.

## **Electoral Commission of Zambia**

In 2016, LIAZ members helped distribute Referendum and Bill of rights materials in libraries across Zambia. This also included materials in Braille. This was one of the 2016 post AGC activities to sensitize our communities.

## **LIBRARY AWARENESS ACTIVITIES**

The association has been observing the National Library Week to create awareness to the entire country about the importance and role of libraries and librarians. The association has been working closely in collaboration with the Zambia Library Service in ensuring that these activities are a success. The new practice of having the official commemoration in different provincial centres each year has enabled the association to have greater impact in the province that hosts the official event. We have also promoted having awareness programmes in the other selected provincial centres and in individual libraries.

National Library Week is an annual event commemorated around the world at different times. The significance of this event is to create public awareness on the importance of libraries by giving an opportunity to libraries, documentation/information centers to showcase their resources, facilities, events and services through different programs and events to the community. The event also provides the community with the opportunity to find out about the wide range of services which libraries and information services offer as well as recognize the vital role they play in research and education

LIAZ has been instrumental in organizing libraries to exhibit at the official venue. To encourage more participation, in collaboration with Zambia Library Service, an award is given to best library institution during the exhibition. For the past three years, Zambia Revenue Authority has been the best exhibitor of the event.

LIAZ has also taken an advantage of this event to remind government about the need for speeding up the library legislation process.

In 2016, the National Library Week was commemorated from 20-24<sup>th</sup> June at Mansa Provincial Library. We had an overwhelming response from 27 exhibitors that took part. The best exhibiting institution went to Zambia Revenue Authority for the second time in a row. Kwame Nkrumah University came out as the second best exhibiting institution. Hearty congratulations to the two institutions.

In 2017, the National Library Week celebrations took place in various provinces from 5<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2017. The main official launch was held on 7<sup>th</sup> June, 2017 in Chipata, in the Eastern Province. The theme for this year's National Library Week was **"Libraries as Anchors in Meeting the Sustainable Development Goals."**

Library and Information Association of Zambia in partnership with Ministry of General Education held a fundraising braai in Lusaka prior to the National Library Week. This was in a bid to support an identified library in the province hosting the main launch of the National Library Week. Proceeds for this event were donated to Mzigawa Primary School during the official launch of the event. This is a school in Vubwi District in Eastern Province that is building a school library.

The award for the best exhibitor was yet again grabbed by Zambia Revenue Authority with the second position going to Chipata District Resource Centre.

### ***LIS students***

LIAZ has continued to market the profession to LIS students and encourage early participation in association activities. In order to promote visibility and encourage hard work in our LIS training institutions in Zambia, LIAZ has continued to award the best graduating student at Diploma and First degree levels at Evelyn Hone College and University of Zambia respectively. In addition, LIAZ continues to fully sponsor one student on a rotating basis among the three LIS institutions, to attend the LIAZ Annual General Conference.

- The sponsoring of the best graduating student by LIAZ which commenced last year for the Diploma LIS student has continued with the second award to be presented during this Week's Graduation Ceremony. In addition, this sponsorship was extended to University of Zambia where LIAZ also awards the best graduating BA LIS student. In 2017 the award for best graduating student at Evelyn Hone College received by Mulavu Mwaka and for the University of Zambia, it will be awarded to Samuel Mbangu, later this year.
- Sponsorship (full) of one student to attend the AGC. Rotates amongst the three institutions providing LIS training in Zambia. In 2016, a student from Zambia ICT College attended the conference. In 2017, the UNZALISA President, Ananias attended the conference. In 2018, the student representative for Evelyn Hone College LIS programme will benefit from this sponsorship.

- LIAZ has taken advantage of giving talks during graduation farewell functions at both Evelyn Hone College and UNZA.
- LIAZ has also been instrumental in giving motivational talks during educational tours conducted by Evelyn Hone College students

### ***Membership Diaries***

LIAZ this year produced diaries for all paid up members for the years 2016 and 2017. This was to motivate paid up members and market our vision and mission as these are inclusive in the diaries.

### **PUBLICATIONS**

The association has continued to promote research of professionals by publishing the annual LIAZ Journal. This has given library professionals in Zambia an opportunity to publish their research findings. The LIAZ newsletter is published bi-annually. We still have a challenge of members not submitting scholarly works for publication. In 2017 LIAZ published two journals to catch up with a year that was skipped. The publication of the LIAZ journal is now up to date.

### **OTHER ACTIVITIES**

LIAZ has among others participated and contributed to the following activities:

- In July, 2017, LIAZ president presented a key note paper during the ZimLA Annual Conference. Prior to that, the President made a presentation on pre-conference seminar for school librarians organized by the International Association of School Librarians and ZimLa. The LIAZ President, Velenasi Mwale Munsanje shared with her fellow school librarians on the importance of collaboration in school libraries and how this can be best attained.
- Providing professional advice to key partners such as Zambia Library Services, Lubuto Library Partners, etc.
- Provide professional guidance during the recruitment of library staff.

### **OTHER REPRESENTATIONS**

- LIAZ participated in the commemoration of International Mother Language Day and World Day Book Event organized by Lubuto Library Partners and USAID,, Lusaka – March, 2016
- LIAZ participated in the Opening Ceremony of the newly built Zambia Educational Publishing House (ZEPH) sales kiosk at Ngwerere Lubuto Library. The event took place on 22nd May 2017 at Ngwerere Primary School along Katima Mulilo Road in Garden Compound, Lusaka.

LLP seeks to provide an open system of accessible services to African children and youth through Lubuto Libraries, enabling them to develop

the knowledge and skills to reconnect with their culture and community and participate fully in society. Lubuto believes a robust publishing industry is necessary for the educational and intellectual life of a society. In partnership with the Zambia Educational Publishing House, LLP has constructed a kiosk on the grounds of the heavily-visited Ngwerere Lubuto Library in Garden as an accessible sales outlet for ZEPH. ZEPH's publications will be on display in the library next to the sales kiosk, making a section of that library a ZEPH showroom.

- LIAZ was represented at the official opening of the new NIPA library and conference centre in July, 2017.
- LIAZ participated in the official opening of Lubuto's Mthunzi library in Lusaka West on 8<sup>th</sup> June, 2017.

## **OBITUARIES**

In the year under review, LIAZ lost the following members:

Mr. Chileshe – ZCCM Chambers

Mr. Saul Zulu

## **FUTURE CONFERENCES**

- IFLA 2017  
Poland, August, 2017  
[www.ifla.org](http://www.ifla.org)
- LIAZ AGC 2018  
July, 2018
- SCECSAL  
Uganda, April, 2018