



Tiyende Pamodzi



U.S. MISSION TO ZAMBIA

Promoting Peace, Health, & Development through Partnerships with the Zambian People

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2008: THE YEAR IN PICTURES



Alumnus of the Month: Sody Munsaka



Mr. Sody Munsaka began his Fulbright Scholarship in 2005 at the University of Hawaii, doing his Master of Science in Tropical Medicine. He has stayed to pursue his Ph.D. in the same field. He credits his Fulbright experience for his exposure to the frontlines of biomedical research and ability to see major development in the field.

“Everyone who comes to America gets an idea of what to expect from Hollywood movies,” he says. “Therefore, it was not what I expected once I arrived.” Living in Hawaii, a multicultural society with many Asian overtones, was an easy environment to blend into. His first cultural experience was when he was asked to take off his shoes before entering into someone’s home. This is part of the Asian culture that has been integrated in Hawaiian, and therefore American, culture.

Overall, Sody likes the way people are treated in Hawaii. “Everyone is treated equally, regardless of their background, nationality, creed, belief, religion, sexual orientation or political views.” His cultural shocks have been minimal, but he does fear having a ‘reverse cultural shock’ when he returns home.

Donald E. Booth Becomes U.S. Ambassador to Zambia



Ambassador Booth signs the guest book at Government House.

(Ambassador Booth’s remarks at the presentation of his credentials to Acting President Rupiah Banda, October 23, 2008):

Thank you for receiving me to present my credentials as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Zambia. I am honored that the President of the United States has appointed me, with the consent of the United States Senate, as his

personal representative to the Republic of Zambia.

The United States and Zambia share a spirit of cooperation and a commitment to democracy, regional stability, economic growth and food security. For much of my more than three decades of diplomatic service, I have worked to enhance U.S. engagement with African nations. I am particularly pleased to be in Zambia, a country with which the United States has strong common interests and warm, friendly relations.

Zambia has shown an admirable commitment to what President Lincoln called “government of the people, by the people and for the people.” Others have much to learn from your examples of peaceful elections and smooth transitions from one government to another, as well as your strong tradition of adherence to the

GETTING TOGETHER



At the presentation of credentials (l-r): Special Assistant to the President John Musukuma, Lusaka Province Deputy Minister Lameck Mangani, U.S. Defense Attaché David Dougherty, President Rupiah Banda, U.S. Political Counselor Pamela Tremont, U.S. Ambassador Booth, U.S. Consul Malia Heroux, U.S. Deputy Chief of Mission Michael Koplovsky, USAID Zambia Mission Director Melissa Williams, and U.S. Public Affairs Officer Christopher Wurst.

rule of law. I am confident Zambia's tradition of peaceful elections and respect for the will of the people will prevail as the current election campaign season comes to a close and the Zambian people proceed to vote on October 30th. The United States has been pleased to provide support to the Electoral Commission of Zambia for these elections.

Mutual values underpin the relationship between our two countries. Building on the strong foundation my predecessors and yours have built, I will work to expand and further deepen the collaboration between the United States and Zambia. Working as partners we can help Zambia accelerate the achievement of the goals set out in your national development strategy. Development assistance from the United States is intended to serve as a catalyst to boost the Zambian government's own development efforts to expand economic growth and to provide increased public health and education services to its people. The United States Government, and I personally, share your vision of transforming Zambia into a "prosperous middle-income nation by 2030." Toward this end, the United States provided close to \$300 million to Zambia in 2008 and plans to sustain this in 2009.

Zambia has recently completed a successful Millennium Challenge Account Threshold program which helped reduce corruption and facilitate private sector investment. I congratulate the Zambian Government for the progress made to date toward meeting the criteria for Millennium Challenge compact eligibility.

As we look to the future, it is also important to note Zambia's past role in strengthening regional stability. The significant contributions of His Excellency the late President, Dr. Levy Patrick Mwanawasa, as SADC Chairperson helped bring about a power-sharing agreement in Zimbabwe. The United States will continue to look to Zambia for leadership on Zimbabwe and other important regional and multilateral issues, as well as for its participation in peacekeeping missions and in combating terrorism.



As Ambassador to the Republic of Zambia, I look forward to frequent, cordial and candid dialogue with you and the Zambian government as we work in the spirit of true partnership, friendship and mutual respect. It is my pleasure to present to you my predecessor's letter of recall and my letter of credence as ambassador to the Republic of Zambia. God bless the United States of America and the Republic of Zambia.



On the cover:: A thrilled girl at Chikumbuso Community School in Lusaka receives a new doll. The doll was one of 18,000 dark-skinned dolls produced by U.S. toymaker Hasbro to be donated to RAPIDS, a U.S. Government partner in Zambia. The dolls were given to Zambian orphans and vulnerable

SPOTLIGHT: Helping Entrepreneurs

Any business, big or small, needs money to operate profitably and re-invest, and many times this money comes in the form of a loan. In Zambia, it has been difficult for would-be entrepreneurs to get credit. But things are looking brighter following a new initiative between the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the African Banking Corporation Zambia Limited (ABC Zambia). A new credit enhancement agreement between USAID and ABC Zambia will offer new loan opportunities for small and medium-sized enterprises.



Under this agreement the American people will help smaller Zambian firms enhance working capital with favorable credit terms. The U.S. Government will assume 50% of the risk.

ABC Zambia is working to expand into retail lending. This U.S. Government guarantee program will help ABC Zambia expand lending to Zambian small businesses by as much as US \$100 million over five years.

This agreement is a part of the U.S. Government's commitment to economic empowerment. By working with Zambian banks the United States intends to help improve Zambia's competitiveness in agriculture, natural resources and tourism. With greater credit access, Zambian small and medium-sized enterprises will be able to expand their businesses, enhance revenue, create new jobs, bolster Zambian tax receipts, and fuel economic growth.

USAID Mission Director, Melissa Williams, noting the importance of this agreement, stated, "Credit is the lifeblood of business. These loans will give small businesses the boost they need to grow, thereby creating more jobs for Zambians. Economic growth is key to reducing poverty and is a priority for the American partnership with the Zambian people."

2008



TH



This page, clockwise from top: A U.S. Mission team celebrates Youth Day with a match against Kakaba Foundation; Students from ZAMCOM welcome Zimbabwean journalists in the wake of the Mar elections; U.S. Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings meets with students in Livingstone; De of Mission Michael Koplovsky meets students at Munali Girls; A youngster in Mongu shows off stars and stripes football. The ball was donated during a U.S. Mission visit to Mbuyoti Commu USAID Zambia Director Melissa Williams with longtime USAID staffer Asina Sibetta, during the anniversary celebration of USAID in Zambia. Center top: U.S. Undersecretary of State for African Jendayi Frazer met with reporters during an April visit to Lusaka. Bottom: Ambassador Mary Yate Africa Command's Deputy to the Commander for Civil-Military Affairs, meets with the media in L



YEAR



THE

Lusaka Child
School, 2008
Deputy Chief
with a new
Community School;
35th
Affairs
es, the U.S.
Lusaka.



Top: Lusaka students celebrate the fun of reading during a Dr. Seuss book giveaway program. Right: U.S. Congressman Howard Berman meets with a student at Chirundu High School. Bottom: U.S. Freedom of Information (FOI) expert Kevin Goldberg meets with then-Minister of Information Mike Mulongoti during a workshop on FOI at the Ministry of Information.



IN



PICTURES



SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT

On November 4th, the U.S. Mission celebrated the U.S. Presidential election with a huge all-night party at the American Center. In a straw poll, Zambians, like their American counterparts, voted in large numbers for President-elect Barack Obama.

An excerpt of Ambassador Donald Booth's remarks that night:

We are here to celebrate the democratic process. We have a lot to celebrate.

Tonight the eyes of the world are on the United States. It is the culmination of the longest presidential race in U.S. history—nearly two years in length. Last week, though, people watched closely as Zambia elected its fourth president. Zambia has proven once again that, despite being a relatively young democracy, it is a nation that fervently—and successfully—clings to democratic ideals. I congratulate the people of Zambia for your successful election, and I have congratulated President Banda as well.

Tonight I stand before you expecting that my country will emulate yours: That the people of the United States will exercise their right to vote, and that the will of the people shall be heard.

Our election is an historic one. Whatever the results, when all the votes are counted, we know that we will have for the first time an African American or a woman as president or vice president. This makes me very proud. We have certainly come a long way from the days when women and African Americans could not even vote.

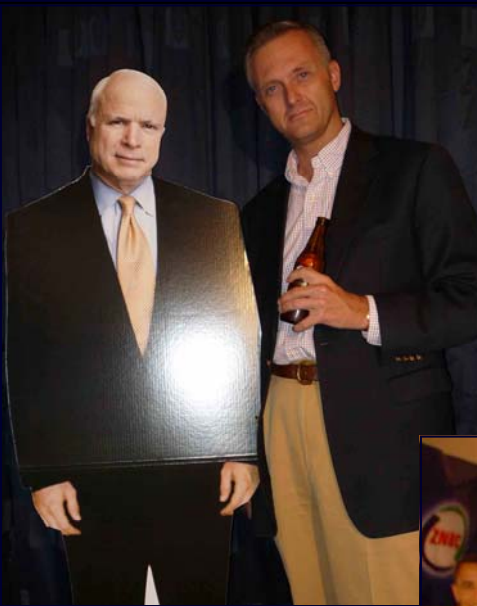
During the close primaries, and throughout this tight general election campaign, the candidates have traveled all around the United States, answering questions from Americans from all walks of life, articulating their positions on all the issues and trying to define how they would be the best president of the United States. This process—though long and expensive—forces candidates to confront difficult issues head on, and to answer to the American people, oftentimes face to face.

See next page »



U.S. PRESIDENTI

EVENT:



Zambia straw poll	
McCain/PALIN	6
OBAMA/BIDEN	106 ✓
OTHER	2



It is a system that forces candidates to take stands on specific issues so they can be held accountable by the voters.

Today is the culmination of this long campaign. However, today is not about the candidates anymore. Today is in fact about the American people. Americans in Florida, waiting in lines to cast their ballots. Americans in California taking advantage of new drive-through voting. People in Minnesota who are always afraid that there might be freezing snow on election day. People in Ohio using sophisticated electronic voting machines.

Today is about the American people making their choice about who they want to be their next leader, their president. It is also about selecting the members of the legislature that the next president will have to work with to refine and ultimately fund his proposed programs and initiatives. Today, Americans are electing a new Congress – all the members of the House of Representatives and one-third of the members of the Senate.

Whoever wins today's election, I strongly believe that both the people of America and Zambia have reason to be optimistic. Though we both face many challenges, we also share many positive attributes, including this strong commitment to the democratic process.

I too am optimistic, as I begin my tenure as U.S. Ambassador to Zambia. I look forward to meeting you and hearing from you about ways that we can continue to work together and strengthen our partnership. The American people, and the Bush Administration, have made profound and generous commitments to Zambia, in the areas of good governance, in the fight against corruption, for improving education, to improve health care and confront HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other killer diseases, to strengthen Zambia's peacekeeping capabilities, and to strive for gender equality. There's still a lot of work to be done, and I can't wait to begin working with you to achieve these goals.

So, thank you for joining us to celebrate our election. But, while we are at it tonight, let's continue to celebrate our partnership and our commitment to working together.

Previous page, clockwise from top left: A Zambian guest casts her ballot during the evening's straw poll (Obama won the local poll 106 to McCain's 6; Mission Volunteer Dave Stealy explains the voting process to a team from MUVI-TV's "Kids News;" a youngster takes part in the fun; MUVI-TV's Mwaka Nakweti signals her favorite; Ambassador Booth addresses members at a press briefing the day after the election. This page, clockwise from top left: A Mission member poses with John McCain; a Zambian guest ponders a difficult choice; Public Affairs Officer Christopher Wurst sits down with ZNBC anchor Franklin Tembo; (l-r) Public Affairs Brian Chengala, singer Sista D, MLK Library Director Matilda Sakala, and musician Maiko Zulu; the results of the Lusaka straw poll; Ambassador Booth chats with Dr. Kankasa Mabula, Governor of the Bank of Zambia and former Fulbright Scholar;

AL ELECTION CELEBRATION

A Message from Ambassador Donald Booth



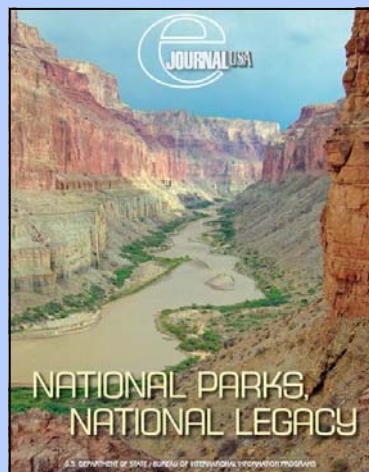
It may sound like a paradox, but I believe 2008 has been a year of both tremendous change and stability for Zambia and the United States. Earlier this year, the United States joined Zambia in mourning the passing of His Excellency Dr. Levy Patrick Mwanawasa and later extended our congratulations to President Rupiah Banda on becoming fourth Republican president. Just last month, Zambia joined the United States in celebrating a tremendous milestone, the election of our first African American president, Barack Obama. Even I am a party to change, arriving here in October to continue the work of Ambassador Carmen Martinez, who served the United States and our Mission so well during her three years here.

In the midst of such change, however, our countries have demonstrated how highly we value stability, democracy and freedom; I am confident these are ideals we will continue to embrace through the coming years. Likewise, our commitment to partnership with the Zambian people has not changed and our desire to support programs that will better Zambia, the United States, Africa and the world remains strong. We continue to work together to promote economic growth, making strides in areas such as business and property registration. We are proud of the mutual progress made on health issues, including expanded access to HIV treatment and prevention options. And we echo U.S. Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings' excitement about the ever-increasing focus on education she witnessed during her recent visit to Zambia.

Looking forward to 2009, I envision a year in which both our countries use our strengths to work together and effect positive change in the region. In my short time here, I have already seen tremendous potential and promise in the people of Zambia and their ability to implement solutions to the problems they face. We as a Mission are committed to our role of partnering with and supporting them in the coming year.

To all our Zambian friends we offer the warmest wishes for the holiday season, and the hope for a remarkable 2009.

AIRC Corner: What's Happening at the Martin Luther King Jr. Library



New Publication Celebrates America's National Parks

The people of the United States own and protect a sprawling system of national parks, including seashores, trails, monuments, and battlefields. All American citizens are, in a sense, stewards of sites where history unfolded, where mountains soar, and where rivers run. They keep these parks for the future, and they treasure them today. As former President Franklin Delano Roosevelt said, "There is nothing so American as our national parks. The scenery and wildlife are native. The fundamental idea behind the parks is native. It is, in brief, that the country belongs to the people." This edition of eJournalUSA presents glorious views of the national parks, the history of this vast system, and its mission of conservation and public access.

Find the eJournal at: <http://www.america.gov/publications/ejournalusa.html#0708>

Remembering U.S. Mission Colleagues



MS. PAMO SICHULA
USAID
1966—2008



MR. PETER NGULUBE
GENERAL SERVICES
1952—2008



MR. FELIX SHIMWENGE
PUBLIC AFFAIRS
1963—2008