



Zambia Environmental Management Agency

ZAMBIA COMMEMORATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE OZONE LAYER.

ROAD SHOW



A performance during the Ozone Day

BY

NATIONAL OZONE UNIT

16TH SEPTEMBER 2016

1. Introduction

The UN General assembly designated 16th September as the International Day for the preservation of the Ozone Layer in 1994 under resolution no. 49/111. The first official commemoration was in 1995 marking the 10th Anniversary of the Vienna Convention on the protection of the Ozone Layer adopted in 1985 and the 8th Anniversary of the Montreal Protocol adopted on 16th September in 1987. These global agreements marked the first time that countries agreed to move away from the use of chlorofluorocarbon (CFCs) and other ozone depleting substances and instead to use substitutes that do not deplete the ozone layer.

Therefore 16th September is the remembrance of the day when the protection of the ozone layer was agreed upon and the beginning of the phase out of substances that deplete the ozone layer. This is to prevent the adverse impact of ultra-violet radiation on the environment and other natural resources.

Zambia being party to the Vienna Convention and the Montreal Protocol has the obligation to join other members to remember the day when these countries agreed to protect the ozone layer for the sake of human health and the environment in commemorating the international day for the preservation of the ozone layer. This year activity for the Ozone week was a Road Show conducted at Mukuba Shopping Mall in Kitwe, on the Copperbelt.

The Ozone day environmental road show was implemented in collaboration with the Zambia Network for Environmental Educators and Practitioners (ZANEEP) and other Civil Society Organisations on the Copperbelt Province. ZEMA as a regulatory agency has a mandate to conduct environmental education and enhance public participation in environmental management.

The Ozone day was not launched by the Minister in Zambia as we had an election and the full Cabinet is not in place yet, hence the commemoration of the International day for the preservation of the Ozone Layer in Zambia was conducted by the Zambia Environmental Management Agency as implementing institution on environment to fulfil the obligation of the Montreal Protocol. However, the media was involved and the ozone story was there on electronic and print media. The Ozone day in Zambia was commemorated on Saturday 17th of September 2016 to facilitate the Road Show attention.



The Manager –NRO (middle with glasses) and Environmental Ambassadors from Copperbelt University

2. Official Opening of the Road Show

2.1 Manager –ZEMA Northern Region

The Manager Zambia Environmental Management Agency in the Northern Region of Zambia welcomed all the participants who took the privilege to come and participate in the Ozone Day Road show as part of the commemoration of the International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone layer. He was grateful that this year's commemoration of the International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone layer in Zambia was held on the Copperbelt. He was also grateful for the Zambia Network for Environmental Educators and Practitioners (ZANEEP) and other Civil Society Organizations on the Copperbelt Province for the good collaboration in preparing for the occasion. He reminded the audience that this year's theme "*Ozone and Climate: Restored by the World United*", complemented by a tagline: *Working towards reducing global warming Hydroflouorcarbarn (HCFs) under the Montreal Protocol* shows the community the linkage between ozone depletion and greenhouse effects, thereby telling us that we should phase-out ODS for the good of climate.

2.2 Principal Information and Communication Officer

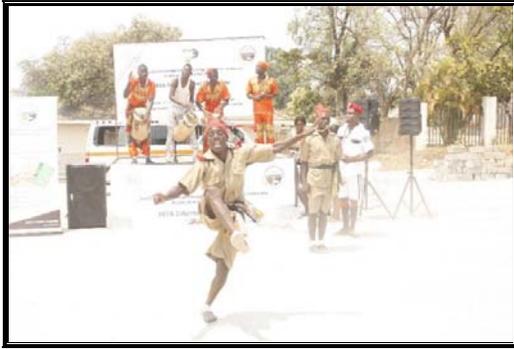
The Principal Information and Communication Officer of Zambia Environmental Management Agency Mrs. Ireen Lungu Chipili was overwhelmed with the presence of the environmental ambassadors from one of the higher learning institution as part of the commemoration of the day for the preservation of the ozone layer. She urged the environment ambassadors to continue assisting the Zambia Environmental Management Agency in the dissemination of information to enable the community to protect the environment. She further urged the community to ensure they assist in the phase-out of ODSs as this is an opportunity for the country to contribute to the protection of the ozone layer, but also reduce the greenhouse gases, lowers energy costs and maximizes climate benefits.

2.3 Overview of the Ozone layer Protection in Zambia

The Coordinator of the National Ozone Protection Programme in Zambia Mr. Mathias Banda gave an overview of the ozone protection programme in Zambia. He pointed out why Zambia is commemorating the international day for the preservation of the Ozone layer, this because Zambia is party to the Vienna Convention and the Montreal Protocol. This was one of the programme under the Montreal Protocol to remember the agreement signed on 16th September and to also use the occasion to disseminate information on ozone to assist and urge the community to protect the environment from the adverse effects of the UV radiations. He urged the audience to have no fear of consulting ZEMA offices on ozone issues.

3. Road Show Activities

The Ozone Day Road Show was conducted at Mukuba Shopping Mall and was coordinated by Mrs. Ireen Lungu Chipili Principal Information and Communication Officer in collaboration with Mr. Mathias Banda Coordinator –National Ozone Unit. The Copperbelt University Ambassadors of Environment student also participated in the Ozone Day Road show. The Show was characterized with Ozone and environment music, Zambia Cultural Dances, and sharing of information on Ozone and climate as well as environmental issues.



The Cultural dances during the Commemoration of Ozone day

The participants were entertained with the cultural dances above during the commemoration of the Ozone day. The environmental ambassadors below assisted explaining ozone issues and distributing brochures and pamphlets to the public during the road show. The road show attracted various types of people including the young as future environmentalist.



The environmental ambassadors had also an opportunity to interact with the public at the Mall to explain issues of ozone and climate.



4. The dance competition

The participants present at the road show were asked to compete in the dance from the music and the winners were given the Ozone day Tee shirts.



The participants in the dancing competition

It was interesting to watch guys in the caption above trying to give the audience various styles of the dance to attract the Master of Ceremony's attention for the prize. Eventually the guy in red shirt emerged the winner and was given the Ozone Day T-Shirt as a form of remembering the commemoration.

5. Media coverage

The commemoration of the ozone day event was covered by the media and the Principal Communication Officer in charge of public relations on environment was interviewed reporters from the national media Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation (ZNBC) on ozone layer protection and what Zambia has done to assist the dissemination of information to the general public. The activity was on TV and radio.



Principal Environmental Communication Officer being interviewed by the media during ozone day

Part of the environment ambassador's and the Zambia Environment team who assisted in the organization and participation in the road show during the commemoration of the international day in Zambia.



Part of the crew that assisted in the organization and implementation of the event

6. Conclusion.

The Manager Northern region Mr. Gift Sikaundi speaking on behalf of the Director General of the Zambia Environmental Management Agency (ZEMA) thanked the host at the Mukuba Shopping Mall management for offering the venue. He thanked the Zambia Network for Environmental Educators and Practitioners (ZNEEP) team and coordinator Ms. Winzasu Munthali for their active role in the assisting and conducting of the event. He further commended the ZEMA northern region office for the collaboration with the Lusaka and Copperbelt team that participated. He thanked the Zambia Police Service for providing the security during the event.

He paid tribute to the office of the Vice Chancellor Copperbelt University for allowing the environment ambassadors to participate in the commemoration of the International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone layer event this year in Zambia. He finally thanked the general public that attended the Ozone Day Road Show and urged them to further assist protect the ozone layer with knowledge imparted to them by the environment ambassadors during the occasion. With these few remarks he took the opportunity on behalf of Director General ZEMA to officially close the event.

