

A NATIONAL LIBRARY SERVICE : PURPOSE AND FUNCTIONS  
WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO ZAMBIA

By

Charles Ben Maposa Lungu

A Master's Dissertation submitted in partial fulfilment of  
the requirements for the award of

MASTER OF LIBRARY STUDIES

of the Loughborough University of Technology

May 1981

Supervisor: Diana Dixon. B.A., M.Phil., A.L.A.  
Department of Library and Information Studies.

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To my parents, for always wishing me higher achievements,

I dedicate this effort;

To my wife and children, for surviving the agony of it all,

I re-dedicate it.

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ABSTRACT

The aim of this study is to establish the need for a nationally oriented library service in Zambia and to recommend a pattern befitting the special Zambian circumstances. To do this, firstly the concept and definition of national libraries is examined. Although it is established that there is no definite definition for a National Library, it is through specific types of library functions that those libraries considered as national are identified. These functions are both numerous and in some cases complex. This has led to the hypotheses that for any library to fulfil national library status, it must be considered ' as a library micro-system by itself; as a component part of the library system of the country, and in its interaction with national libraries of other countries, as an element of the new international system being formed.'

Against this hypotheses, the study further develops into the examination of current developments regarding national library services elsewhere. International developments like those inspired by UNESCO and IFLA are discussed. Similarly, some regional developments within Africa, and especially the Eastern, Central and Southern African region are also examined. Certain developments within some national boundaries are also put into perspective.

These developments taking place elsewhere are then examined against the background of the developments taking place in Zambia itself. Due to the scarcity of Zambian literature on the subject, the final assessment of the Zambian situation is based on results of a questionnaire which was completed simultaneously with detailed interviews of the people in the relevant offices. The scanty literature on the topic was also consulted. However, personal experience with the system not

only helped to identify human sources of information, but also helped to identify most of the unpublished documentation used in the study.

By themselves, the developments in Zambia are shown to be inadequate and so unco-ordinated that they do not meet the national library hypotheses established earlier. Besides, current library services in Zambia are not sufficiently oriented towards meeting the national political and social aspirations. In view of the implications from international developments and the need at home some specific suggestions have been offered to improve the situation.

The National Library Service finally proposed is therefore designed to meet the specific information needs of the Zambian community, while it will at the same time optimize all the information resources for the benefit of the nation. Finally it will co-exist smoothly with national library services in other parts of the world, thereby satisfying the current international concept of information resource-sharing.

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS USED IN THE TEXT

ABC:	Africa Bibliographical Centre.
BALLOTS:	Bibliographic Automation of Large Library Operations using a Time-sharing System.
BLAISE:	British Libraries Automated Information Service.
BLLD:	British Library Lending Division.
COMLA:	Commonwealth Library Association.
CRIT:	Co-ordinating Centre for Regional Information Training.
ECA:	Economic Commission for Africa.
ECARBICA:	East and Central African Regional Branch of International Council on Archives.
EURONET:	European On-line Information Network.
FEDLINK:	Federal Library Information Network.
FID:	International Federation of Documentation.
GIP:	General Information Programme.
ICA:	International Council on Archives.
ICSU:	International Council for Scientific Unions.
IFLA:	International Federation of Library Associations.
INFOTERRA:	International Environmental Information Network.
ISO:	International Standards Organization.
JASPA:	Jobs and Skills Programme for Africa.
LC:	Library of Congress.
MARC:	Machine Readable Cataloguing.
MEF:	Mindolo Ecumenical Foundation.
NAL:	National Agricultural Library.
NATIS:	National Information Systems.

NAZ:	National Archives of Zambia.
NCSR:	National Council for Scientific Research.
NCSR-DSIC:	National Council for Scientific Research- Documentation and Scientific Information Centre.
NECZAM:	National Educational Company of Zambia.
NEDCOZ:	National Educational Distributing Company of Zambia.
NLM:	National Library of Medicine.
OAU:	Organization of African Unity.
OCLC:	Ohio College Library Center.
SCAULEA:	Standing Conference of African University Librarians in Eastern Africa.
SCECSAL:	Standing Conference of Eastern, Central and Southern African Librarians.
SCOHLZA:	Standing Conference of Head Librarians in Zambia.
SCOLMA:	Standing Conference on Library Materials on Africa.
SCONUL:	Standing Conference of National and University Librarians.
SDC:	Systems Development Corporation.
UAI:	Universal Access to Information.
UAP:	Universal Availability of Publications.
UBC:	Universal Bibliographical Control.
UNCSTD:	United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development.
UNESCO:	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.
UNISIST:	World Science Information System.
UNZA:	University of Zambia.

- WIPO: World Intellectual Property Organization.  
WNL: Washington Library Network.  
ZLA: Zambia Library Association.  
ZLS: Zambia Library Service.  
ZNCL: Zambia National Central Library.

CHAPTER ONE

NATIONAL LIBRARIES : DEFINITIONS AND FUNCTIONS

CHAPTER 1NATIONAL LIBRARIES : DEFINITIONS & FUNCTIONS

At the current level of library development in the world it is easy to single out national libraries as a special category, i.e. separate from public, university or special libraries. Yet when it comes to defining what is meant by the term it becomes difficult to do so with comparative ease. This is so because the libraries that fall into this category exhibit a great variety in their sizes, nature and functions. Furthermore, in some countries there is even no distinction between planning for a National Library and planning a national library system. This is because various libraries are fulfilling national roles to varying extents.

However, in order to be able to propose the establishment of a national library, it is necessary to develop a deeper understanding of what is meant by the term 'national library'. This in turn calls for a careful search into whatever similarities the original national libraries shared in order to deserve that special categorization. Both the evolution of the concept and the characteristic functions of national libraries, and eventually the effect of time on the two all need special attention.

1.1. ORIGINS OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARY AND THE NATIONAL LIBRARY CONCEPT

The national library with the longest history is the Bibliothèque Nationale of France. It had its origins from 1480 as a royal library. However, it wasn't until 1795 that it was declared the national library by the National Convention. It now has the approximate size of 20 million storage units. The British Library had its origins in 1753 as part of the British Museum. The name was changed in 1973 after the unification of the various units that had independently been performing

national library functions. It has over 8 million volumes. The Library of Congress in the U.S.A. was established in 1800 as a special library designed to aid congress to formulate laws. Its collection is estimated to be over 55 million volumes. The most recently established of these oldest national libraries is the Lenin State Library of the USSR. It was established in 1862 and has over 25 million volumes. <sup>(1)</sup>

National libraries have in essence therefore existed since the 18th century. Whereas some started as royal libraries, several countries, especially in Europe, consciously created national libraries. It can be said in conclusion that some national libraries were established for the purpose they presently serve, others came to being as a result of the dedication to public use of great private collections, and many have developed into their contemporary stature through a gradual extension of their privileges and facilities to an ever-enlarging patronage. <sup>(2)</sup>

#### 1.1.1. The National Library Concept

When Arundell Emdale <sup>(3)</sup> decided in 1934 to compile a list of about forty libraries from around the world and decided to refer to them as 'national libraries', he was merely pioneering the documentation of a historical fact in library development. This was an ideological fact which in actual effect had been in ferment for close to one and a half centuries. Although he referred to them as "that comparatively modern product, the national library" he was quick to admit that "the idea of a national library has for over a century and for longer still, if we consider it rightly, been expanding". <sup>(4)</sup> In spite of their differences in both problems and nature of their activities, archival storage of national publications for posterity was the main function, and distinguishing feature of national libraries. Therefore, the typical national library aimed to be to books what the national museum was to artefacts. With

Esdaile's publicity of the concept therefore, it can be claimed that serious thinking about the national library concept began.

### 1.1.2. The Search for a Definition

The desire to formulate a comprehensive and widely accepted definition of a national library was initiated in the July 1955 issue of Library Trends. The Managing editor had declared to this special issue editor that "the world needs to know what a national library is, where they come from, what seem to be their basic functions".<sup>(5)</sup> In response to this request Mearns argued that the Managing editor's statements "provided ample evidence of the fact that just now national libraries are in ferment; that they are wondrously complicated organisms; that whereas some among the fewer institutions are frankly imitative most are conspicuously differentiated one from the other; that they defy or elude simple categorization; that they have come to possess separable personalities and bear proud markings of dissimilarity". It was his view therefore, while writing the summary to this special issue, that it was not possible to agree upon a generally accepted definition though he was optimistic that "perhaps the world will one day hit upon a definition....."<sup>(6)</sup>

Three years later in 1958, the Director of a Unesco sponsored symposium on National libraries in Europe, admitted that "we still do not know what a national library really is, nor can we name with certainty the qualities a library must possess or the functions it must fulfil in order to be rightly called 'national'."<sup>(7)</sup> The diversity of libraries represented at this symposium explained the complexity of the range covered by the term. Consequently, the symposium considered it pointless to try and define what a national library was. It was a general consensus that "the (initial) problem was (rather) to identify the functions

and responsibilities of a national library, for which the tasks primarily involved were of national and international significance going beyond the normal scope of learned libraries."<sup>(8)</sup>

### 1.1.3. The Change of Emphasis

Following this shift in emphasis, most subsequent conferences and seminars therefore, sought to identify the functions of the various types of national libraries, and in formulating policies regarding the establishment of new ones. The following is a catalogue of some of the notable events that followed the 1958 Vienna symposium:-

- (i) 1964: Unesco convened a Regional Seminar on the development of National libraries in Asia and the Pacific area at Manila. Heads of national libraries were brought together to exchange ideas and experiences. They formulated recommendations for concrete action leading to the development of national libraries throughout the area.
- (ii) 1963-1965: Within the IFLA Section on National and University libraries, a comparative study of functions of the four largest national libraries of Great Britain, France, U.S.A., and USSR, was carried out. Recommendations for future development of national libraries were made based on this study.
- (iii) 1970: In Kampala (Uganda) special attention was paid to the problems of national libraries at the meeting of experts on national planning of documentation and library services in Africa.
- (iv) 1971: The Centre for Statistical Data on National libraries was created at the National Library of the Netherlands in the Royal Library at the Hague, in accordance with the resolution of the IFLA Section of National and University Libraries. This

centre regularly sends out questionnaires to libraries and the data so collected can be used as a basis for organizing new national libraries.

- (v) 1974: The idea of creating an international association of national libraries was considered by the Conference of Directors of National Libraries. This conference was organized at the initiative of the National Library of Canada.
- (vi) 1974: Unesco organized an Inter-governmental Conference on Planning of National Documentation Library and Archives infrastructure. It is widely believed that its recommendations will have fundamental significance for the future development of national library activity.
- (vii) 1977: A handbook for planners of National Library and Information Services was edited by Penna, Foskett and Sewell. This was a cumulation of contributions and comments from at least 26 experts from around the world including officials from IFLA, FID and UNESCO. This product was a direct consequence of the 1974 Intergovernmental Conference on the Planning of National Documentation, Library and Archives Infrastructure at which Unesco's NATIS concept was first accepted.

#### 1.1.4. Implications for the definition

From the trend of events concomitant with the development of national libraries, and the trend of thought displayed by the aforementioned conferences and seminars implications for a definition of a national library emerge:-

- (a) that whatever the definition, it would in more ways than one be a restatement of functions. This is judging from the amount of attention given to identifying the functions of a national library;

- (b) that the concept of a national library has been and still is undergoing a constant metamorphosis;
- (c) that the future establishment of national libraries would have to conform to pre-defined standards. This is judging from the emphasis being laid on 'recommendations' at seminars and conferences;
- (d) that judging from the emphasis at, and frequency of these meetings the trend in national libraries is likely to be more towards co-ordination of services and co-operation both at national and international levels.

In determining the parameters for a definition, therefore, Tyulina warns that it is "necessary to take as a basis, not just one kind of function, but a whole combination of them and to examine the national library simultaneously, as both a constituent part of the whole library system of the country and the complete system itself, all parts of which are inter-connected and inter-dependent."<sup>(9)</sup>

## 1.2. FUNCTIONS OF A NATIONAL LIBRARY

As earlier indicated, most national libraries evolved out of the need to preserve national literary achievements for the benefit of future generations. As a consequence, collection and storage of such material was the original pre-occupation and distinctive function. The advent of scientific and technological research and achievements accentuated the need to conserve such records of a nation's genius. Since such records were not only expressed in a single format this conservation theory also included literature expressed in manuscript, or facsimiled on film, or in musical notation, or embossed characters or glyphs; whether charted on maps or graphs, or depicted, or reproducible from captured sound.

Such an acquisition theory representing maximum comprehensiveness was aptly claimed by Sir Anthony Panizzi when he referred to the British Museum as providing the necessary means of information, in all languages, properly arranged, minutely and fully catalogued and capable of keeping pace with the increase of human knowledge.<sup>(10)</sup>

### 1.2.1. Traditional Functions

Between 1963-1965 the IFLA Section on National and University Libraries conducted a survey of the four oldest national libraries, namely Great Britain, France, U.S.A., and U.S.S.R. The aim of this survey was to identify what had by then become de facto traditional functions of national libraries. Summarizing on the results of this survey and also after consulting with colleagues at professional meetings, Humphreys made his widely quoted classification of national library functions. He argued that the functions of a monolithic type of a national library fell into essential, desirable and inessential categories as follows:-

#### I. Essential

- Collection of a nation's literature
- Depot legal
- Coverage of foreign literature
- Production of national bibliography
- National bibliographic information centre
- Publication of catalogues
- Exhibitions

#### II. Desirable

- Inter-library lending
- Manuscripts
- Research on library techniques

### III. Inessential

- International exchange service
- Distribution of duplicates
- Books for the blind
- Professional training
- Assistance in library techniques<sup>(11)</sup>

Since the four largest libraries on which the list was compiled from were, and still are exerting significant influence on the formation of national libraries, the list represents the basic functions expected of national libraries. However, to this list can be added other functions recognized by other people or institutions other than Humphreys. Ib Magnussen<sup>(12)</sup> had for instance earlier considered:-

- collection of rare and valuable editions, and
- provision of reader access to collections

The latter function has eventually developed into one of the most essential functions of modern national libraries. At the Unesco Regional Conference held in Manila in 1964 the following functions were also discussed:-

- provide leadership among the nation's libraries
- serve as co-ordinating centre for co-operative activities
- provide service to government

Later, in 1970, the Kampala meeting of experts on national planning of documentation and library services in Africa also considered the national library:-

- serving as a primary instrument for the achievement of co-ordinated library development.

What is implicit in these additional functions is the amount of influence exerted on national libraries by the societies or environments they serve.

Magnussen's list reflects the socialist influence, whereas the two Unesco conferences in Manila and Kampala reflect the slant to be emulated by emerging national libraries in developing countries.

### 1.2.2. Re-assessment of functions

Since Humphreys, national libraries have been undergoing some form of metamorphosis. Owing to all sorts of influences librarians have increasingly become disillusioned by Humphreys' analysis of national library functions. After a rather exhaustive discussion on the various proponents of national library functions Tyulina singles out four as the main typological functions of a national library:

- state depository of national printed works;
- the largest public library of the country;
- the bibliographical centre; and
- the central library of the entire national library system of the country. (13)

She argues that these functions are integrally interconnected and inter-dependent and that the exclusion of one of them causes the library to stop functioning as a national one. Fifteen years after Humphreys, another prominent British librarian, Maurice Line has seen the need for a re-classification of national libraries. Basing his arguments on his experience with the British Lending Library, Line has reclassified the functions as fundamental; by-product; and other possible functions thus:-

#### 1. Fundamental

- The central collection of a nation's information media
- Central loans/photocopy collection of foreign literature
- Planning and co-ordinating of inter-library lending
- Publication of the national bibliography
- National repository
- Exchange centre



II. By-product functions

- Publication of catalogues
- Exhibitions
- Research on library techniques
- Professional training
- Expertise in library techniques

III. Other possible functions

- Collection of information media relating to the country but issued elsewhere
- Books for the blind
- Collection of manuscripts other than those of national relevance and importance.<sup>(14)</sup>

It is worth noting also that Line also took into consideration the special problems experienced by developing countries when formulating these functions. However, all the functions discussed are not equally developed in all the present national libraries and the forms they are taking are not identical since they are determined by those specific historical traditions and social conditions in which one or another library was developed and now functions. Before proceeding to discuss specific functions it is necessary at this point to introduce some of the definitions of a national library that are acceptable.

In its recommendations concerning international standardization of library statistics in 1970, Unesco offered the following definition:

National Libraries: libraries which, irrespective of their title, are responsible for acquiring and conserving copies of all significant publications published in the country and functioning as a deposit library either

by law or under other arrangements. They will also normally perform some of the following functions: produce a national bibliography; hold and keep up to date a large and representative collection of foreign literature including books about the country; act as a national bibliographical information centre; compile union catalogues; publish the retrospective national bibliography. Libraries which may be called 'national' but whose functions do not correspond to the above definition should not be placed in the 'national libraries' category. (15)

A more recent definition is that advanced by Tyulina in 1976:

A library is called a national one when it is the official depository of printed works; a general access library; an information bibliographical center; and a center of co-ordination, planning, and stimulation of the entire library system of the nation. (16)

It can thus be observed that the definition of a national library is not only a restatement of functions, but is just as metamorphic as the functions themselves.

### 1.2.3. Discussion of Functions

In order to get a deeper insight of what is entailed in some of these national library functions, below are discussions of those widely acclaimed to be necessary function:

#### 1. Central Collection of a nation's information media

It is this task alone that gave rise to the emergence of national libraries. Though a major activity in developed countries, it is

relatively a minor one in developing countries. This is due to the relatively underdeveloped publishing industry in these countries. However, the national library attempts to collect all local literature in whatever format. In monolithic systems of national libraries this job is more irksome than in countries with well developed library systems where acquisition can be shared either by subject or type of material, with the national library co-ordinating the activity.

The national library arranges to receive at least one copy of everything published in the country. This is best done through legal deposit legislation. It includes all privately printed items and books published abroad which describe any aspect of the life and cultures of that country. In emergent countries this includes arrangements to obtain copies of retrospective but otherwise out of print material which has otherwise found sanctuary in libraries in foreign countries. For developing nations, 'nation's literature' may be interpreted broadly to include literature relevant to the nation.

## 2. Central loan/photocopy collection of foreign literature -

This function has recently achieved prominence as national libraries shifted their emphasis from being national repositories to national public libraries. The Lenin State library takes the credit for pioneering into this service. This function also has special significance in developing countries in their quest for accelerated development. The national library's role is information and document supply.

The national library should therefore provide a loan service not only to other libraries but also to individuals on a nationwide scale. This service can be operated alongside a photocopy service for periodical literature or for documents that would be rather difficult to replace if lost.

### 3. Planning and co-ordinating of inter-library lending ,

Within each nation there will inadvertently be a lot of lending activity going on between individual libraries. Since national libraries are expected to cover literature on all fields of knowledge, have the richest collection of reference books and bibliographies, and have experienced staff trained in the widest language and subject fields, it is indeed the most suitable centre for the co-ordination of inter-library lending. This is because apart from being capable of satisfying most inter-library requests from its collection it is best suited to locate who else can do it through the national union catalogue. It can therefore not only plan the inter-library lending service, but also co-ordinate it through the many facilities at its disposal.

### 4. Depot Legal .

Legal deposit is the authority bestowed on the national library, through some legislation, to receive a specified number of copies of each new publication. Publishers, and in some cases authors or printers are bound by law to submit the agreed number of copies of their publications to the national library within a specified period before or after publication. The purpose of legal deposit is to protect the rights of the author, to maintain a system of press censorship, and to ensure the preservation of a nation's literature.

There is considerable variation in the number of copies required for legal deposit. They range from one in countries like Japan, to about forty in the USSR. This law usually carries with it some punitive measures to be taken against any defaulters.

### ✓ 5. Publication of the National Bibliography

While the national library receives copies of all that is published within a country, it is necessary that a list of these publication

should be published occasionally. This is an obvious by-product of the national archive and depot legal. The size and frequency of such a bibliographical list will largely depend on the literary output of a nation. In developing countries, for example, this function will be less frequent and comparatively less demanding to undertake than in developed countries. This is owing to the low literary output in developing countries.

#### 6. National Bibliographical Centre

In 1950, in Paris, Unesco held an International Conference on Improvement of Bibliographical Information Services. This conference recommended the creation of a National Bibliographical Centre in each country which will serve:

- (i) as the recognized centre to which all requests not met elsewhere, for bibliographical information regarding the books and other recorded materials of its own and other countries should be addressed;
- (ii) to put enquirers, when necessary, in touch with specialized sources of bibliographical information;
- (iii) to centralize requests for information from abroad and from international organizations. (17)

The national library provides a logical base for the creation of such a base since it already houses the union catalogue, the deposit copy and indeed the national printed output.

Since the 1950 conference there had been a number of activities concerning bibliographical services. These culminated into the 1977 UNESCO/IFLA sponsored conference of the International Congress on National Bibliographies held again in Paris. This congress made several recommendations discussed under the following ten topics:

- i. Legal deposit.
- ii. The selection of materials for the national bibliography.
- iii. The presentation and frequency of the printed national bibliography.
- iv. Catalogue cards.
- v. Content of the Bibliographic record.
- vi. Publications of intergovernmental and international non-governmental organizations.
- vii. The International Information System.
- viii. The International Serials Data System.
- ix. Resource sharing.
- x. Unesco: (the funding of pilot schemes for national bibliographical agencies; production of national bibliographies; and support for national, regional and international seminars and training workshops.)<sup>(18)</sup>

These recommendations show a significant broadening of the thinking displayed at the 1950 conference. The emphasis broadened from concern for the administering of a bibliographical service, to cover an increased variety of documents, their resultant records, and their eventual availability to a broadened spectrum of information seekers. However, it still remained evident that there had been no departure from the concern for the role of a bibliographical centre or agency. Recommendations made under items 1 & 7-10 still do have direct implications on the need for such centres or agencies and their close relationship with national libraries.

#### ✓7. National repository

This function entails the receipt, storage and preservation of items withdrawn from other libraries. Such items could be photocopied for or loaned to other libraries on request. This function is closely related to 2 and 3 above.

## 8. Exchange Centre

This function is essential especially for duplicate publications or those withdrawn items referred to in 7. The national library would occasionally compile a list of such items and circulate to local libraries. These libraries would select the items they need and send in special requests for them from the national library. A similar exchange programme could be organized internationally for the benefit of all participating local libraries.

The question of exchanging new publications on behalf of local institutions is debatable. This is especially in terms of the time factor. But it is a responsibility the national library could consider under this function.

## 9. Publication of catalogues

Since the national library will maintain a union catalogue it is essential that it should occasionally publish specific sections from it to circulate to its participating libraries. The complete catalogue would also have to be published in book form for the benefit of other libraries. Special catalogues covering special materials like maps, drawings etc. are also produced by the national library from the union catalogue.

## 10. Exhibitions

These are held as and when required. Their purpose is to publicize the collection to the public. They may be based on material covering a specific subject or may be of a special type of media.

## 11. Research on library techniques

Owing to the concentration of so many highly qualified staff in the national library, it is appropriate that it should provide the leadership into the research on various library techniques. Such research would

involve investigation of special problems experienced by libraries in the country, or special professional techniques necessitated by current developments within the nation or on the international scene.

#### 12. Professional Training

Again, owing to the concentration of such highly qualified staff as bibliographers, palaeographers, scientists, binders and cataloguers in the national library, it provides the best training ground for the practical side of the profession. Students of librarianship can attain their specialized practical training in the national library. So also can staff from other libraries within the country be attached for specialist training at the national library.

#### 13. Expertise in Library Techniques

The national library would be expected by other libraries to give guidance in certain library techniques. Cataloguing and classification are two obvious examples. The national library could formulate rules or standards for specific library procedures. The national library could also be called upon to provide professional advice on practical matters like setting up binderies or mechanical aids because usually such services are most developed in the national library.

#### 14. Collection of information relating to the country

This relates especially to publications otherwise issued elsewhere. It can be a rather demanding job to identify and collect such documents especially for developing countries. This is partly because most historical records and past administrative documents produced by ex-colonial powers will be held in libraries outside the country. It is also because the task also includes material which is not necessarily about the country, but relevant to the country. The collection of retrospective material might theoretically sound a finite job, but in practice the story

is different. However, the collection of current material relating to the country, but published elsewhere is a more demanding activity.

#### 15. Books for the Blind

The main justification for this function coming under the responsibility of a national library lies in its other responsibility as an inter-library lending centre. Thus the special requirements of the blind can easily fit in the existing lending pattern. For developing countries, one added reason is that special libraries for the blind are not well established. Having this service centrally organized, provides a nationwide oriented solution to the problem.

#### 16. Manuscripts

*Concomitant with the priority objective of preserving the nation's literature, separate attention should be given to collection of manuscripts. These important documents are not only fugitive in nature but there is no other type of library that has enough manpower, and authority to do it.*

In conclusion it will be noticed that the above list is not completely exhaustive. There are other functions which some national libraries find necessary, but which are totally irrelevant to others. Each national library will therefore include or exclude specific functions depending on necessity, manpower and other reasons. These functions discussed will however provide the basic understanding of what is generally expected of national libraries.

### 1.3. SPECIAL FUNCTION NATIONAL LIBRARIES

National libraries have displayed varied patterns of establishment and development. This has been due to social, cultural, economic and even administrative influences at work in individual countries. These

differences in patterns of development have led to various types of national libraries to emerge.

Among the national libraries that were consciously established as such are the Deutsche Bücherei (German Library) and the Canadian National Library established in 1912 and 1953 respectively.<sup>(19)</sup> These libraries sought out with the original aim to develop collections of encyclopaedic nature going beyond the duty and abilities of other local learned libraries in every field and discipline, quantities and concentrations.

### 1.3.1. Cultural National Libraries

This category of national libraries is that offering services to major administrative regions with some form of cultural and political cohesion. Although this is the main distinguishing factor, there are no hard and fast rules on the functions they ought to restrict themselves to. Libraries like the National Library of Scotland and the National Library of Wales fall into this category.

### 1.3.2. Dual-purpose Libraries

The trend in developing countries has been to establish national libraries using the back-bone of other already established kinds of libraries. As a result, such libraries have not only assumed the responsibilities of national libraries, but have also continued to serve in their original capacities as well. Local publishing in developing countries accounts for a very little percentage of the book supply to national libraries. Furthermore much as developing countries wish to establish independent national libraries, they do not have the financial backing necessary for such enormous undertakings. There is little justification therefore to establish expensive buildings when existing

institutions would adequately manage the extra responsibilities of a national library.

Dual-purpose libraries have therefore emerged as national academic libraries. This means academic institutions have taken over the responsibilities of a national library and have, through either legislation or public acclaim become national libraries. The Helsinki University Library, the National and University Library, Zagreb; and the Jewish National and University Library are a few examples of academic national libraries.

Similarly, some public libraries have also assumed the national library status. Examples of this are the two South African national libraries, the South African Public Library in Cape Town and the State Library in Pretoria. The Federal National library in Calcutta, apart from being the National Library of India, also performs additional functions of a public library.

National-parliamentary libraries are also another type of dual-purpose library. The National Diet Library of Japan also serves the nation's legislative body. The United States Library of Congress was intended primarily to assist Congressmen in preparing laws, but has since developed into one of the world's largest national libraries.

### 1.3.3. National Subject Libraries

Owing to the enormous output of literature it has meant that attainment of complete coverage of all significant information has only become feasible through subject specialization. Such specialized collecting can have a world-wide coverage. In practice such growth of literature has been mainly in the fields of science and technology. The establishment of such specialized national libraries has mainly been undertaken by

the developed countries which not only have the resources to establish them, but also the manpower to maintain them. The National Library for Science and Technology in the United Kingdom, the National Library of Medicine and the National Agricultural Library, both in the U.S.A. are good examples of subject national libraries.

#### 1.3.4. Reference and Lending Libraries

National libraries can also develop on a specific function to the public. They may be reference libraries or lending libraries only. In the case of the former, the stock would be made available for reference only as was the case with the former British Museum Library. Lending libraries on the other hand, specialize in lending out their stock to other libraries and organizations. The former National Central Library and the former National Reference Library for Science and Technology of Great Britain are examples of national libraries that specialize in lending. Again such specialization is only feasible in developed countries.

#### 1.3.5. National Libraries for Handicapped Readers

Handicapped readers constitute a special category of readers. Such readers may be blind or may have other forms of physical disabilities. Since such people need information presented in a special way it has led into the development of nationally organized libraries to provide for the special needs of such readers. The National Library for the Blind in Great Britain is a typical example of such a library. Regional service for this particular community which is socially and geographically widely scattered is otherwise difficult to justify.

#### 1.4. FACTORS AFFECTING NATIONAL LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT

What has come out clearly so far is the fact that it is difficult to define national libraries or to claim with absolute certainty which are their exclusive functions. This is largely because, as said before, this type of library is undergoing a constant metamorphosis. However, it is necessary to examine the forces at work in this metamorphosis in order to appreciate the condition.

##### 1.4.1. The Information Explosion and its Impact

The past three decades have experienced a marked upsurge of information output. This enormous output has also been referred to as the 'information explosion', and has mainly affected such fields of knowledge as science and technology.

First of all there has been a sharp progression in the production of materials in what are generally known as subject fields. This has in turn been sharply boosted by the development of new subjects based upon both the interdisciplinary and the multi-disciplinary approaches to the existing subjects. This 'knowledge explosion' combined with changes in the character of knowledge, intensification of research and educational activities have a direct bearing on the size, administrative organization, objectives, functions, services and various other aspects of the national library. (20)

Since World War II, many Asian and African nations have achieved their independence from colonial domination. These nations have immediately embarked on ambitious national reconstruction and development programmes with the objective of achieving 'accelerated development'. Primarily, this has entailed taking giant strides into educational and research programmes. In recognizing the indispensability of information to development, these young nations have succumbed to the pressing need

for national information systems. However, this sudden expansion of educational and research facilities created an information void which had to be filled at almost the same tempo. Thus the information explosion initially experienced in these countries is not original to those areas. It is merely a manifestation of the rumblings from the explosion in developed countries. Tremors from an original explosion are yet to come with the improvement of the publishing industry.

As a corollary to the enormous output of information certain old national libraries have for instance reviewed their acquisition policies. They are co-ordinating acquisition of material with other libraries in the country. They are also taking active roles in inter-library loans. This pressure brought about by the supply of information has also necessitated the automation of the processing of bibliographical information. In some developed countries computers with on-line terminals are now commonplace. These have been efficiently utilized to promote centralized cataloguing on a co-operative basis. Resource-sharing by libraries at both national and international levels has eventually been made possible by this automation.

The impact of the information explosion was evident even as early as 1955. It was argued then that some larger national libraries had, whether by default, or impotence, or enforced surrender or unwitting consent, allowed national library functions to devolve on new and separate institutions.<sup>(21)</sup> As a solution to preserve the dwindling national library prestige the idea of organizing national library collections in two parallel but distinguishable lines was even considered. The humanities were to be treated in accordance with established bibliographical principles and natural sciences and technology were to be processed using the newer and more elaborate methods of documentation and automation.<sup>(22)</sup> All in all,

these uneasy activities explain the origins of the national library systems theory.


From the organizational aspect therefore, it is evident that monolithic national libraries cannot sustain this pressure of the information explosion. It is this pressure which has to a greater extent dictated the pace and style of the development and organization of national libraries. Subject specialized libraries have not only developed to sizes of national status, but co-ordination of services into 'macro-systems' has become a common phenomenon. The information explosion is therefore causing such an impact that the definition and functions of the national library continually remain in ferment.

#### 1.4.2. User Demands on National libraries

The traditional concept of developing national libraries as mere repositories of national literary works has increasingly become irrelevant as national libraries have risked more and more of their collections through increased lending. This is in response to the increased demands being made on the collections by students and scholars. This service is also actively being backed by document provision through photocopying. (23)


Scientific and technical research programmes directed monolithic national libraries to initiate sympathetic acquisition practices. As it became evident that they could not cope, specialized subject national libraries emerged. This theory is strongly supported by the theory of information explosion in the sciences.

However, owing to the rate at which scientific information is being mass produced in the form of research reports, periodical articles, etc., there is an increase also in the speed at which information is losing

its value. National libraries are having to reconsider their role. Whether to move with the times and concentrate on current information, or on retrospective information thereby concentrating on the traditional function of preservation of archival material. In most developed countries this dilemma has already been met with concrete solutions in favour of user demands. 

Researchers have recently also become sophisticated in their demands. They have increasingly demanded the improvement of the quality and efficiency of information services like national libraries. This demand has further justified the use of computers. Computers have been put to such use as information retrieval and selective dissemination of information (SDI) services to benefit the library users.

The crusade for a definition and functions of a national library has necessitated the examination of the origins of the national library as a concept; the traditional, reassessed and special functions; and finally the factors that are affecting national library development. It could be summarized therefore that the national library as a standard concept should be considered from three aspects: as a library micro-system by itself; as a component part of the library system of the country; and in its interaction with national libraries of other countries as an element of the new international system being formed.<sup>(24)</sup> The national library is the physical manifestation of a national library service. The national library and the national library system are mutually related as the one is dependent for its survival upon the other.



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CHAPTER TWO

DEVELOPMENTS AND TRENDS IN NATIONAL LIBRARY SERVICES

## 2. DEVELOPMENTS & TRENDS IN NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL LIBRARY SERVICES.

In spite of all the disputes over definitions, positive developments in national library services have continued to take place. Some of these developments have attained regional or even international significance. Such developments have mainly been instituted by intergovernmental agencies such as UNESCO and professional organizations such as IFLA. Activities and programmes being undertaken by these organizations are overwhelmingly influencing the evolution of internationally accepted patterns of library development. Such developments should have special appeal to those developing nations with a special interest in accelerated development.

### 2.1. INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

The major international influence on national library development has come from UNESCO and IFLA. Either jointly or separately these organizations have supported or carried out projects that have set the tone for library and information science developments in the world. To reduce duplication of responsibilities and overlapping of their efforts these two organizations have increasingly been working more closely with each other.

#### 2.1.1. The United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

As the name suggests, UNESCO is a division of the United Nations Organization. It is therefore an intergovernmental body whose projects are eventually financially and politically supported by almost all nations of the world. Its major efforts in library and documentation work has been through two of its main sections, the Science

Sector and the Documentation, Libraries and Archives sector. These sectors have in turn sought co-operation from professional organizations such as the International Council for Scientific Unions (ICSU) and the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) respectively. The end results of such alliances have been projects such as the UNISIST, NATIS and eventually the GIP programme discussed below.

#### The World Science Information System (UNISIST)

In 1971 a study jointly sponsored by UNESCO and the International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU) was conducted. It produced a working document for an intergovernmental conference on the feasibility of setting up a World Science Information System. This conference was charged with the responsibility of making relevant recommendations to the Director-General concerning the establishment of UNISIST. UNISIST was finally established in 1972 and was based on the following principles:

- (i) UNISIST stands for the unimpeded exchange of published scientific information and data among scientists of the world;
- (ii) hospitality to the diversity of disciplines and fields of science and technology;
- (iii) promotion of compatibility, co-operative agreements and interchange of published information among the systems;
- (iv) co-operative development and maintenance of technical standards to facilitate the interchange;
- (v) development of trained manpower and information resources in all countries;

- (vi) increased participation of the present and coming generation of scientists in the development and use of information systems;
- (vii) *reduction of administrative and legal barriers to the flow of scientific information in the world; and*
- (viii) assistance to countries which seek access to present and future information services in the sciences.<sup>(1)</sup>

Faced with such a complexity of principles, UNISIST was established with the following aims:

- (i) to co-ordinate existing trends towards co-operation on scientific and technical information;
- (ii) develop the necessary conditions for systems interconnections; and
- (iii) facilitate access to world information resources.<sup>(2)</sup>

The ultimate goal of UNISIST is to establish a flexible and loosely connected network of information services based on voluntary co-operation.<sup>(3)</sup>

Although initially concerned with the basic sciences, applied sciences, engineering and technology, the UNISIST programme is being extended "to other fields of knowledge like the social sciences and education."<sup>(4)</sup>

The intermediate objectives of UNISIST are oriented towards specific programmes, projects and activities. These are that UNISIST should:

- (i) work towards the improvement of the tools of systems interconnection;
- (ii) work to strengthen the functions and improve the performance of the institutional components of the information transfer, viz. the libraries and repositories, the abstracting, indexing and translating services, and the information analysis centres;

- (iii) work to develop the human resources essential to the planning and operation of future information networks;
- (iv) work with governments to improve optimal economic and political environments for the development of systems interconnectibility and co-operation; and
- (v) provide assistance to developing countries by helping them to develop minimum bases of scientific information, and by developing pilot projects in co-operation with other United Nations agencies. (5)

At the General Conference of Unesco which took place in Nairobi in 1976, a resolution concerning the future development of Unesco's information programmes was passed. This conference agreed to set up a General Information Programme covering the activities of the organization in the fields of scientific and technical information (UNISIST) and of documentation, libraries and archives (NATIS). The conference instructed the GIP to ensure the continuity and development of actions undertaken in the context of the UNISIST programmes, and the appropriate continuing use of the name UNISIST. (6)

Between May 28 and June 1, 1979, an Intergovernmental Conference on Scientific and Technological Information for Documentation (UNISIST II) was held in Paris. This conference was convened in accordance with a resolution adopted by the General Conference of Unesco at its 20th Session. UNISIST II was called upon to review achievements within the framework of the UNISIST programme since 1971; to formulate recommendations concerning Unesco's future activities in the field of scientific and technological information; and to provide input to the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development (UNCSTD) which was held later in Vienna in August 1979. (7)

This UNISIST II conference formulated a set of proposals and advice which constitute a first rate contribution to the elimination of obstacles to the free flow of scientific and technological information. These proposals were also related to the free access of all countries to this information, and to its efficient utilization and application to development. At the end of the conference the UNISIST II final report was adopted unanimously, and recommendations were directed at the following three responsible parties:

- the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development (UNCSTD) (UNISIST II/Recommendation 1);
- to Unesco Member States (UNISIST II/Recommendation 2); and
- to UNESCO. (UNISIST II/Recommendation 3).<sup>(8)</sup>

The conference finally recommended to the Director General to submit to the next General Conference of Unesco, priority proposals based on the issues raised in Part C of the Main Working Document, taking into account the debate of the conference and the confirmed recommendations. Such a submission was to be done within the Draft Programme and Budget for 1981-83, and on the recommendations of the Intergovernmental Council of the General Information Programme.<sup>(9)</sup>

#### National Information Systems (NATIS) Concept

The concept of National Information Systems was mooted by UNESCO out of two basic needs:

- (i) the need for systematic planning of information infrastructures so as to utilize fully the information accumulated at the national level and to be able to participate in it, and benefit from, existing and future world information systems in various fields of activity; and

- (ii) the need for co-ordinated planning of information resources so as to achieve greater efficiency or improve indigenous capabilities and for creating new ones. (10)

As a concept NATIS implies that government - national, state or local - should maximize the availability of all relevant information through documentation, library and archives services just as in principle it takes responsibility for the basic education, at primary and secondary levels of its citizens. (11)

The elements that should constitute NATIS are all services involved in the provision of information for all sectors of the community and for all categories of user. The task of NATIS is therefore, to ensure that all engaged in political, economic, scientific, educational, social or cultural activities receive the necessary information enabling them to render their fullest contribution to the whole community. (12)

The Intergovernmental Conference on the Planning of National Documentation, Library and Archives Infrastructures held in Paris in 1974, accepted the NATIS concept. It also made a number of recommendations to assist in its effective implementation. The subsequent 18th Session of the General Conference of UNESCO considered the concept and invited the Director-General to:

- (a) promote the general concept of over-all planning of national infrastructures of documentation, libraries and archives and to invite Member States to take appropriate steps to create or improve their national information systems;
- (b) assist Member States, especially the developing countries, to plan and develop their national infrastructures or

national information systems (NATIS) in such a way as to ensure co-ordination at the national level and to prepare the bases for active participation in world information systems;

- (c) draw up a long-term programme of action of this end, and submit it to the 19th session of the General Conference;
- (d) take into account, in drawing up this programme, the recommendations approved by the Intergovernmental Conference on the Planning of National Documentation, Library and Archives Infrastructures, the UNISIST programme, and the relevant programmes developed by UNESCO and other international organizations, taking the necessary measures to avoid the development of overlapping activities;
- (e) take all necessary steps to ensure the most effective implementation of action in support of NATIS within the programme and budget for 1975-1976.<sup>(13)</sup>

NATIS is regarded by UNESCO as a complimentary programme to UNISIST and as a culmination of efforts made by UNESCO for a long time towards achieving a systematic approach to the problems involved in information transfer.

The final report of the Intergovernmental Conference on the Planning of National Documentation, Library and Archives Infrastructures of September 1974 approved sixteen objectives. Twelve of these were to be attained by national governments, while four were for international action by UNESCO and other international organizations. The objectives were as follows:

1. Objectives for National Action.

1.1. Requirements of NATIS

1. A National Information Policy
2. Stimulation of user awareness
3. Promotion of reading habit.
4. Assessment of users' needs.
5. Analysis of existing information resources.
6. Analysis of manpower resources.

1.2. Planning. NATIS.

7. Planning the organization structure of NATIS.
8. Supplying manpower for NATIS.
9. Planning the technological needs for NATIS.
10. Establishing a legislative framework to NATIS.
11. Financing NATIS.

1.3. Universal Bibliographical Control in relation to NATIS.

12. Universal Bibliographical Control.

2. Objectives for International Action.

13. Assistance to Member States for the planning and development of NATIS.
14. Promotion of Universal Bibliographic Control.
15. A long-term programme of action.
16. Convening of an intergovernmental conference. <sup>(14)</sup>

As was the case with UNISIST the activities of NATIS were integrated into the GIP programme in February 1977. News concerning National Information Systems appears jointly with that on UNISIST programme in the "General Information Programme : Unisist Newsletter."

The essence of NATIS is that the information infrastructure at national level should be planned in such a way as to benefit information seekers at all levels within each nation. Ultimately it is only when a nation's information infrastructure is planned and well organized and co-ordinated that that nation will be able to participate in and benefit from World or international information systems.

#### The General Information Programme (GIP)

At the 19th UNESCO General Conference held in Nairobi in 1976, a resolution to create the General Information Programme was adopted. Before reaching the decision the following considerations were taken into account:

- (i) The importance of the transfer and exchange of information particularly in the scientific and technological field, for economic and social development, the increasing importance of information as a resource, the growing complexity of information technology, and the need for furthering international information systems.
- (ii) The importance for all countries, and especially for the developing countries, of the problems of planning and developing integrated national information systems, and the urgency of filling in the information gap and of the creation and development of the necessary infrastructures in these countries.
- (iii) The commitment of UNESCO to contribute to the development of international, regional and national information systems as a vital element in international co-operation and national development.

- (iv) The significant role which belongs, in such a system to libraries and archives services, the contribution of which to cultural development should be emphasized. (15)

Out of these basic principles, two major objectives of the GIP programme emerged:

- (a) to achieve UNISIST goals for a world scientific information system, and
- (b) to help create or improve the documentation, library and archives infrastructures or national information systems (NATIS) without which UNISIST cannot become a reality. (16)

In implementing this 19th General Conference resolution, the Director-General appointed A. Wysocki as the first director of the General Information Programme. The integrated activities of the GIP will closely follow the sub-objectives set out in the Draft Medium-term Plan for 1977-1982. This was document 19C/4 Chapter X first submitted at UNESCO's Nairobi General Conference in 1976. It listed the objectives as follows:

- (a) to promote the formulation of information policies and plans at the national, regional and global level;
- (b) further the establishment and application of methods and norms and their dissemination;
- (c) contribute to the development of information infrastructures and specialized international information systems; and
- (d) promote the training and education of information specialists and information users. (17)

The GIP programme is above all geared to the needs of the developing countries, especially as regards the transfer and exchange of information

with a view to economic and social development. The continued existence of UNISIST and NATIS as separate concepts had obvious connotations of duplication and overlapping of effort. The main purpose for creating the GIP was to merge most of the activities of the two former UNESCO divisions. These are the Documentation, Library and Archives, responsible for the NATIS concept, and the Scientific and Technological Documentation and Information, responsible for the UNISIST concept. Thus with the establishment of the GIP both UNISIST and NATIS concepts come under the same directorate.

### 2.1.2. The International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA)

Outside intergovernmental bodies, the International Federation of Library Associations probably has the longest history of professional commitment to library development on an international level. IFLA's history dates to as far back as 1927, but its impact only started to be felt after the second world war. By 1973 it was still claimed that IFLA had not yet succeeded in incorporating an absolute world-wide representation of library associations and libraries.<sup>(18)</sup> The situation is still true today in spite of the major increases in membership.

In 1973 IFLA comprised 370 libraries and 100 library associations from 75 countries.<sup>(19)</sup> Since then there are now over 700 libraries and at least 139 national associations from 85 countries. There are also 12 international associations which are members of IFLA.<sup>(20)</sup> In total therefore, IFLA has more than 950 members and affiliates in 110 countries. It also has consultative status with UNESCO; associate status with the International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU); observer status with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the International Organization for Standardization (ISO); and liaises through a special committee with FID, ICA, ICSU/AB and ISO.<sup>(21)</sup>

However, what is of immediate significance at this point is the consultative relationship IFLA has with UNESCO, and its ultimate role in the promulgation of the UBC and UAP concepts.

#### Universal Bibliographical Control (UBC)

Writing in the Unesco Bulletin for libraries for Sept-Oct. 1971 Kaltwasser<sup>(22)</sup> argued that bibliographical control of world book production was a major problem which was seldom solved satisfactorily with regard to scope, content and speed. He saw it as one of IFLA's tasks to treat international bibliographical control as a single process extending from the printing of the books to their cataloguing in libraries. He further consented that the guiding principle for universal bibliographic control should be as follows:

- the information on a book should be produced as completely and as accurately as possible at the earliest possible date;
- in the interest of speed, accuracy and simplicity, this should be done in the country of origin by the national bibliographies;
- the data should be made in machine-readable form.<sup>(23)</sup>

In April 1974 Liebaers referred to Universal Bibliographic Control as "the ultimate expression of IFLA's newly discovered maturity"<sup>(24)</sup>. He conceded that the basic feature of universal bibliographic control was the wide range of activities included in the programme, and the diversity of levels at which the programme can operate. These ranged from the search for compatibility among sophisticated computerized bibliographic data systems, to the introduction of publishing and library standards, to newly formed nations where it is not clear whether books came before

bibliographic description or libraries before books. Liebaers also admitted that to a certain extent, Universal Bibliographic Control coincided with the purposes of the Intergovernmental Conference on Planning of Documentation, Library and Archives Infrastructures (NATIS) which was due in September 1974, and with the objectives of the UNISIST programme. (25)

IFLA eventually prepared a working paper for submission to that UNESCO Intergovernment Conference. In it was a direct proposal that:

'Unesco adopts as a major policy objective for the promotion of a world-wide system for the control and exchange of bibliographic information. The purpose of the system is to make universally and promptly available, in a form which is internationally acceptable, basic bibliographic data on all publications issued in all countries. (26)

IFLA also made recommendations in this report which were specifically directed at national governments, national bibliographic agencies, national library associations, international organizations, and indeed to the UNESCO Intergovernment Conference itself.

Thus in spite of the long history as a topical issue, Universal Bibliographic Control (UBC) only became universally recognized as a separate concept at the 1974 Intergovernmental Conference. The IFLA International Office for UBC under Dorothy Anderson had however, been established earlier that year. (27)

In its Final Report on NATIS this Intergovernmental Conference adopted objective number 12, on Universal Bibliographic Control. Under it was not just a restatement of the concept and its definition as propounded by IFLA, but also the proposal on procedure. This was that in principle the comprehensive bibliographic record of each publication be made once only in the country of its origin by a national bibliographic

agency. This should be in conformity with international standards which are applicable to both manual and mechanized systems. This record would then be made available very promptly in physical forms which are internationally acceptable. This would imply the acceptance of the general principle that each national bibliographic agency is the organization responsible for creating the authoritative bibliographic record of the publications of its own country.

The UBC concept therefore, presupposes the creation of a network made up of component national parts, each of which covers a wide range of publishing and library activities, all integrated at the national level to form the total system.

#### Universal Availability of Publications (UAP)

As a concept, the Universal Availability of Publications (UAP) programme calls for each country to accept responsibility for collecting its own publications comprehensively and making its national publications available to other countries as required. These publications may be made available either as photocopies or through interlibrary lending. The ultimate aim is to ensure that all individuals throughout the world should be able to obtain for personal use any publication wherever, and whenever published, either in original or copy. The term 'Universal Availability of Publications' as Line tells us, implies both availability of all the world's publications and availability of publications to all the world. The word 'publication' is here used loosely to cover all forms of literature which can be covered under the legal deposit provisions.

Just as for UBC, the need for UAP stems from the realization that local and national self-sufficiency is no longer feasible, either in learning about new publications and recording them or in making them available.<sup>(30)</sup> Even in the developed countries large numbers of

publications cannot be supplied, or they are not in time for the individuals who require them. Another reason for the failure to supply material by libraries is that many documents are not requested in the first place because the expectation of success on the part of the reader is low. Furthermore, increases in the volume of material published, and in the demand for publications, have nullified many of the improvements that have occurred in document access in recent years. (31)

Clarke<sup>(32)</sup> argues that the meteoric rise of the British Library Lending Division at Boston Spa has shown what central collections can do to transform availability of documents. It is no coincidence therefore that the practical responsibility for furthering UAP has rested with the IFLA Office for International Lending established at the BLLD in 1975. Guidance, on the other hand, has been provided by the Steering Committee for UAP set up by IFLA on a provisional basis in 1977, and more on a permanent basis in 1978. This was after UAP had been the main theme at IFLA's General Council meeting held in Strbske Pleso earlier in the year. Currently there is active debate on either to establish an IFLA International Office for UAP or improve the staff establishment in the IFLA Office for International Lending at Boston Spa.

To some extent UAP can be considered a pre-requisite for UBC. This is because without initial availability of material the national bibliographical agency would not record new items in the national bibliography. UAP could also be considered as a concomitant to UBC. Otherwise bibliographical control is useless without access to material recorded. Efforts towards improved UBC tend to generate and encourage use. Extreme frustration would ensue if users could not be assured of obtaining the material so faithfully recorded. (33) It follows therefore that the first area where UBC and UAP coalesce is in the requirement for

legal deposit. The number of copies deposited should allow for a lending copy. UAP and UBC are now both firmly established as IFLA's medium-term programmes. Together they contribute to a programme, as yet unformulated but the ultimate objective of all concerned with libraries and information systems, the Universal Access to Information (UAI).<sup>(34)</sup>

To illustrate the co-operation that goes on between IFLA and UNESCO, UNESCO has also shown keen interest in the UAP programme. Firstly it has allocated funds (\$15,000 - \$20,000) along with other organizations, towards research on the existing situation regarding availability in various countries of the world, and on possible patterns of world-wide availability. Secondly UNESCO has proposed that an Intergovernmental Conference on UAP should be held in 1981.<sup>(35)</sup>

### 2.1.3. International Library Networks

The advent of computerization has greatly affected trends in modern library development. With it has come a new type of library co-operation at both national and international levels.

The evolution of international library networks to facilitate universal availability of bibliographical data is closely tied to the whole concept of UBC. The idea is that each country will have a national centre. This centre will be responsible for providing bibliographic coverage of the country's imprints. The bibliographical information would then be put in machine-readable form and made available to other national centres which will in turn be responsible for distributing the information in their countries.

To a greater extent this kind of co-operation has already been experienced between the U.S.A. and U.K. in their exchange of MARC tapes. These MARC tapes have provided a basis for the generation of other

bibliographic products which are widely known to be distributed from the U.K., U.S.A., Canada and Australia. Other nations have also benefited from these MARC tapes either directly or indirectly. Through the acceptance of MARC format as an international standard some nations have designed their own automated systems based on it. The lesser developed countries have participated voluntarily or involuntarily through the proliferation of MARC generated bibliographic products.

Computers are also increasingly being used for on-line information retrieval services in libraries. This facility gives the user access to a wide variety of data bases. Such data bases are subject oriented and are prepared by either commercial or non-commercial information services.

The British Library Automated Information Service (BLAISE) is a good example of a national centre with a wide incorporation of data bases for exploitation by a wide spectrum of users. BLAISE has two major functions:

- (a) to provide an automated retrieval service on a national basis; and
- (b) to facilitate general library housekeeping routines from catalogue production to bibliographic checking. (36)

BLAISE handles over 30 data bases including MARC, MEDLINE, TOXLINE, CHEMLINE, CANCERLINE etc. On-line searching on these data bases has also recently been extended to other European countries. This is through the EURONET project which was launched early in 1980. The EURONET on-line information network was implemented by the Commission of European Communities (EEC) to:

- (a) provide the user anywhere in the Community via screen or typewriter with direct access to scientific, technical and socio-economic data;

- (b) integrate existing and future on-line information services in the Community into a commonly shared network on a co-operative basis;
- (c) make available for the first time a large variety of services operated on widely differing host computers in many different countries, via one single network.<sup>(37)</sup>

At least 9 countries are participating in the EURONET project.

Initially 4 packet switching nodes were located in Frankfurt, London, Paris and Rome. There are also 5 remote access points located in Amsterdam, Copenhagen, Brussels, Luxembourg and Dublin. Based on the packet switching technology, this telecommunications network links information processing centres and user terminals in both the public and private sectors community-wide. The implementation of the EURONET project is a major breakthrough in international data communications as it is designed to transcend even language barriers.

Developments on computer-aided information networks have assumed a rather different pattern in the U.S.A. Whereas the Library of Congress has continued to produce and distribute computer generated bibliographic products to an ever-enlarging clientele, it also increased search capacity by increasing the number of on-line data bases. In the U.S. two kinds of networks or network-related organizations have emerged:

- (a) Bibliographic utilities: these have large on-line bibliographic files primarily, but not exclusively, used for technical processing purposes. They also provide products and services to libraries and other information agencies. Such networks are those like OCLC, BALLOTS and Washington Library Network (WNL).

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- (b) Service Centres: these networks contract for services from one or more bibliographic utilities and commercial organizations and may perform certain local services. An example of such a network is the Federal Library Information Network (FEDLINK).<sup>(38)</sup>

Other networks like the National Library of Medicine (NLM), the National Agricultural Library (NAL), Systems Development Corporation (SDC), Lockheed etc., however, fall into neither category. These networks are concentrating on the reference function.

In the U.S.A. therefore, there has been an emergence of multiple information networks that are both nationally and internationally oriented.

## 2.2. REGIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

Separate from the international developments discussed above, there are also regional developments to be taken into account. In this respect it is developments taking place in Africa generally, and especially the eastern, central and southern African region that are relevant to Zambia. Such developments are being spearheaded by three main authorities:

- (i) Professional associations;
- (ii) Quasi-governmental organizations; and
- (iii) Foreign government-backed organizations.

### 2.2.1. Professional Organizations.

Librarians, Documentalists and Archivists in the Eastern, Central and Southern African Region (ECSAR) have found it necessary to unite in order to discuss their common problems and share experiences. This they have done either through their national associations or through

organizational membership. Such unity has resulted in conferences, meetings, seminars and workshops at which resolutions and recommendations for action affecting the region have been made. Presently there are two main professional organizations actively involved in these activities. These are ECARBICA and SCECSAL.

The East and Central African Regional Branch of  
International Council of Archives.(ECARBICA)

ECARBICA was formed in 1969, immediately after the VIth Congress of the International Council of Archives (ICA) held in Madrid the previous year.<sup>(39)</sup> It was this Congress which strongly recommended the foundation of regional branches of ICA in various regions. Membership to ECARBICA is comprised of archival institutions in Kenya, Malawi, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Botswana. Associate membership is extended to university libraries in Nairobi, Kampala, Dar-es-Salaam, Zambia, Addis Ababa, and Universite du Burundi. The following public libraries are also associate members: Kenya National Library Service, MacMillan Memorial Library and the Tanganyika Library Services.

The objectives and functions of ECARBICA are as follows:

- (i) to establish, maintain and strengthen relations between archivists of all countries in the region and between all institutions, professional bodies and organizations which are concerned with the custody, organization or administration of archives;
- (ii) to promote all measures for the preservation and protection and defence against all manner of hazards of archival heritage of the region and to further the progress of all aspects of the administration and preservation of their archives;

- (iii) to facilitate the use of archives of the region by making them more widely known and by encouraging greater ease of access;
- (iv) to sponsor professional training of archivists in the region;
- (v) to promote, organize and co-ordinate activities in the field of archives in the region;
- (vi) to co-operate with other organizations or institutions concerned with the documentation of human experience and the use of that documentation for the benefit of mankind;
- (vii) to carry out general aims and objectives of the ICA. (40)

Apart from organizing conferences for the member institutions, ECARBICA attempts to send representatives to other conferences at regional or international levels. It maintains close co-operation with the host governments, and with librarians and documentalists in the region. At its 2nd General Conference in 1972 ECARBICA made special resolutions regarding its relationship with librarians and documentalists. These were as follows:

- (a) Exchange of guides and other publications concerning Archives and Library operations and their holdings relevant to archivists;
- (b) Utilization of common equipment such as reprographic microfilming and, whenever possible, personnel;
- (c) Holding of mutual conferences and seminars and expansion of Library Associations to incorporate archivists as members. (41)

ECARBICA also publishes a journal once a year. Articles are drawn mainly from practicing archivists in the region. It also carries news on meetings and conferences, on archives, held internationally or within the region.

The Standing Conference of Eastern, Central and Southern African Librarians.(SCECSAL)

The SCECSAL is a direct off-shoot of the Standing Conference of East African Librarians. The scope was widened with the extension of membership to more East Africa Community countries. Thus, the membership developed from three: Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania, to 15 including Botswana, Ethiopia, Lesotho, Malagasy, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, Somalia, Sudan, Swaziland and Zambia.<sup>(42)</sup> Although the area covered is wide, full membership is restricted to only those countries with national library associations. Individual institutions within these countries come under affiliate membership.

SCECSAL holds a conference bi-annually on a rotational basis.

The host association is responsible for:

- financing the conference;
- extending invitations to guest speakers;
- publishing of the subsequent conference proceedings; and
- assuming SCECSAL's executive powers for the two-year period after hosting the conference.

The last SCECSAL conference was held in Nairobi in 1978. The theme of this conference was: 'The Development of Information Systems: An African approach'. Discussion papers were focused on a wide spectrum of topics regarding the subject. These ranged from advocacy for the spreading of information to rural areas, to the development and sharing of information resources among national agencies. The topic was

particularly chosen in the wake of UNESCO's, NATIS programme. The next conference will be held in Lesotho in 1980.

It should be noted that SCECSAL merely provides a forum for discussion of topics of mutual interest to members in the region. It, however, has no legal powers to enforce or supervise the implementation of any of its recommendations. These recommendations could be directed at governments or national associations or even specific organizations within the region. SCECSAL therefore can be said to be acting in an advisory capacity on library matters affecting the region. (43)

#### 2.2.2. Quasi-governmental organizations

Developments in library and information work in the eastern and central African region are not necessarily taking a linear pattern. Concern for problems affecting the region has also been expressed at semi-government or semi-official levels. This raises the obvious question of duplication of effort which inadvertently calls for co-ordination, co-operation and consultation for the concerned authorities.

##### The Council for Development of Information Systems and Services in Eastern and Southern Africa.

The Council for Development of Information Systems and Services in Eastern and Southern Africa is an off-shoot of the Regional Committee for Development of Information Services in Eastern Africa. The latter was established by the International Conference on Development of Information Networks in Eastern Africa in 1973. As the name suggests, the creation of the regional council was in response to UNESCO's programmes on information systems.

The region covered by the Council includes the following countries: Ethiopia, Somalia, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Seychelles, Mauritius, Malagasy Republic, Comoros, Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique,

Lesotho, Swaziland and Zambia.

The reconstituted Council pursues the following objectives:

- (i) To promote the development of information systems and services in the region;
- (ii) to co-ordinate and plan for information activities in the region;
- (iii) to maintain professional standards of information manpower in the region by promoting normalisation and comparability of education and training, planning for adequate education and training opportunities and facilities, and projecting manpower requirements;
- (iv) to assist in analysing, designing and evaluating information systems and services in the region;
- (v) to provide advice to the National Focal Points, established under the UNESCO intergovernmental programme for co-operation in the field of information, bearing in mind that development of information systems and services in each country should reflect the country's political, social and economic systems;
- (vi) to foster the widest possible contacts between information organizations (libraries, documentation centres, museums, archives extension services, etc) at national, and international levels;
- (vii) to act as clearinghouse, if called upon regarding:
  - (a) the aid programmes for information services in the region;
  - (b) the needs of the region in the field of information services to donor agencies;

- (viii) to negotiate the joint funding by donor agencies of projects at regional levels;
- (ix) to promote in the region, a recognition of the importance of information for social and economic development and to emphasize the need to provide adequate financial inputs for development of information infrastructure, both from national budget and international aid programmes. (44)

As one of its major functions, the Council hopes to achieve the aforementioned objects by co-operating with governments in the region in formulating policies on information services.

Membership to the Council is in three categories:

- (a) Full Members (i.e. National Focal Points for information or in a country where such do not exist, a maximum of 3 institutions responsible for information in that country)
- (b) Affiliated Members (i.e. approved International organizations)
- (c) Honorary Members (as appointed by the General Assembly).

The Council holds an annual General Assembly, and the management of its affairs and implementation of decisions; the appointment of sub-committees; the negotiation of agreements with other organizations; and the authorization of disbursement of all monies, are done by an Executive Committee.

The most recent development regarding the Council is that it has forwarded a proposal to the Ministerial Committee of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) for consideration. The proposal is for the creation of an intergovernmental committee under OAU to undertake the

implementation of the National Information Policy in member countries.<sup>(45)</sup>  
 The Council feels that although it enjoys a lot of professional goodwill from librarians and information scientists, what it really lacks and badly needs is political goodwill backed by action.

#### The Africa Bibliographical Centre (ABC)

At the 3rd session of the International Congress of Africanists held in Addis Ababa, three librarians - Jordan, Kebraab and Wadood presented a paper on their concept of an 'African Bibliographical Centre'. The Congress passed a resolution endorsing the concept and recommending that a centre for African information-documentation-bibliography be established under the auspices of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA). The initial outcome of this was the present ABC Secretariat based in Dar-es-Salaam.<sup>(46)</sup>

While the Secretariat is still seeking continent-wide recognition, the ABC concept has been worked out in some detail by the three aforementioned librarians. They have identified 12 components which, ideally, would constitute an ABC in the best of all possible worlds.

These components are:

1. African Lending Library (ALL).
2. Commission on Information and Bibliographic Systems.
3. Bibliographic publishing.
4. Microfiche Publications Centre.
5. African Abstracts.
6. Current Awareness.
7. Information Packets.
8. Media Reviews.
9. Computer Data Bases.
10. African Bibliographic Data Base.

11. Source material Packets.

12. Ultrafiche.<sup>(47)</sup>

By 1976 two of these components were already in operation in Africa. At least five were already operational from outside Africa but with an African emphasis. The rest, though in operation elsewhere outside Africa and without an African emphasis, were ideas that could be copied or imitated when the equivalent African component was activated.

The ABC hopes to support and supplement the NATIS and the UBC concepts. As the idea was still under active debate it was suggested that perhaps ABC would assume an umbrella role, co-ordinating and pulling together individual efforts by institutions and workers in different African countries. Another suggestion was that perhaps a pilot project on a regional basis, could be started with one or two of the components, in order to test their viability in the field.<sup>(48)</sup>

By 1976 the ABC Secretariat was already publishing the ABC Newsletter and the African Periodical Index.

At the SCECSAL II Conference in Lusaka in 1976, the ABC idea was closely examined. Two resolutions regarding the ABC emerged:

- (a) An international network for the co-ordination of bibliographic data on Africa be established, and a documentation centre provided with key punching and computer equipment be set up as soon as possible at a suitable location in Africa. (SCECSAL II/Resolution 9).
- (b) Noting that a medium for communication of developments in national and international information systems, networks and documentation and bibliography already exists inside Africa in the form of the ABC Newsletter, members should make use of the Newsletter whenever possible to report such developments. (SCECSAL II/Resolution 10).<sup>(49)</sup>

With these resolutions 15 African countries committed themselves, at least in theory, to the ABC concept. Opinion is still being sounded from the rest of the African countries at various forums and through various media. The final outlook of the ABC will depend so much on the effects of these opinions and ideas.

### 2.2.3. Foreign-government backed organizations.

Finally, there is in Africa an emergence of aid programmes conducted by foreign governments of the developed nations. Whereas some are direct aid programmes, others could be described as a manifestation of expansionist foreign policies of some developed nations. Thus, the resultant documentation programmes so financed are enhancing the political, economic or educational status of the donor country. Two examples follow.

#### The Library of Congress Office, Eastern Africa

Established in 1966, the LC programme in Eastern Africa covers an area of over 1,890,000 square miles. It has its centre in Nairobi (Kenya), and it covers Ethiopia, Djibouti, Somalia, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Zambia, Malawi, Malagasy, Reunion, Mauritius and Seychelles. This LC office operates under the U.S. legislative authority of Public Law 89-329, the Higher Education Act of 1965. Specifically it is Title II-C of the Act which authorizes the Commissioner of Education to transfer to the Librarian of Congress certain funds for purposes of:

- (a) acquiring, so far as possible, all library materials currently published throughout the world which are of value to scholarship; and
- (b) providing catalogue information for these materials promptly after receipt and distributing bibliographic information by printed catalogue cards and other means

and enabling the Library of Congress to use for exchange or other purposes such of these materials as are not needed for its collections. (50)

The major success story of the LC Office in Nairobi is its publication of the Accessions List Eastern Africa. Publication commenced in 1968 and the list has come out quarterly. In the absence of national bibliographies in most of the countries in the region, the LC Accessions list is widely considered an authority on the publishing and documentation activities in the area. Indeed, it is this accessions list which accounts for the excuses given by some of the countries in the region for failing to produce national bibliographies. They argue that the little that is published in their countries is listed in the appropriate section of the LC Accessions list. The scope covered by the list includes commercial and government monographic publications, latest issues of annuals; comprehensive list of serials in annual serial supplement. The quarterly issues contain new serial titles as well. (51)

#### The Co-ordinating Centre for Regional Information Training (CRIT)

The Co-ordinating Centre for Regional Information Training (CRIT) is a German government backed organization. It falls under the German Foundation for International Development (DSE). As the name suggests, CRIT has devoted its efforts to training of information users and processors since its inception in 1975. Although the programme was scheduled to end in 1980, CRIT was still going to co-operate with whichever organization that was going to inherit the project. (52)

As a regional training institution, CRIT has organized seminars and workshops for various categories of information workers in the region. Specifically, it has supported special courses for library assistants and technicians in the region. In conjunction with the British Council

and the College of Librarianship Wales at Aberystwyth, a number of six-week training courses for information experts from the region have been organized. CRIT has also co-sponsored conferences such as the SCAULEA III in 1977 and the SCECSAL-3 in 1978. Both conferences were held in Nairobi.

It was at the SCAULEA III Conference that the efforts being made by other similar organizations such as the British Council, the German Academic Exchange and the IDRC were discussed. All these organizations therefore resolved to co-ordinate the information relating to their activities.<sup>(53)</sup> It was observed that the current efforts to establish national and regional information service structures were motivated by the need to make maximum utilization of resources offered by these organizations. To avoid duplication of effort it was therefore proper to make the necessary effort to ensure efficient utilization of such resources. CRIT was therefore appointed as the co-ordinating centre for these international organizations as well as being their clearinghouse.<sup>(54)</sup>

### 2.3. DEVELOPMENTS AT NATIONAL LEVEL

Either as a reaction to international pressures or as a result of internal developments, some of the developed nations are introducing interesting trends in library developments. Efforts towards maximizing the utilization of information resources at national level have produced positive results in some developed countries. These have resulted into unified library systems almost totally exposed to the use by the entire nation with the least of problems.

### 2.3.1. National Library Systems

The evolution of national library systems can be closely associated with the fact that no single library - not even in developed countries - has the capacity to satisfy the requirements of all its readers. The development of this form of library service can be seen from two perspectives. For those countries that do not have national libraries, it is the cheaper alternative to creating a separate institution that would meet the requirements of NATIS, UBC and UAP. For those countries that do have national libraries, it is the best way of cushioning the pressures on them from both national and international demands. Thus a pattern of resource-sharing is established. The British Library is the best recent manifestation of the evolution of a national library system.

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CHAPTER THREE

THE DEMAND AND SUPPLY OF INFORMATION AT NATIONAL  
LEVEL IN ZAMBIA

### 3. THE DEMAND AND SUPPLY OF INFORMATION AT NATIONAL LEVEL IN ZAMBIA

In a recent<sup>(1)</sup> analysis of the production and distribution of knowledge in the U.S.A. between 1958 and 1968, a significant improvement is noted. While it accounted for 29% of the U.S. gross national product in 1958, it rose to 33% in 1963 and to 40% in 1968. Such an improvement as manifested by the American experience has connotations on what is happening the world over. It is in view of experiences such as these that it has become increasingly recognized that information is an important factor in national progress and well-being. That is why nations can no longer neglect to have national information policies.

While discussing the Zambian situation it is therefore necessary to start by assessing the information needs before examining the impact of information provisions. Such an approach, should be able to demonstrate whether the demand for information, is of necessity matched by the supply of it.

#### 3.1. ASSESSMENT OF THE NEED FOR INFORMATION

For purposes of this discussion, the need for information will avoid reflecting on the typical role of the mass media. Instead the following topics will be examined: education profiles; research programmes; literacy programmes; and the consumption of newspaper literature.

##### 3.1.1. Education Profiles

After the first ten years of independence, the ILO Jobs and Skills Programme for Africa (JASPA), Employment Advisory Mission reviewed Zambia's educational progress. This mission acknowledged that Zambia had made phenomenal progress. It was noted that between 1964 and 1974

enrolment in primary education had increased by 191% in Grade I, and 306% in Grade VII, covering 81% of the children in the age group 7-13. In secondary schools, enrolment during the same period increased by over 450%, while the number of students in Form V increased nearly 10 times. Having opened only since 1966 the University had produced 860 graduates between 1969 and 1974.<sup>(2)</sup> A clearer picture of the expansion of educational programmes in Zambia since independence can be seen from Table 1.

Apart from isolated drops in enrolment in individual categories of institution of learning, the general picture is that these enrolments have been increasing. By the end of 1979, over 1,100,000 were enrolled in educational institutions as opposed to 399,037 in 1964. It is a widely acknowledged fact that Zambia started off with the lowest educational profiles compared to her African contemporaries. The colonial educational legacy at the end of British rule was as follows:<sup>(4)</sup>

Persons with at least 6 yrs.of education:	110,200
Persons completed primary school:	32,000
Persons completed junior secondary school:	4,420
Persons completed senior secondary school:	961
Persons completed university education:	100

This manifestation of the market for information in educational institutions will soon be superseded by yet an even more ambitious programme. This will come with the full implementation of the new Educational Reform otherwise already incorporated in the Third National Development Plan for the period 1979-1983. The aim for the new reform for national education is that each individual should be accepted in the educational system without consideration of status. He should be provided with the right kind of environment and opportunities for learning.

TABLE 1

## ENROLMENTS IN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN ZAMBIA SINCE INDEPENDENCE. (3)

TYPE OF INSTITUTION	1964	1971	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979
Primary Schools:	378,417	729,801	858,191	872,392	907,867	936,817	964,475	985,528
Secondary Schools:	13,853	56,005	65,764	73,049	78,805	83,887	88,842	85,643
University of Zambia:	- - -	1,567	2,612	2,354	2,569	3,584	3,773	4,010
Teacher Training Colleges:	1,463	2,419	2,900	3,070	3,425	3,780	3,427	- - -
Technical & Trades Trg. Institutions:	806	3,190	5,666	5,421	5,569	5,692	5,788	5,284
Adult Education:	4,498	42,505	59,974	65,716	42,276	24,154	29,658	34,044
TOTALS:	399,037	835,487	995,107	1,022,002	1,059,470	1,057,914	1,095,963	- - -

Such learning would promote his development that will effect continued satisfactory adjustment to an individual's life at each stage of his development.<sup>(5)</sup>

In order to fulfil this principle, opportunities shall be provided to each person within the limits of his capacity so as to:

- (i) obtain an education based on his interest, abilities and needs to attain intellectual excellence and acquire practical skills or experience;
- (ii) contribute to the economic and social development in Zambia;
- (iii) learn how to participate in the national and community problems and to foster national unity;
- (iv) develop emotionally, morally, spiritually, socially and politically so as to be increasingly able to cope with life's problems;
- (v) develop cultural and aesthetic appreciation;
- (vi) develop the spirit of self-reliance and patriotism and the sense of international solidarity.<sup>(6)</sup>

This programme calls for the restructuring of the present educational system so as to put emphasis on the relationship between work and study. It also will depend for its survival on the mobilization of manpower and material resources. Information resources such as libraries will also need to be mobilized. The major difference from the current system is that the drop-out rate will be drastically reduced. This is partly because the student will be allowed to study subjects of his own choice, and partly because of the emphasis on the continuing education programme. The latter allows for interaction between work and study.

However, what will account for the envisaged increase in the demand for information is:

- (i) the universality of as many as nine years of compulsory basic education leading the pupils up to the age of 16;
- (ii) the improved chances for furthering one's education beyond the age of 16 and 18 through a variety of other programmes;
- (iii) the envisaged improved interest in courses chosen by each student as they will directly relate to his work interests.

Apart from primary and secondary education expansion, changes have since taken place at the University of Zambia as well. A federal university system was introduced in 1978, although it was formally instituted in 1980. In practical terms it means the expansion and spreading of the original campus to two more locations at Ndola and Solwezi. Such a development is intended to increase the courses of study and naturally increase the demand for information at University and professional levels. It is also worth noting that the University has increased its post-graduate courses to about 14. Such developments exert pressure not only on the quantity of information, but also on the quality as well.

### 3.1.2. Scientific and Industrial Research Programs.

Until the National Council for Scientific Research was established in 1967 very little technological and industrial research was carried out in Zambia. The NCSR was given statutory functions to advise the Government on scientific and technological research policy. It was also to be the function of the Council to co-ordinate and promote

scientific research in Zambia. This would be with the view to ensuring that the requirements of the country's development plans were properly supported by scientific research.

Research activities introduced during the Second National Development Plan were mainly in three areas: <sup>(7)</sup>

(i) The NCSR Department of Veterinary and Tsetse Control Services:

In conjunction with the Animal Husbandry Division of the Agriculture Department and the School of Agriculture at the University of Zambia, they carried out the following rural-sector related research:

- (a) Livestock Research
- (b) Crop Research
- (c) Wildlife Research
- (d) Forestry Research
- (e) Water Resources Research.

(ii) Medical Research:

The NCSR provides laboratory facilities to the Ministry of Health and the University of Zambia for some special research projects. Some of these research projects carried out at the NCSR laboratories are:

- (a) Microbiological research
- (b) Investigations on the etiology, epidemiology, and treatment of some forms of cancer occurring in Zambia.
- (c) Biochemistry and immunology of trypanosomiasis, malaria parasites.
- (d) The chemistry, biochemistry and physiology of some medical plants.

## (iii) Industrial Research:

The strategy for industrial research was import substitution for building, food products, consumer goods and small-scale industries. The relevant research programmes included:

- (a) Food technology research
- (b) Building technology
- (c) Minerals research

In order for these research projects, including new ones to be effectively carried out, they should be supported by appropriate information. The improvement and increase of such research programs is therefore dependant upon adequate information for their success.

3.1.3. Literacy Programmes

The Functional Literacy Programme was introduced in 1969 under the Department of Community Development of the Ministry of Labour and Social Services. The programme superseded the Basic Literacy Programme whose impact had thus far proved inadequate. The importance of an adult literacy programme for adults in Zambia is that there is a very high rate of illiteracy among adults in the country.

Apart from the attainment of literacy, this programme also enables students to use their education in increasing crop production.<sup>(8)</sup> The success of the programme is therefore measured both in terms of student literary achievement, and in terms of quantities and qualities of products.

The Functional Literacy Programme runs for two years and is meant for adult illiterates. After completion of the course, students are encouraged to join the formal educational system as part-time or evening school students. Since 1974 this programme has produced an average of 4,500 new literates every two years.<sup>(9)</sup>

The information demand created by this programme has compelled the Department to:

- (a) co-ordinate with the Zambia Library Service in the provision of rural libraries;
- (b) introduce News Bulletins in several vernacular languages and tailored to specific provinces;
- (c) employ full-time writers for primers for new literates;
- (d) introduce special radio programmes in conjunction with Zambia Broadcasting Services for new literates. Such programmes are intended to sustain the newly acquired interest and ability to read in the students. (10)

#### 3.1.4. Newspaper Consumption

Separate from the demand for academic or scholarly literature there is also the demand for literature on current affairs. One of the best media for current affairs information is newspapers: A high or low consumption index for newspapers would reflect a growing or receding demand for such information.

There have been a variety of newspapers in Zambia since independence. The majority did not survive the increased newsprint costs. However, the two major national daily papers are the Times of Zambia, and the Zambia Daily Mail. Circulation of these two dailies has increased considerably over their 1964 figures. At that time the Times of Zambia started with 21,388 daily sales. This has since jumped to 72,000. The Zambia Daily Mail has also increased from 24,000 to over 35,000 copies per day over the same period. (11) These increases have taken place in spite of the fact that the price of the two papers has increased from 5n to 15n over the same period. For annual fluctuations in sales see Figure 1 below.

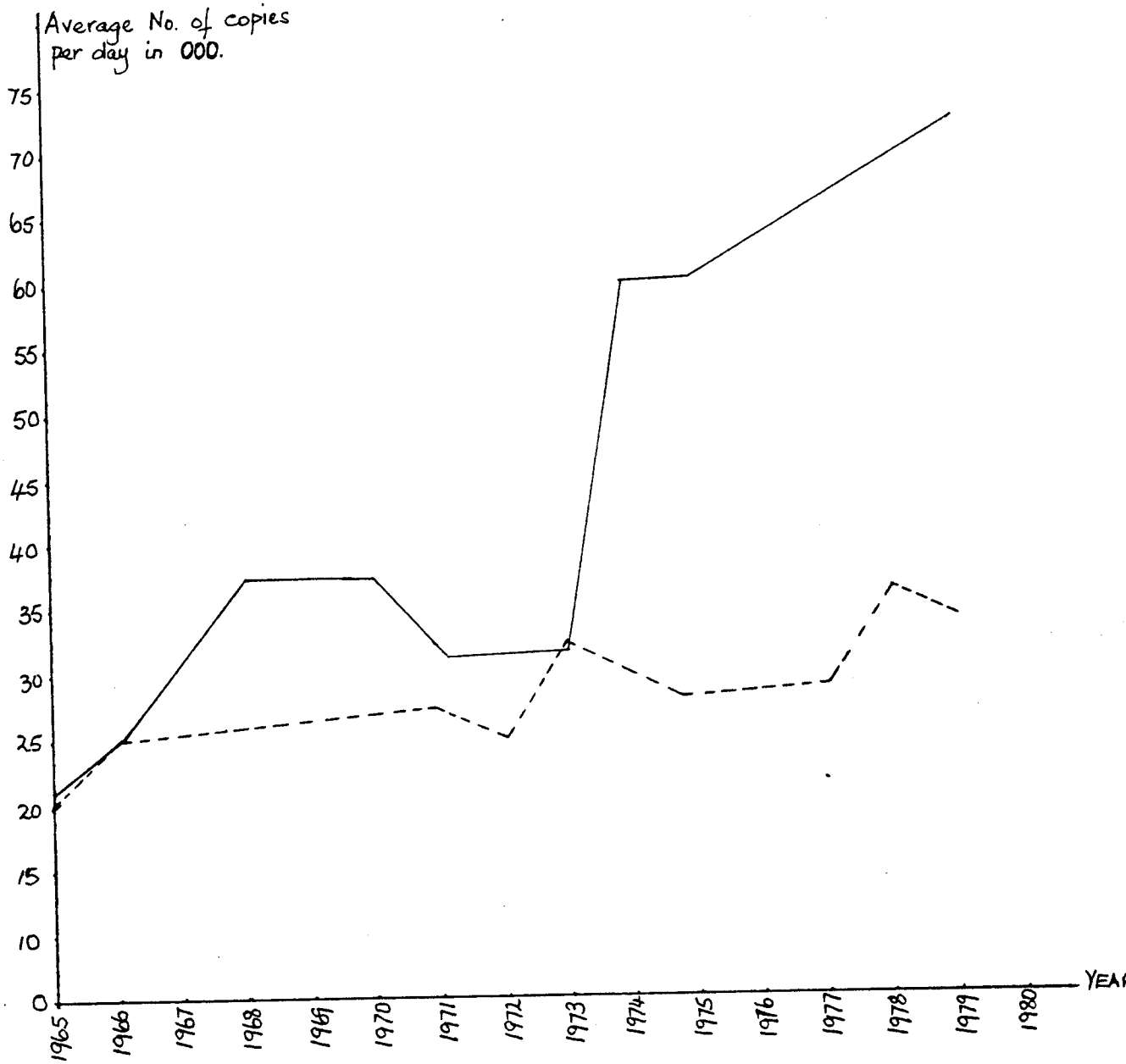


FIGURE 1

Daily circulations of the Times of Zambia and the Zambia Daily Mail since 1965.

————— Times of Zambia.  
 - - - - - Zambia Daily Mail.

Ultimately, using this newspaper consumption index to determine the demand for information, it can be concluded that Zambia has been experiencing a steady upsurge of the demand for information at various levels.

### 3.2. DEVELOPMENTS IN NATIONAL INFORMATION RESOURCE PROVISION

To complete the picture of the Zambian information resource situation, it is now appropriate to contrast the demand with the supply. The supply infrastructure ranges from production, through distribution to availability in libraries. In conformity with the theme of the discussion only institutions with a national orientation will be examined.

#### 3.2.1. Publishing and Bookselling

Graham Mytton's survey of the two national newspapers in 1970 suggested there was a growing need for reading materials which was not being adequately met. This was especially so in rural areas where distribution problems were abundant.<sup>(12)</sup>

Later, in 1973, this demand for reading material was manifested through the sales of one title. The initial 4000 copies of Kapelwa Musonda's File was sold out within a week. A reprint of 6000 more copies was sold out by mid 1975.<sup>(13)</sup>

To date the situation has still not improved. Elizabeth Dean tells us that at a recent Russian book exhibition held in Lusaka, 4000 books were sold on the first day alone. Furthermore, preliminary results of survey on the reading habits of University students conducted during the year showed that they also read extensively outside their studies. Moreover, their tastes were quite catholic and even included vernacular publications.<sup>(14)</sup>

All these observations do not only prove once more that there is a constant demand for literature, in Zambia, but also that this demand is a perpetual challenge to publishers in the country.

In spite of this ready market, the truth is that the publishing industry in Zambia, compared to her East and West African contemporaries, is in the doldrums. Former household names of publishers such as Longmans, O.U.P., Heinemann and Macmillan ceased their operations in Zambia between 1977 and 1979. These publishers had mainly operated as clearinghouses for parent companies based overseas. Delays in remittances of profits caused by the foreign exchange restrictions in Zambia forced them to close down. The delayed or non-fulfilment of outstanding bills also forced these publishers to stop delivering new orders. The subsequent decline of sales experienced at the time was therefore due to the dwindling variety of choices. This problem affected mainly professional and higher education publications.<sup>(15)</sup>

At local level publishers do exist in Zambia, albeit against all odds. A review of their current state of publishing will help illuminate their relationship to the information problem.

The National Educational Company of Zambia (NECZAM) is the largest and potentially most influential of all publishers in Zambia. However, during the past 5 years they published a total of 170 books. Out of these 38 were new titles and the rest were reprints. In 1979 only 20 books were published, and so far this year (1980) there have been no books published at all! Another point to note is that NECZAM specializes in primary school texts and vernacular publications only.<sup>(16)</sup> They do not include higher education or professional publications.

Temco was established after Longmans ceased their operations in Zambia in 1977. Since that time Temco has published only one title although a few more are said to be in the pipeline.<sup>(17)</sup>

Multimedia was set up mainly to publish religious books and pamphlets. It was established in 1970. During their first three years in operation they published 73 titles. In spite of venturing into publishing non-religious works like novels, biographies, textbooks and plays, only 4 titles have been published during the past three years. (18)

Some of the problems that have contributed to the current state of Zambian publishers are:

- (i) Distribution problems.
- (ii) High production costs which lead to overpricing on books.
- (iii) Reduction in public revenue available especially to NECZAM for both capital and recurrent expenditure.
- (iv) State involvement has not provided an adequate replacement for the ailing publishing industry.
- (v) A generally small market, restricted by literacy, purchasing power, and in many cases, language.

The only publishers which appear to be both buoyant and prolific are the christian publishers. These are mainly the Copperbelt Christian Publishers, and the Christian Publications of Zambia. A rough estimation of publications listed in the National Bibliography between 1970 and 1977 shows that about 55% are religious publications. These Christian publishers are successful partly because they are normally heavily subsidized from outside the country, and partly because they have a good and effective distribution network.

Returning to the National Bibliography, another rough estimation reveals that about 78% of all non-periodical publications listed are in Zambian vernacular languages. School primers also account for much of the publishing done outside religious texts. NECZAM is the monopoly publisher for both these categories of literature. However, chiefly due to non-payment by her main customer and sister-company NEDCOZ, NECZAM is currently unable to maintain its publishing programme.

### 3.2.2. National Library Developments

There is no monolithic national library in Zambia at present. However, national library functions have been carried out at four major library institutions in the country. These functions have now become de facto responsibilities of the four institutions. A pattern has therefore, unconsciously emerged which raises several questions as to the effectiveness of the institutions, either collectively or separately, as national library services. These institutions are: The National Archives of Zambia; the Zambia Library Service; the University of Zambia Library; and the National Council for Scientific Research Documentation and Scientific Information Centre. All these institutions are based in Lusaka.

#### The National Archives of Zambia Library. (19)

Although the 'National Archives Act' was established in 1969 the history of the institution dates back to 1947. It was originally established as a depot of the Central African Archives which had its headquarters in Salisbury. In 1956 it became a Regional Archives, but after independence it became the National Archives of Zambia. The NAZ is divided into two sections: the Archives and Record Management, and the Library. The library has a collection of about 13,237 books. It also receives about 350 titles of Zambian periodicals and subscribes to about 45 foreign titles. The NAZ is managed by a staff establishment of 3 professionals (i.e. the Director, the Archivist and the Librarian) and 3 non-professionals.

In terms of reader service, the library is open to the public for reference only. There is virtually no loan service. However, it offers a photocopy service at government controlled charges. Over the past three years the library has handled about 150 research requests from

scholars originating from both local and overseas institutions. NAZ conducts some user education programmes to organized groups of readers such as college students and clubs. The national mass media is also occasionally used for information concerning NAZ in general. The library also offers a microfilming service to the public at a standard charge.

As regards technical services the library acquires all its Zambian publications through legal deposit. As a result its budget allocation for acquisitions is only K100 for books and K2500 for foreign periodicals. It also receives some of its publications through exchange with some Zambian publications. The classification scheme in use is the 18th Edition of the Dewey Decimal Classification. The National Archives of Zambia publishes the National Bibliography of Zambia. This is an annual, listing books, pamphlets, first issues of new serials, publications of statutory bodies and Government Publications excluding Acts, Bills, Parliamentary debates and gazettes.<sup>(20)</sup> NAZ also publishes a variety of other publications in form of lists and occasional papers.

#### The Zambia Library Service.<sup>(21)</sup>

The Northern Rhodesia Library Service was the predecessor to the current Zambia Library Service. It was established in 1962 through an K86,000 grant from the Ford Foundation. An agreement was made then that the government would provide future capital and recurrent expenditure. The Z.L.S. was therefore established as a Department in the Ministry of Education. Its terms of reference are as follows:

- (i) To establish and run a Public Library network throughout the country;
- (ii) To run a School Library Service;
- (iii) To give professional advice to the establishment and running of libraries in Government Ministries and Departments.

- (iv) To give assistance to Municipal, Township and Rural Councils in library operations and to eventually take over.
- (v) To give professional assistance towards the training of librarians. (22)

The ZLS has six provincial and one district libraries at Chipata, Chomá, Kasamá, Mansa, Mongu, Solwezi and Zambezi. Within each province are library centres run mainly by volunteers. Such centres are located mainly in primary and secondary schools, teacher training colleges and rural reconstruction centres. There are about 700 of these centres and between them have a total of 400,000 books. ZLS also subscribes to about 200 titles of periodicals. The current staff situation for the entire network is 8 professionals and 11 non-professionals.

In terms of reader service, ZLS is the de facto National Lending Library. Almost its entire collection is available for loan either directly from the headquarters in Lusaka or through any of its many centres. During 1979 the entire network had a circulation of 40,474 fiction; 59,636 non-fiction; and 20,003 children's books. ZLS is also, at least in theory, responsible for the inter-library loan activity in the country. To this effect the forms used for the purpose by all libraries were designed with that assumption in mind. No photocopying is done at ZLS and most reference enquiries are referred to the University of Zambia Library. The school library service offered by ZLS appears to be done unconsciously in many respects. Basically it is only that most of the library centres are located in educational institutions.

From the technical services point of view, all the purchasing is done centrally at the ZLS headquarters. So is all the cataloguing and labelling of processed books. Owing to the large number of centres books are always bought in multiple copies. The annual budget on

materials is K30,000. Furthermore, ZLS has often received generous donations of books from the British Council and the American International Communication Agency (formerly United States Information Service). The ZLS uses the 18th Edition of the Dewey Decimal Classification scheme. In its efforts to establish a National Union Catalogue, the ZLS had employed the services of a Finnish volunteer to set up the project. Unfortunately, by the end of her contract in 1975, she still had not sufficiently convinced anybody to have the project even started.

The Zambia Library Service is <sup>only</sup> affiliated to the Zambia Library Association. However, the Chief Libraries Officer is an ex-officio member of the Standing Conference of Head Librarians in Zambia (SCOHLZA) which is a sub-committee of the Z.L.A. He is also an ex-officio member of the University of Zambia Professional Board of Library Studies. Being a government institution its staff are subject to typical civil service conditions of service. This means all matters pertaining to personnel pass through the Public Service Commission.

#### The University of Zambia Library. (23)

The University of Zambia Library was established in 1966. The present main building was opened in 1969 by His Excellency Dr.K.D. Kaunda in his capacity as Chancellor of the University. It was then it became apparent to most that the funds for the building were those raised earlier through a nationwide campaign for donations. Thus the building had assumed a rather unique national status by virtue of being built out of funds raised by the people. In recognizing and appreciating this fact Dr.Kaunda made the following appeal to those who were going to use it:

"Let this legend of self-sacrifice on the part of poor people never be forgotten by generations to come. Let it remain as an inspiration to all so that every good that shall come out of this building shall be to the greater glory of the people."(24)

Thus the University of Zambia Library was dedicated to the Zambian people as a whole. From that unique start the library has developed to its present stature where it houses over 190,700 volumes and subscribes to over 2500 periodicals titles. Its physical expansion has included the establishment of the separate Medical Collection, and a branch library at the Copperbelt campus. The current staff situation is that there are at least 19 professionals out of an establishment of 35. There are 15 non-professionals as against an establishment of 33. These figures do not include other ancillary staff like clerks, administrative, bindery, photographic and maintenance staff.

In terms of reader service the priority is given to students and staff of the University. Members of the public can borrow only when they meet certain specified conditions. The circulation figures for 1979 were as follows: 85,656 for students, 12,223 for staff and 1032 for external readers. During the same period the library issued 43 books to other libraries on inter-library loan and borrowed 4. The four were from the BLLD. The library also maintains a photocopying service. This has an average of 5000 copies per month and is greatly supplemented by the BLLD service for those items not available in Zambia. The most significant national role played by the University Library is that it is a National Reference Library. The designation of this library as such was based on the fact that:

- (i) it had the largest and best quality collection in the country;
- (ii) it had the largest concentration of professional staff;
- and (iii) it had become accepted in several developing countries for the University library, to be regarded in practice as the National Reference Library.<sup>(25)</sup>

To this effect the library is indeed open to the general public for reference purposes only.

The University Library technical services consume an annual budget of about K250,000. This is spent on new books and periodicals subscriptions. Donations, both in form of money and books have been forthcoming from several sources including the British Council and the International Communications Agency. The University Library uses the Library of Congress Classification scheme. Cataloguing for both the Medical Collection and the Copperbelt campus is done centrally at the Lusaka campus library. The Library has its own bindery and photographic units. The photographic unit undertakes all the reprographic duties including microfilming.

The University library is a member of the ZLA, COMLA, IFLA, SCOLMA, SCAULEA, SCONUL, and is a subscribing member to numerous other international and professional organizations. It publishes the Zambiana Gazette which is a bibliography of Zambian publications received within a given period.

The National Council for Scientific Research - Documentation and Scientific Information Centre. (26)

The National Council for Scientific Research was established in 1967. Within the institution was established the Documentation and Scientific Information Centre. This in turn is divided into the Documentation section and the Library. The Library has a collection of about 7,170 books and subscribes to about 1,200 periodicals titles. The Centre presently has a staff of 4 (1 librarian and 3 documentalists) professionals and 4 non-professionals. The primary functions of the Centre are:

- (i) To meet the information needs of policy and decision makers, scientific researchers and technologists in the country, with preference being given to staff of the NCSR;

- (ii) To document all publications with relevance to science and technology in Zambia.
- (iii) To develop a national science and technology information centre for Zambia and to participate in and liaise with international information systems. (27)

As regards reader services, the Centre has a loan service which is extended to the general public. Between 1977 and 1980 there were 175 inter-library loans recorded. These were mainly items borrowed from other libraries especially the University of Zambia Library. There is a local photocopy service for internal use only. Most of the photocopying demands are met by the BLLD. The Centre is also used for research purposes by scholars from outside institutions. To the staff of the NCSR the Centre also offers an information retrieval service and a selective dissemination of information service. Both services are manual. The Centre has branches at Kitwe and at Mt. Makulu.

From an annual budget of about K50,000 most of the expense is on subscription to scientific periodicals. A few titles are also obtained through exchange with Zambian periodicals. The Centre uses the Universal Decimal Classification scheme, and all the cataloguing for the branch libraries is done centrally at the Centre. As a National Scientific Documentation Centre, the NCSR-DSIC publishes the following publications:

- Zambia Science Abstracts;
- Zambia Journal of Science and Technology;
- Union List of Scientific Serials in Zambia;
- Directory of Scientific Research, Technical and Industrial Organizations in Zambia;
- Directory of Scientists and Professionals in Science & Technology in Zambia;
- NCSR Bibliography.



### 3.2.3. Library Education

Library education has a direct bearing on developments in national library services. This is because library services are dependent upon the availability of sufficiently trained librarians for their efficiency.

In Zambia, the greatest stimulus for training librarians came towards the end of 1965. This was due to a combination of factors. The establishment of the University Library had connotations on the demand for local manpower. It was also politically desirable for the country to become independent from the meagre international supply of graduate librarians. Out of this situation emerged two major developments. From a proposal initiated by Loveday<sup>(29)</sup> the UNESCO sponsored programmes transferred to UNZA from the then University College of Rhodesia, included a post for a Library Studies tutor. Concurrently, Parr<sup>(30)</sup> had made recommendations for the trained manpower needs for the envisaged expansion of the Zambia Library Service. This was while submitting development plans for 1967-70. He also proposed the establishment of a post for a training officer to undertake training programmes at the non-graduate level. With the momentum of these related events, a cardinal point was made that the planning and development of a library service depended upon the training of staff.

Subsequent to these initiations by Loveday and Parr was a conference held in 1967 at which three major developments emerged:

- (i) a proposal that a National Council on Library Training be established;
- (ii) a recommendation that training should take place within Zambia at sub-professional, professional and under-graduate levels;

- (iii) the creation of a Working Party to do detailed planning of course structures and academic calendars.<sup>(31)</sup>

Further developments on library education in Zambia was very much based on this broad foundation laid at the 1967 conference. The ultimate outcome of the proposed National Council on Library Training was the University of Zambia Professional Board of Library Studies established in 1971. This Board has since been reconstituted a couple of times. The result of these reconstitutions have been varying subject content and accreditation authorities to the different programmes.

The Professional Board of Library Studies has been responsible for training programmes at three levels. These were those proposed at the 1967 conference discussed above. Prior to that some short course programmes had been organized for specific categories of library personnel by the British Council.

The Sub-professional course was started in 1967. It was a 120 hrs. of instruction course through part-time study. In 1971 the course was restructured to 6-month full-time training. The examining authority was then handed over from the Evelyn Home College to the University of Zambia. The course was eventually phased out at UNZA and taken over by the Mindolo Ecumenical Foundation. The examining authority was then transferred to MEF who held it jointly with the ZLA from 1975 to 1978 when the course was finally discontinued due to financial problems. Whereas the course used to be one of the prerequisites for advancing to the professional course, this arrangement was abandoned when UNZA ceased to recognize the relationship.

The Professional course<sup>(33)</sup> started at the Evelyn Home College under the auspices of the original Professional Board of Library Studies of the Ministry of Education in 1968. It started off as a three-year

part-time course leading to a Diploma qualification. The syllabus was based on a similar course offered at the University of Makerere. This was an equivalent of the British A.L.A. The course was taken over by the University of Zambia in 1970 where it has remained since. Since the take-over it became a two-year full-time course.

The Undergraduate programme<sup>(34)</sup> started in 1966 as a minor option within the School of Education. The initial course structure and the subsequent changes to the curriculum are discussed in detail in an article by Dr. Shukla,<sup>(35)</sup> former head of department of library studies. He reports however, that the course became a major option from October, 1976.

There are no reliable figures of students who have gone through the Sub-professional course since its inception in 1967. However, the statistics for the Professional and Undergraduate courses are as follows:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Diploma Programme</u>	<u>Undergraduate Programme</u>
1970	1	3
1971	1	1
1972	2	-
1973	-	4
1974	15	7
1975	-	7
1976	-	8
1977	-	15
1978	10	8
1979	-	13
1980	<u>8</u>	<u>14</u>
	<u>37</u>	<u>80</u>

To these totals can be added three Diplomas from Makerere, 3 from Nigeria and 1 ALA from the U.K. Overseas training has mainly been sought for post-graduate training. Until 1978 only about 4 students from Zambia obtained post-graduate training from abroad. The tempo has since improved to about 6 enrolments in 1979, and 9 in 1980 at Universities in U.K. and the U.S.A. These students will start returning home in 1981.

### 3.2.4. The Zambia Library Association

The Zambia Library Association was an off-shoot of the defunct Library Association of Rhodesia and Nyasaland. On gaining the country's independence, it became necessary to restructure all other organizations that also had federal identity. The Zambia Library Association was therefore re-established as an independent association under the country's Societies and Clubs Ordinance in 1969. The objectives of the ZLA are as follows:

- (i) to unite all persons engaged in library work or interested in libraries in Zambia;
- (ii) to encourage the establishment and development of libraries and library co-operation in Zambia;
- (iii) to improve the standards in all aspects of librarianship, bibliography and documentation in Zambia;
- (iv) to act as an advisory and public relations body in all matters pertaining to libraries, bibliography and documentation in Zambia;
- (v) to stimulate an awareness among central and local government bodies and other institutions of their responsibilities in providing adequate library services and facilities;
- (vi) to promote whatever may tend to the improvement of the position and the qualifications of libraries;
- (vii) to undertake all such activities (e.g. meetings, conferences, publications, etc) which will further the above objectives. (37)

In pursuance of the above objectives, the association has undertaken several meetings in form of discussion forums and speeches. It has organized weekend conference, seminars and annual library weeks. The association publishes the Zambia Library Association Journal, The ZLA Newsletter, and some Occasional Publications. It also publishes the Directory of Libraries in Zambia. Following the hosting of an international conference in 1976, the association published the Standing Conference of Eastern, Central and Southern African Librarians Proceedings.

Since 1975 the association has given considerable attention to the idea of government introducing a Libraries Bill. Both in 1975 and 1977 the association managed to forward its proposed bill to the Ministry of Education. The objectives of the bill were:

- (i) to provide for the establishment, development, organization and maintenance of libraries in Zambia;
- (ii) to provide for the establishment of a National Library Advisory Council and a National Library;
- (iii) to provide for the creation of Public Library Authorities;
- (iv) to provide for financial support of the library service;
- and (v) to provide for the recognition of the Zambia Library Association and matters connected therewith. (38)

(For details of the Proposed Library Bill see Appendix 1)

This proposed Library Bill was rejected by the Ministry on the grounds that it required some amendments. Such amendments were prompted by the implied similarity of the structure of the Board to that of a profit-making para-statal organization. Besides, the full implementation of the bill would have meant huge expenses which the Ministry could unfortunately not spare under the current financial situation. The

In pursuance of the above objectives, the association has undertaken several meetings in form of discussion forums and speeches. It has organized weekend conference, seminars and annual library weeks. The association publishes the Zambia Library Association Journal, The ZLA Newsletter, and some Occasional Publications. It also publishes the Directory of Libraries in Zambia. Following the hosting of an international conference in 1976, the association published the Standing Conference of Eastern, Central and Southern African Librarians Proceedings.

Since 1975 the association has given considerable attention to the idea of government introducing a Libraries Bill. Both in 1975 and 1977 the association managed to forward its proposed bill to the Ministry of Education. The objectives of the bill were:

- (i) to provide for the establishment, development, organization and maintenance of libraries in Zambia;
- (ii) to provide for the establishment of a National Library Advisory Council and a National Library;
- (iii) to provide for the creation of Public Library Authorities;
- (iv) to provide for financial support of the library service;
- and (v) to provide for the recognition of the Zambia Library Association and matters connected therewith. (38)

(For details of the Proposed Library Bill see Appendix 1)

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association, having taken note of the constraints, is currently reviewing the situation. It has changed direction of appeal to the ruling political party. With ZLA's concern therefore, a cardinal point is made that the national library service in Zambia is inadequate in its present form. The longer it takes to solve this problem the more complex it will get.

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CHAPTER FOUR

IMPLICATIONS FOR A ZAMBIAN NATIONAL LIBRARY SERVICE

#### 4. IMPLICATIONS FOR A ZAMBIAN NATIONAL LIBRARY SERVICE

Having thus discussed the definitions of a national library, the international developments affecting national library development, and the Zambian national library developments, it is now appropriate to draw parallels. Such comparisons will be examined against the background of Tyulina's<sup>(1)</sup> analysis that the national library as a standard concept should be considered from three aspects. She listed these aspects; as a library microsystem by itself; as a component part of the library system of the country, and in its interaction with national libraries of other countries as an element of the new international system being formed.

##### 4.1. ANALYSIS OF THE CURRENT ZAMBIAN NATIONAL LIBRARY SITUATION

Four Zambian libraries performing some national functions have been discussed in the previous chapter. Looked at against the picture formed in the chapters before that certain questions arise.

##### 4.1.1. Monolithic National Library Developments

As illustrated by the broad and scanty distribution of national library functions, there is no single national library in Zambia at the moment. In terms of traditional national library functions as discussed by both Humphreys<sup>(2)</sup> and Line,<sup>(3)</sup> only the National Archives of Zambia appears to conform. This is through the legal deposit right, and the publication of the National bibliography. Even then these functions are not being performed satisfactorily. This is because the NAZ is still experiencing problems in acquiring local publications through legal deposit. The resultant National Bibliography is not, therefore, a complete representation of the country's literary output. This point is further confirmed by the fact that the Zambiana Gazette, a University

of Zambia, Library publication, is often considered as complementary to the National Bibliography. Besides, the National Archives has problems in trying to issue the bibliography on schedule. This is because as a rule the bibliography and any other publications must be printed at the Government Printer where a queueing system for all government departments is in practice. Apart from these two functions, the National Archives does not perform any other national library function.

The other three Zambian libraries discussed are developing more on the lines of special function national libraries. The Zambia Library service is the National Lending Library; the University of Zambia Library as the National Reference Library; and the NCSR Documentation and Scientific Information Centre, as the National Scientific Bibliographic Centre. However, these functions are still not clearly developed to the full definition of the titles.

The Zambia Library Service terms of reference are very grandiose, but at the moment even the Chief Libraries Officer admits that these have been greatly overtaken by events elsewhere.<sup>(4)</sup> He suggests that these terms of reference should be reviewed to suit the current situation. Municipal Public Libraries have for instance developed beyond the reach of ZLS to take over. These are now clearly defined as the responsibility of the Ministry of Local Government and Housing through the Municipal Councils. Library education is now clearly out of reach for ZLS. The University of Zambia Professional Board of Library Studies is now firmly established as the responsible body for library education. An ironic situation has developed out of the school libraries situation. Whereas there are no elaborate plans or organizational structure for these within ZLS, the majority of the 700 plus rural library centres are established in educational institutions. Perhaps more revealing is the fact that these centres are established at the initiative of the public within a given area,

and manned by volunteers. The Zambia Library Service role is only to respond to requests for centres by providing the books (between 100 - 2000) and laying down conditions for their safety. Where such conditions are grossly contravened, the service is withdrawn. Zambia Library Service is also plagued with manpower and transport problems. It experiences a rather high turnover of especially qualified staff. It could be argued that this institution is barely managing to sustain its current impact and no more should be expected.

The University of Zambia Library's claim for National Reference Library status has only achieved partial justification. So far it has developed the largest collection in the country to a level where most other libraries have depended on it for interlibrary loans. Secondly, it has opened its doors to the public at large for reference purposes only. However, although an elaborate case for national reference library status was made by Loveday,<sup>(5)</sup> the actual developments do not benefit an institution of such a status. To begin with there is an apparent mix-up of terminology regarding the actual designation of the library. Although the request was for a 'National Reference Library' status, the actual designation was for a 'National Public Library' status as this quotation from the letter illustrates:

"I am directed to inform you that the Minister of Education has decided that the University Library should be designated as a national public library."<sup>(6)</sup>

A general assumption has been made that the writer actually meant 'Reference' and not 'Public'. All the same this designation has not been followed up with relevant collection development gestures from the Ministry. All the funds for the library budget remain a proportion of what is allocated generally to the University. In turn the University

does not consider the national status of the library when allocating it its budget. Neither has the library got any legal deposit rights. Its current Zambiana collection has been developed with considerable amount of difficulty. Local publishers are usually asked to donate their publications to the national reference collection. Where publishers refuse to oblige some publications are paid for instead, rendering the whole acquisition process of local material extremely erratic.

The Documentation and Scientific Information Centre of the NCSR is a bibliographic centre. But its limitations are implicit right from the name itself. The documentation or bibliographical control services are only in the sciences. Even then the service is not all-embracing even within the sciences. Institutions like the Geological Survey Department and the Nchanga Consolidated Copper Mines - Roan Copper Mines Technical Library Services do publish their own subject bibliographies. From the list of publications it publishes, the Centre is on the whole, doing a commendable job. Although the Centre has been named the National Focal Point for INFOTERRA and the Regional Council for the Development of Information Systems in Eastern and Southern Africa it does not appear to be aware of the practical implications of such an honour. One thing is certain though, and that is the Centre has its priorities on the National Council for Scientific Research - its parent organization.

#### 4.1.2. Developments towards a National Library System

Neither can these Zambian national library developments be said to be aimed at the eventual establishment of a network. The various libraries are developing independently of each other. Whereas

the Zambia Library Service and the National Archives are government departments oriented towards the public, the other two are not and are oriented towards their parent organizations first, and the public second. Conditions of service are also widely different. The NAZ and the ZLS fall under the Civil Service Commission whereas the other two do not. Ironically, what they appear to have in common is the little influence over policy decisions within their various organizations.

It follows therefore that there are currently no positive indications of these libraries coming together to create a national library system. This is because in spite of their desires to serve the nation in various capacities, their policies are different, their developmental or expansion programmes are also different. Besides, none of these libraries is capable of supervising and directing these national developments as a national co-ordinating centre. This far there is still the high risk of these institutions duplicating rather than complementing each other.

#### 4.1.3. Towards interaction with National Libraries in other countries

Generally speaking, libraries in Zambia have made private contacts with other national or international organizations. This participation in international developments is completely uncontrolled and unco-ordinated. Interlibrary loans, exchange of publications or staff and all other forms of practical interaction depends on the individual library. For example libraries in Zambia have made their own contacts with the British Library Lending Division at Boston Spa. The only co-ordinated interaction has been through the participation of the Zambia Library Association in activities organized either by international or regional organizations.

Interaction of libraries within Zambia is equally uncoordinated and undocumented. It is therefore difficult to assess patterns of information flow both within the country, and between the country and other countries. This is an obvious constraint to formulating a general information policy for the country.

The pattern of national library services as it currently exists in the country is highly inadequate and faulty. Positive steps must therefore, be taken to improve this situation.

#### 4.2. LONG-TERM UNIVERSAL IMPLICATIONS

The national library concept as we have already seen is not a new concept at all. It is both as old as it is a complex concept. National libraries have been established around the world since as early as 1795. The origins of the earlier national libraries like the Bibliotheque Nationale, the Library of Congress or indeed the British Museum Library were different. The point however, is that their experiences enabled later national libraries to be established on more planned lines. Presently, with the advent of international concern for libraries, both the concept and physical structures of national libraries are under some form of control and guidance. It follows therefore that it should be comparatively easier to establish acceptable national libraries nowadays. This is because standards have already been set either consciously or unconsciously through the experiences of others and through mutual agreements at conferences and such other professional gatherings.

However, with so much talk and activity going on about national libraries, it is equally easy to fall into the trap of over-generalizations. The Zambian situation as is that of most other developing countries, is

unique in some special way. It is through this local perspective that the final implications on national library developments should be examined.

#### 4.2.1. UNESCO's General Information Programme

Through the General Information programme, Unesco is hoping to achieve further improvement of UNISIST as a conceptual framework for information systems and services development in all subject fields including the social sciences at the national, regional and international levels.<sup>(7)</sup> Above all, the GIP programme is specially geared to the requirements of developing countries.

It has been stated that the NATIS programme is aimed at maximizing the availability of relevant information through documentation, library and archives services. Yet against such an ambition are some underlying negative factors. The rising cost of information sources and services, as well as the increase in the numbers of publications and other information sources themselves, has had an impact on even the most affluent of countries. Vosper<sup>(8)</sup> acknowledges the growing recognition on the part of governments that efficient access to information is an essential tool of national development - economic and industrial as well as educational and cultural development. Under the NATIS programme, these national governments are required to formulate national information policies to guide the establishment of national information plans. The elements of such plans would be incorporated in national development plans. The precise form and character of NATIS will vary from country to country, but it is the co-ordination of all its elements that must be the goal. The ultimate aim of NATIS is to have a world information network composed of national information systems. The implication here is that participation

in such a world-wide information system will only be effective if a nation's information infrastructures are planned and co-ordinated. Whereas the national information policy should be formulated by national governments, the planning and co-ordination of national information services should be done through a national agency.

The Directors of National Libraries meeting in Lausanne in August 1976, spelt out the significance of national libraries within the NATIS concept. They approved a policy statement which enumerated the specific roles to be played by national libraries within NATIS as:

- (a) to provide necessary central library services;
- (b) to provide leadership within the library component of NATIS; and
- (c) to participate actively in the planning and overall development of NATIS.

Another UNESCO programme under the GIP is UNISIST. The ultimate goal of UNISIST is to establish a flexible and loosely-connected network of information services based on voluntary co-operation. At the UNISIST II Intergovernmental conference held in mid-1979, some recommendations directed specifically at member states were made. At least four of these eleven recommendations have implications on national co-ordination centres in member states. These are:

- (i) On the basis of a thorough study of the role of scientific and technological achievements in reaching development objectives, Member States should, elaborate and implement a national policy for utilization of scientific and technological information, based on the principles of UNISIST, and establish a national organizational focus for acquiring and utilizing information for development; (UNISIST II : Recommendation 3).

- (ii) Organize and co-ordinate national information resources in order to serve national development needs more effectively, as well as to contribute to the solution of global development problems; (UNISIST II: Recommendation 5).
- (iii) Set up national and regional data and information analysis centres for the purpose of collecting, evaluating, processing and making effective use of domestic and foreign data in the field of science and technology; (UNISIST II : Recommendation 6).
- (iv) Reinforce national co-ordinating machinery for the provision of advice on information management to governmental organizations and information services. (UNISIST II : Recommendation 9).<sup>(10)</sup>

These recommendations point to the fact that there is need for the establishment of a national focal point in each Member State. It is from such a centre that most of the authority at national level would be commanded. Such a national focal point would be best established within the national information set-up.

#### 4.2.2. IFLA's Information Programmes

The Universal Bibliographical Control and the Universal Availability of Publications are the current IFLA's most important programmes. At the international level, the requirements of UBC are:

- (i) that each national bibliographic agency will be the organization responsible for creating the authoritative bibliographic record of the publications of its own country;

- (ii) that international standards be adhered to when creating this bibliographic record. This is in terms of its contents and its physical form.<sup>(11)</sup>

IFLA is therefore asking each country to accept the responsibility for making the bibliographic record in accordance with agreed international standards. All countries can participate as component parts of a world-wide UBC system if their contributions follow patterns and standards that are universal, and under the same token can receive. It follows therefore that each country should have a bibliographic centre. Such a centre would be responsible for creating and distributing the national bibliographic records both at home and abroad. Creation of national bibliographic records presupposes the receipt of the documents in the first place. The national bibliographic agency would have to be in the position to receive every document published in the country. Such a situation could only be assured through legal deposit legislation. It follows therefore that such an agency ought to be established within the national library which will normally have the necessary legal deposit rights.

Universal Availability of Publications complements UBC. The argument for it is that it is useless to make available only the bibliographic details of a document without making the document itself available. In relation to developing countries Rodriguez<sup>(12)</sup> argues that it is important that they take into consideration the need expressed in the Medium-Term Programme of IFLA for the creation in each country of a national centre for interlibrary lending and for the international supply of photocopies, and the need for the organization of these centres of an international network. Again this leads to the arguments in favour of the establishment of a co-ordinating centre within each country. Owing

to the fact that it has the most comprehensive national collection through legal deposit, the national library is again the ideal choice for this centre. In other words, both UBC and UAP, acceptable as they are, have certain preconditions which can only be met by the existence of a national library within a country.

#### 4.2.3. Implications from Regional Programmes

The regional developments as discussed before\* also have some special ideological implications. To begin with, the very identity with the region implies similarities between the countries comprising the region. They will also experience similar problems. In solving such problems it would therefore be necessary to establish a regional perspective from which to seek and formulate solutions.

Most of these regional organizations are professional organizations. What is implicit about that is that professional organizations should take an active role in recommending standards, providing technical expertise and guaranteeing the competence and integrity of its members. Professional organizations are also better suited as advisory agencies to governments on matters pertaining to the profession. Fraternity of professional associations at regional levels provides a forum for sharing experiences among the members. ECARBICA and SCECSAL should be supported for providing the opportunities to discuss mutual problems within the Eastern, Central and Southern African region.

From the objectives of the Council for Development of Information Systems and Services in Eastern & Southern Africa and the Africa Bibliographic Centre more practical developments at regional level are envisaged. It has been argued that international support for the establishment of information centres or national focal points would be more forthcoming when requested at regional level. Besides, membership

\* See Chapter 2

contributions would be able to sustain such centres thereafter because the costs would be shared.

The emergence of programmes solely financed by foreign governments has two conflicting implications to the region. First, it means there are, among developed nations, genuine friendly countries ready to help the region out of its underdeveloped state in terms of information services. In other words, such friendly countries only need to be identified and approached for such help. The second implication however, is that for as long as those countries in the region are unwilling to undertake certain of their professional responsibilities, some foreign power will come and do it for them - at a price! Such a price may not necessarily be paid in monetary terms, but also in terms of quality, quantity and accuracy of work undertaken. It appears therefore that IFLA's UBC and UAP programmes are aware of this danger.

#### 4.2.4. International Library Networks

The mushrooming of international library-networks among developed nations has some rather painful implications on the developing nations. They are faced with the unpleasant option of either 'running before they can walk' or be left out in the sharing of information resources. Even IFLA's programme for UBC is supporting this trend of events. In UBC's demand for international standards for recording bibliographic information there is, for instance, a pre-condition that such data should be made in machine-readable form. Since most developing countries still do not use computers in their libraries, they would not benefit from the efficiency envisaged in submitting their data in machine-readable form.

However, for as long as this development remains the long-term target for developing countries it is worth striving for.

National libraries will obviously remain constantly compelled to provide an efficient service because of their unique position in relation to their countries and internationally. Their participation in international automated library networks will ensure speed, accuracy and up-to-dateness in the provision of information. If information is vital to the overall development of a nation, it follows as a corollary that it is developing nations that need it most. Obtaining it through the most efficient communication systems is therefore, most disirous.

#### 4.3. SHORT & MEDIUM TERM SPECIAL IMPLICATIONS

It should be noted from the very beginning that Zambia is facing the whole problem of information transfer from a very weak position. Developments of national library services have been haphazard and are not effectively responding to the growing need for information. There is no single library that can rightly be called a truly national institution ready to assume the various responsibilities of co-ordination and all the others that are lacking. Neither do these libraries discussed constitute even a rudimentary national library system.

##### 4.3.1. Ideological Implications

It follows therefore that the initial implications of international developments on the Zambian situation will have to do with policy. Major educational and scientific programmes are being planned in the country but there is no evidence to show that such plans are being complemented by similar plans in information provision.

##### (a) National Information Policy

In order for the information resources to be effective to the other development programmes their planning must be based on a

national information policy. Such a policy would be especially formulated to support these other development programmes. This information policy would provide the base or criterion for planning library and information services to meet the information requirements of these national development programmes. Such plans for library and information services would then require to be incorporated into the National Development Plans. As Penna<sup>(13)</sup> tells us, such planning is particularly necessary to developing countries, which are obliged to make the best possible use of limited resources in money, buildings, qualified and semi-skilled personnel. He adds that in these countries a long-term plan is necessary, since it will be impossible for them to develop their skills in library and information services in the same ad hoc manner as the advanced countries have done. In developed countries, library and information services have been provided mainly through the efforts of elites for their own purposes, although they have also in some cases brought about the provision of wider-ranging services such as school and public library services from philanthropic motives.

Although the plan is long-term, the formulation of the policy is urgent. The formulation of the information policy and the execution of the plan should be done through consultations between government and the professional association.

(b) National Acquisition Policy

Following on the information policy should be a national acquisition policy. Once an information policy has been formulated it is vitally important that it is supported by a sympathetic acquisition policy. Such an acquisition policy would ensure the optimum use of *the available financial resources in relation to types of material,*

subject specializations, sources of the material and many other related aspects. Such a policy would also cover acquisitions through legal deposit and also reflect the censorship requirements of the nation.

(c) National Manpower Policy

Another ideological implication for Zambia is the requirement of a national library manpower policy. The University of Zambia's Department of Library and Information Studies is not guided by a manpower requirement policy as is the case with the School of Education for example. Whereas in the latter case there are specific targets being aimed for, the targets in the former are dictated by the staffing situation within the Department. A national library manpower policy should be formulated against the national information policy that precedes it. Training and recruitment of staff should therefore be based on the national information plan. Such a plan would be the culmination of staff development and staff recruitment programmes of the various institutions comprising the national component.

4.3.2. Practical Implications

Implicit in the lopsided library developments in Zambia is the need for co-ordinated planning of the various services. This unco-ordinated situation is due to the multiplicity of authorities responsible for libraries in the country. Of the four libraries discussed the ZLS and the NAZ are government departments, the Documentation & Scientific Information Centre belongs to a research organization, and the last one is an academic library. The parent institutions of these libraries are pursuing different development plans, and the importance attached to their respective libraries also varies.

(a) Library Legislation

Following on the above statement it follows that there is need to introduce a library legislation in Zambia. Such legislation would be required to provide for the necessary structure of the total national library service, its management and source of financial support.

Such legislation would also provide for the establishment of a National Library Board. This Board would require as direct an authority from Parliament as possible. This is so that the execution of the information policy is done as comprehensively as possible without being affected by prejudices of individual government Ministries. The composition of such a Board would be incorporated in the legislation itself.

(b) National Library

Especially conspicuous in Zambia is the absence of a proper National Library. The initial implications of the discussion so far is that the need for one is not only justifiable but is increasingly becoming overdue. Indeed the *raison d'être* for a National Library in Zambia is so that the nation can benefit from the international information resource-sharing programs. It has already been illustrated that even developed countries need to interact with other nations in order to gain the maximum from the world information resources. The creation of a World information network is therefore dependant on each nation having the means for handling it. Of particular concern in this respect are the UNESCO and IFLA programmes on information transfer.

Secondly, it has been shown that the library service at national level is unco-ordinated. The optimization of information resources for efficient use by the nation is essential since it is conducive to overall development of the nation. Thus, a centre, in the form

of a National Library must be established in order to co-ordinate all those information services already known to exist in the country.

Thirdly, a National Library must be established as a separate institution within itself. *This is mainly because as a special kind of library within itself there are specific traditional functions which it is expected to perform.* In Zambia at the moment, some of these functions are being performed by some of the existing institutions. But, as proven already, they are not being performed satisfactorily because they are accorded secondary attention. Moreover, there is still a long list of traditional national library functions that no institution is carrying out. This list includes: Maintenance of a National Union Catalogue; Planning and co-ordinating of inter-library lending; development of a central loan and photocopying collection; National Bibliographic centre; and many less urgent functions.

#### (c) Library Co-operation

Another practical implication for libraries in Zambia in general is the need for co-operation. To date most of the co-operation that exists is informal and conditional and is therefore highly susceptible to problems. The machinery for permanent co-operation does not exist. Up till now the efforts to start a national union catalogue have been hampered by this lack of co-operation. Such a development would have greatly enhanced the inter-library lending activity. At the moment, although a standard form is available for executing inter-library loans, it is actually an anachronism. This is because the ZLS which this document purports to be the co-ordinating centre, has neither the bibliographic base nor the collection potential to support the service.

The most important reason for library co-operation in Zambia is that it will be responsive to a dual-carriageway system of distributing

information resources. This is both from the country to other nations and vice-versa. Thus, within the nation there is need for a co-ordinating centre for this activity all the other libraries would be required to co-operate with. Such a centre would co-ordinate both the regional and international activities of information transfer. Eventually, with the advent of technology some of these activities would be easy to automate because the criterion would have already been met.

It must be emphasized that to achieve the long-term goal of a world-wide information network, a start for it must be made. We have so far established that Zambia hasn't even made that start. What is being missed during this period of inaction will be difficult to achieve as the world information situation becomes more advanced and sophisticated.

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CHAPTER FIVE

OBSERVATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

CHAPTER 5OBSERVATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

When discussing national library developments from the international perspective there is great risk of over-generalizing. This is because specific problems affecting specific communities tend to be overlooked. To the disadvantage of such communities, their special circumstances are over-simplified in the general muffle of international standards. In a country such as Zambia, it must be appreciated that there are certain cultural, political and social factors which must be considered when planning library development.

The problems affecting library development in Zambia are both ideological and practical. The majority of libraries in Zambia were established before independence. The point here is whether these libraries are perpetuating a colonial legacy, or conforming to the new national aspirations. It remains debatable whether those libraries established after independence have introduced a new outlook of services, or have merely copied those found in existence, thereby consolidating the legacy into a standard. However, there is little evidence to show that these libraries have reviewed their roles in the wake of the new political order being created.

Owing to this apparent misdirection of effort, these libraries have ideologically been making themselves increasingly irrelevant to the new social situation. It could be argued further that the practical problems being experienced <sup>by libraries</sup> in Zambia are due to their failure to make a relevant impression on the new political and social order being evolved by the nation.

### 5.1. ZAMBIA'S SOCIO-POLITICAL ASPIRATIONS

Zambia is seeking to achieve an egalitarian society through the philosophy of 'Humanism'. Humanism is the legacy of Zambian cultural heritage which was based on the principles of:

- (a) Mutual aid;
- (b) An accepting community: that is a community which did not take into account failure in an absolute sense. Those incapacitated by any form of misfortune were not considered as social rejects; and
- (c) An inclusive society: this was a web of relationships which involved some degree of mutual responsibility, and hence the extended family system.<sup>(1)</sup>

According to President Kaunda, who is the father of Zambian Humanism:

"Humanism in Zambia is a political philosophy which endeavours to devise a social, political and economic order which is based on Man's truth rather than Man's untruth."<sup>(2)</sup>

He explains further by adding that the success of Humanism would largely depend on the reappraisal of the forces ranged against humanity (i.e. ethnological divisions, hunger, poverty, disease, etc.) and their neutralization by the state acting on behalf of the masses. In relation to Humanism, Socialism is only considered a process of human development towards Humanism. Thus one cannot be a Humanist without being a Socialist while the reverse is possible. Socialism is therefore a pre-requisite for Humanism. However, unlike Communism, Humanism believes in the presence of a Super-being. Otherwise both believe in and work for the transcendence of the State and all its institutions over individual interest.

The goal for Humanism is that:

- (a) All political, economic, social, scientific and cultural planning must continue to be based on the creation of a man-centred society;
- (b) Since this man-centred society was a legacy of the Zambian cultural heritage, it was from it that the incentive to plan for a new society was to be derived. It would also be with the appreciation that there was also a lot that was good from other people who, for many reasons, were now able to mix with Zambians in the new international community;
- (c) The ability to maintain and develop a traditional community based on mutual aid society principles demands that the village unit or section be recognized as the most important political, economic, social, scientific and cultural unit.<sup>(3)</sup>

The philosophy of Humanism is interpreted mainly through the system of participatory democracy. This is the type of democracy in which citizens participate not only through their freely elected representatives, but also by their own direct involvement in the decision-making process. The aim is to create an egalitarian society and to transform the village-state into a nation-state, while at the same time decentralizing power in all spheres of human endeavour.

While relating participatory democracy to libraries at the SCECSAL II conference, the then Zambian Prime Minister explained:

"When we decided to qualify the word 'democracy' by adding the adjective 'participatory', many people felt this was unnecessary. They were perhaps technically right but I think they were conceptually wrong.

We envisaged a political system in which the people do not only choose their leaders, say once in 5 years. We sought to evolve a system under which the people would continuously guide and indeed direct their leaders on almost a day to day basis. In this arrangement the responsibility of every citizen becomes immense. For not only must the leaders be informed, but also every citizen must be well informed because of his role as a full participant in the management of the affairs of the nation. Your discussions are relevant because the libraries and information services are necessary instruments in proving the capacity of the citizens to govern".<sup>(4)</sup>

## 5.2. RELEVANCE OF ZAMBIAN LIBRARIES TO NATIONAL ASPIRATIONS

Continuing with his address to the SCECSAL II delegates, the Zambian Prime Minister warned:

"Libraries should have an African flavour not out of narrow pride but rather for relevance and development of individuality. The development of the African flavour calls on the African writer to develop his or her skills and trade so that larger portions of our libraries are filled with African literature. Apart from the highly technical and specialized fields of human knowledge, many of the literary productions should be reviewed, changed, simplified and adapted to our political, social, economic and cultural values. Only in this way can we hope to effectively remodel Africa in our own image. We should view our African culture through our own literary spectacles and not through borrowed foreign ones which do not fit in with our national ambitions, hopes and aspirations for overall development. Our future generations will wish to receive from us a rich cultural heritage".<sup>(5)</sup>

From the Prime Minister's expressed sentiments it is clear that within the Zambian political circles there was growing concern for the role of the libraries of the time. Speaking at the following SCECSAL III conference two years later, Lundu echoed the Zambian Prime Minister's sentiments and anxieties. While advocating for development of information systems with a Humanist approach he argued:

"... it is this kind of political philosophy upon which depends the economic, cultural, educational, scientific and technological development of Zambia. It is upon this political base that the spreading or the development of information systems should be built. Naturally, this political base inevitably makes Zambia a rather unique country in the whole spectrum of developing countries. Once such a political foundation is accepted, then the importation and application of any new ideas can be made within these guidelines. Any aspects of development of the Zambian society should be geared to the service of man".(6)

The essence of both these quotations is to illustrate that much as it may sound imperative to conform to international 'standards', concern for local emphasis is mounting. Not only are the politicians concerned but the librarians themselves are becoming increasingly conscious of the irrelevance of their libraries.

On reviewing the current national library services it can be seen that a few national political aspirations have largely been fulfilled remotely through the process of integrated development. Fields like education and scientific and industrial research are probably more fortunate than the rest in that the existing national library services have been directed on them. However, when it is realized that the educational system was, until now, still a colonial legacy the extent of cultural erosion becomes manifest. The larger proportion of Zambian culture is unrecorded, as the culture of a nation is reflected in the writings of its people. Since there is very little publishing going on in Zambia at the moment, libraries cannot possibly acquire indigenous literature when it does not exist in a tangible form in the first place.

The existing Zambian national libraries have played an equally negligible role in supplying relevant literature to the policy-makers. The blame has largely been absorbed by small departmental

or Ministerial book collections that have also lacked professional supervision. An interesting development on these lines was the recent introduction of the post of Libraries Research Officer in the country's Parliament library. It is sporadic events such as these that expose the weaknesses of existing national libraries.

One of the social scourges the nation is trying to eradicate is illiteracy. Libraries are useless to people who cannot read, and since these are in the majority in Zambia, libraries could be said to be luxuries since they cater only for the 'educated elite'. There hasn't so far been any significant attempt by the current national libraries to help in the campaign to eradicate illiteracy. Neither have these libraries at least been prepared to rescue the new literates at the end of the literacy tunnel to entice them with relevant literature. Only recently the ZLS helped with the establishment of 4 library centres under the Department of Community Development for the purpose of supporting the Functional Literacy campaign.<sup>(7)</sup> Surely this is a poor record considering the department already had at least 5 such centres established in each province without the help or guidance from ZLS.

### 5.3. CONSTRAINTS ON NATIONAL LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT

There are basically two types of problems affecting library development in Zambia. The first type concerns ideological problems, while the second concerns practical problems.

#### 5.3.1. Ideological Problems

Recently, Professor Bengé<sup>(8)</sup> has highlighted the dangers of adapting international library developments to local situations in developing countries. He argued that there were basic elements of

difference between developing countries, and the developed countries, which were largely responsible for pioneering these developments.

First on the list of differences is the cultural heritage. Library developments in countries like the United Kingdom, France, the United States of America and Russia followed the pattern of social, cultural and political developments in those countries. It would be unrealistic to expect the social and political set-ups that influenced the developments of the British Library, the Bibliotheque Nationale, the Library of Congress or indeed the Lenin State Library to also influence the development of a Zambian National Library. A look at the four examples shows that even they were established from different social and political backgrounds. In Zambia there is a new political consciousness which is trying to recapture a lost cultural heritage. It should be towards this same goal that national development services like libraries should be oriented.

The second element of difference is language. In Zambia there is a multiplicity of small language groupings. There are no less than 73 such ethnic groupings speaking different dialects. Even the controversial regrouping of these into 8 official languages for the mass media, is still too high for a country with a population of only 5.6 million, compared to say, 55 million speaking or understanding one common language in the U.K.

Illiteracy is yet another element of difference. Rough estimates indicate that only about 40% of the Zambian population is literate. Yet even such a modest estimation could appear more of an exaggeration when considered against the fact that it is relative to specific languages. Some people in Zambia are only literate in their respective vernacular languages. This problem of illiteracy does not

exist in developed countries. The book industry in developed countries is developing on the understanding that the majority are literate, and in one language only. It would be disastrous to underestimate the problems of illiteracy and multiplicity of languages in a country such as Zambia. It would be tantamount to building the whole book industry on a false foundation, which is bound to wreck the whole structure.

Since the publishing industry is underdeveloped in Zambia, libraries depend for up to 90% of their acquisitions on foreign literature. Since published literature tends to reflect the social and cultural life of the author's country, to complete the syllogism, it follows that 90% of the literature in Zambian libraries does not reflect the social and cultural values of the nation. It is merely being adapted to the local situation. For a country trying to rebuild or restore its cultural heritage a certain element of screening becomes necessary in order to control the inflow of what may constitute 'harmful literature'. Thus, strict censorship laws can be expected with some justification. Such laws are not as rigid in developed countries which depend largely on indigenous publishing.

Another point to note is the question of the motivation to read. In Zambia the purpose for reading is largely utilitarian. The general attitude is that only those people aspiring for higher educational achievements need to read. Looked at from the point of view of developed countries, this attitude is ridiculous. However, the point still remains that in Zambia that attitude is prevalent. Even the pattern of library development in Zambia seems to lend credence to this erroneous public analysis of libraries. For example ZLS has over 500 of its 700 library centres established in educational

institutions. Furthermore the majority of patrons in city and municipal public libraries are students. A further disturbing feature about these students in public libraries is that most of them only use the library building and not the materials in it. They go to these libraries with their own prescribed texts to do their homework because the library is a quieter place to work in than their homes.

### 5.3.2. Operational problems

Besides ideological problems, national library developments in Zambia are equally faced with practical problems as well. Most of these problems emanate from the underdeveloped economic circumstance in which the country finds itself. As Ombu<sup>(9)</sup> explains the general picture in developing countries:

"Libraries, since they are on the spending end of the economic spectrum, are looked upon as luxuries, rather than necessities in the society, and this attitude on the part of government bureaucracy is justified by them in the light of the powerful compulsion of national development and the urgent need to catch up with the developed nations in the global economic rat-race".

Since libraries are not revenue yielding enterprises, and that what they achieve cannot be measured in statistical terms, it means they do not feature well on the priorities of government spending. As illustrated by the four Zambian 'national libraries', some parent institutions are not particularly generous when funding their libraries.

The overdependence on foreign publications referred to earlier has created certain acquisition problems. Overdependence on foreign publications means over-reliance on foreign exchange. The Zambian economy cannot and has not been able to sustain this demand. In the final analysis there is actually no correlation between the

amount allocated by the parent institution and what is actually made available in foreign exchange by the state.

This underdeveloped circumstance is also what is responsible for the poor staffing situation in Zambian libraries. Salaries for librarians are not very attractive, hence the high proportion of local professionals leaving the profession. This situation has either perpetuated the recruitment of expatriate staff, or in some cases has led to the lowering of standards through the promotion of less qualified staff to positions of responsibility. It is only through genuine experience and relevant qualifications that an individual's perception of his changing responsibilities can be adjusted accordingly. The recruitment of expatriate staff also has its problems. To begin with the salaries offered to them are not very attractive. When they are recruited they have to be allowed to remit some of their earnings to their countries of origin - creating another strain on foreign exchange. Most are recruited on short-term contracts which entails disruption of continuity as personalities change. Furthermore expatriate staff have no moral obligation towards the social and political aspirations of a foreign country. Such a situation puts a country with a definite ambition on a very slow pattern of development.

The general underdeveloped situation also accounts for the underdevelopment of the library profession. To begin with there are problems of low enrolments in the library school at UNZA. This is followed by a high proportion of the few who qualify leaving their profession. Of the final number that stays, a certain proportion is totally disillusioned and is therefore indifferent to the demands of the profession. As libraries are almost always established as after-

thoughts and as subsidiary units of some major institutions, librarians are almost always pushed into the position of total subservience. Their roles in policy decisions and planning within their parent institutions are largely ignoble. Seen against such practical realities, involvement in professional activities as those advocated by the ZLA, is tantamount to self-deception with academic rhetoric. Thus most librarians choose to remain utilitarian. They have lost the sense of drive to transform the profession to the level it should be, rather they have become passengers masquerading under the camouflage of their parent institutions.

Finally, we have the problem of communication. Certain international library developments are being advocated on the erroneous assumption that good communication systems are already in existence. In Zambia only some of the communication systems are in existence, and most are unreliable. Zambia is currently having comparatively poor road conditions, an unreliable telecommunications system, a slow postal service and frequent power failures. A point in question here is that library services are also badly affected by other forces completely out of their control. Solutions for such problems cannot therefore be sought from librarians. However, to continue on what librarians themselves can do, the answer to the current state of problems is reorganization of the entire national library structure.

#### 5.4. REORGANIZATION OF NATIONAL LIBRARY SERVICES IN ZAMBIA.

A review of the library developments in Zambia reveals two basic problems. Firstly, looked at from the local perspective these library services are inadequate, unco-ordinated and considerably irrelevant to the local information requirements. Secondly, looked at

from an international perspective these developments are lacking in several ways as they do not appear to meet even the very basic requirements of universal demands being advocated by both UNESCO and IFLA programmes. All in all, what is required is the re-organization of all existing national library services and their optimization in a conscious attempt to meet the needs of the Zambian community.

This re-organization is justified in the light of the following observations:

- (i) There is lack of dynamism in the efforts of the ZLA. Too many of its members are mere passengers not actively involved in the activities of the association;
- (ii) The apparent pre-occupation by ZLA on matters of less immediate importance. There is too much emphasis on theoretical problems rather than immediate practical problems. There is very little effort to try and increase member participation in professional matters;
- (iii) The lack of overall national authority responsible for co-ordinating and directing library development in the national library structure;
- (iv) The lack of adequate financial support for the efficient running of libraries;
- (v) The shortage of manpower, and the uncontrolled, and sometimes unco-ordinated training programmes of library staff;
- (vi) The lack of appreciation of the importance of libraries in overall national development;
- (vii) The failure to participate in international programmes as advocated by UNESCO and IFLA;
- (viii) The lack of co-ordination of library services resulting in duplication of effort;
- (ix) The lack of co-operation as a result of over-allegiance to parent institutions.

#### 5.4.1. The role of the Zambia Library Association

Considering the present level of developments the major hope for recovery of national library services in Zambia is the ZLA. To date this association has made tremendous efforts to try and get the government to become sufficiently aware of the role of libraries in national development. Conferences, seminars and talks have been organized where government officials have been deliberately invited to participate. These government officials included a number of Ministers, and at one point involved even the then Prime Minister. Under the circumstances all these officials made sympathetic remarks on libraries, but all these remarks quickly drifted into oblivion as time advanced.

The main point of weakness was that all those encounters with government officials lacked follow-ups. If those officials whose attention had been captured were kept permanently interested, the influence would have spread to the right levels. Maintaining the interest of such people should have included the circulation of all publications of the association to them, and generally continuing inviting them to activities of the association, while at the same time making sure that more and more of such people got involved. Apart from generating interest at such high levels, the association should have done the same on its membership. The ZLA should work towards the transformation of passive librarians into active participants. More interaction of members should be promoted so that in the final analysis every librarian becomes an ambassador of the profession in whatever working environments they may happen to be. The association should take the lead in initiating and maintaining national professional consciousness among its members. This emphasis is necessary in order to equip the members with the correct professional attitudes and ambitions.

Perhaps one of the most revolutionary developments of the ZLA should be its relationship with the political machinery of the country. Some overtures of consultation at a modest level are already being made in this direction. However, what is required is less hesitation and more positive advances towards making the Party and Government involved. Apart from this being the fostering of the spirit of participatory democracy, the ZLA would not achieve anything by either antagonizing itself with the government or leaving it up to the government to initiate all library developments. The ZLA should therefore courageously approach the political machinery with a definite sense of direction as the major national consultant on matters relating to the profession.

Presently, on the problems of national library services, the ZLA should do two things: First of all it should conduct a critical study into the inadequacies of the current national library services. This should be culminated into a national blueprint complete with recommendations to be later discussed with relevant officials from the Party and Government. It is in the recommendations to the government that the suggestions on the nature of the re-organization should be made and discussed. Secondly, ZLA should spread the information about what would be involved in the proposed re-organization. If the members of the association would be sufficiently groomed for the envisaged re-organization then most internal resistance would be averted when the time arrived for action. Moreover, ample knowledge of the subject would enable them to maintain vital pressure for re-organization at their various personal levels.

### 5.4.2. Legislation

The most vital requirement for any reform is legislation. Such legislation provides for the required legal credence to the demands or requirements of the re-organization. Some relevant attempts at introducing some legislation were made by the ZLA in 1975 and 1977. On both occasions the proposals were rejected by the government. On both occasions almost similar reasons were given for the rejection. One of the reasons was the shortage of finance, while the other was that ZLA was proposing the establishment of an organization to be run on similar lines as the profit making parastatal enterprises. On this second point there was obvious misunderstanding of the proposal on the part of the government officials who handled the issue. This was the Ministry of Education. What was genuinely contentious however, was the fact that for its implementation, the proposed bill required the participation of too many people and authorities whose opinions had not been sought in the first place.

What is required after these lessons is for ZLA to initiate some discussion with those likely to be affected, not only at professional level, but at Party and Government levels as well. Obviously more conclusive studies should be undertaken into the current problems facing library development in the country. As proposed before, a special conference involving all concerned parties should be convened and a report made on which to base all the arguments for reform. The appendix to this document containing recommendations would constitute the basis on which to formulate the legislation. What has been happening this far is that ZLA has been 'prescribing treatment for an ailment the patient was unaware of'. The association should therefore re-organize its priorities and first get the 'patient' to know the

extent of his ailment and the risks involved in not taking proper 'treatment' for it.

Furthermore, the rejected 'proposed library bill',\* in its present form needs some review. The most evident weakness is that it embraces too wide an area requiring coverage. For example, this bill was meant to provide for:

- the establishment, development, organization and maintenance of libraries in Zambia;
- the establishment of a National Library Advisory Council;
- a National Library;
- the creation of Public Library Authorities;
- the financial support of the library service; and
- the recognition of the Zambia Library Association.

Such a list is bound to meet resistance because it is incorporating some elements which are not that closely related. The ZLA, with the participation of the Party & Government Officials should draw up a new one. They should try to reduce the scope of the initial bill thereby automatically reducing areas of dispute. The new bill should lay emphasis on priorities. If these are right the way will remain clear for the rest of the items to be incorporated. To this effect the priority should be given to the establishment of a National Library Advisory Board. The list of functions of this Board should be implicit about what would follow. In other words, through its execution of responsibilities the Board would provide for the majority of the other requirements.

As for the recognition of the ZLA, a separate proposal would be required. This would have to be done at a different level as the Association is already recognized and registered under the Societies &

\* See Appendix 1

Clubs Ordinance of the country. The requirement to transfer this recognition from an Ordinance to an Act was not properly investigated and understood as can be deduced from the submission of the abridged version of the Association's constitution. More preparatory work is required as this involves the change of status of the association. Such changes would inadvertently demand that the Association carry out certain functions by law - a point which appears to have been overlooked in the rejected proposal.

#### 5.4.3. Creation of the National Library Advisory Board

There is no other genuine way of establishing such a Board other than through legislation. The ZLA in consultation with the Party and Government, and following on recommendations from a conference organized for the purpose, should then draw up the preliminary proposal for such legislation. One of the cardinal points justifying the establishment of a Board is the importance of centralized planning of all library services. Such planning has become increasingly important in modern librarianship due to two militating factors. The first is that information is increasingly becoming realized to be a necessary resource for overall development of a nation. Its maximum utilization entails the optimization of all information services organized and made available on a national basis. The second factor is that the world economic recession is also affecting the book industry. It requires planning in order to maximize the use of the available meagre economic resources. Duplication of collections is therefore a waste of valuable funds.

High on the list of priorities to be planned for are the National Information Policy; the National Acquisition Policy; and

the National Manpower Policy. On the subject of planning for national library services there is sufficient guiding literature especially from UNESCO, which any established Board would find useful. Another important tool for planning is feedback information, which tends to add clarity to the practical situation regarding failures and successes.

The functions of the Board would have to be enumerated in the legislation, along with the composition of the Board. These functions would include:

- (i) Planning, establishing, developing, organizing and maintaining libraries in Zambia;
- (ii) Formulation and reviewing of the National Information, Acquisition and Manpower policies;
- (iii) Library Training;
- (iv) Formulation of library standards;
- (v) Ensuring adequate conditions of service for library personnel;
- (vi) Ensuring the provision of adequate funds for libraries;
- (vii) Encouraging the promotion of local literature and publishing.

The Board would be the supreme governing body for the running of libraries in the country. Therefore, any other functions befitting an organization of such importance would have to be included in the list of functions.

This Board would have to be headed by the appropriate Minister - preferably the Minister of Education. However, if a more direct link with parliament is possible it should be given preference. This is in order to reduce bureaucratic channels that normally constitute all kinds of bottlenecks detrimental to library development.

The basic composition of the Board should be as follows:

- (i) The Minister, who will also be chairperson of the Board
- (ii) Librarian of the University of Zambia
- (iii) Director of the National Archives
- (iv) Secretary General of the National Council for Scientific Research
- (v) Librarian of Zambia Library Services
- (vi) Secretary of the Local Government Service Commission
- (vii) Librarian of the National Central Library
- (viii) Chairperson of the Zambia Library Association
- (ix) Senior Libraries Inspector, Ministry of Education
- (x) 4 other members, 2 of whom to have special knowledge of libraries, the other 2 representing users.

Other details of the conduct of the Board would have to be discussed and included in the legislation. The decisions of the Board would have to be executed through its chairperson who would in this case be the appropriate cabinet Minister. This means the Board would operate in an advisory capacity to the Minister.

#### 5.4.4. Creation of a National Library System

The current world trend in national information services is towards planning for integrated library and documentation services.

Sewell,<sup>(10)</sup> outlined four main reasons for integration:

- (i) The expansion of knowledge and the records of knowledge which is making it less possible for the individual library to acquire all the materials necessary to meet special needs of its users;
- (ii) With the escalation of prices of library materials the resources available to an individual institution or service make it less possible each year to meet those needs from its own resources;

- (iii) We now have the potentialities of mechanized services both in relation to library housekeeping routines and mechanized bibliographical information services, together with the pressures for standardization of techniques and for co-operative action which such developments bring in the train;
- (iv) With high levels of education becoming readily available, and with the broadening of interests and sophistication of thought brought about by the modern range of mass communication, it is becoming less possible to categorize public libraries as serving, in the main, people of limited intellectual range and ability.

It should be pointed out that even countries like the United Kingdom and the United States of America which are financially far better off than countries like Zambia, feel the urgent need for unified library and information services. Closer to home, the Unesco meeting of experts on national planning of documentation and library services in Africa held in Kampala in 1970,<sup>(11)</sup> emphasized the need for co-operation between different types of libraries to avoid duplication and to enable the exploitation of resources to the full. This meeting also urged each country to take immediate steps to create a single national body, backed by necessary legislation, with responsibility for the planning and development of a fully integrated national library and information system.

Considering the unco-ordinated pattern of national library developments in Zambia to date, it would be naive to expect any of the established institutions to perform all the necessary national library functions. Rather it would be more acceptable to redefine 'national library functions' in the Zambian context and to redistribute them among the existing libraries according to their individual capabilities. While doing this it should be borne in mind that we are

talking about re-organizing established institutions with entrenched practices dating back several years. The theme therefore should be to consider reorganization with minimum chances of disruption of service due to too many unfamiliar innovations. What cannot be done by the existing institutions should be considered for a new institution.

In relation to the National Library Advisory Board, the total integration of library and information services should be the ultimate goal. The whole essence of being in a position to plan National Information, Acquisition and Manpower Policies is to be able to provide for the entire national library network. This means that this ultimate goal should be clearly implicit in the legislation so that the Board could have legislative backing when working towards its achievement.

In spite of the unco-ordinated emergence of libraries in Zambia there has so far been little actual duplication of effort. In theory though, the danger still looms as now the spirit of competition rather than co-operation seems to dominate the actions of the emergent librarians. However, the University Library, the ZLS and the DSIC all have emerged as special function national libraries, whereas NAZ, by virtue of its major significance has to enjoy legal deposit rights, but then consequently felt duty bound to publish the National Bibliography because there was no one else in a better position to do it. Clearly, that leaves a lot more national functions not performed by anybody, but these will be discussed later. In the meantime let us discuss the re-organization of the present services towards complementing an eventual national library system.

The National Archives of Zambia library should continue receiving a copy of every indigenous publication through legal deposit. However, this should be made distinctly clear that materials deposited in this institution are for archival purposes only. The use of the material by the public for reference and the institution's publication of the National Bibliography do not have to be national requirements of the institution as it is clearly an archival depository, and not a national library per se. The institution should therefore concentrate on its role as the National Archives in order to play a distinct role in the National Library System. Other relevant institutions should carry out the functions of reference service and the publication of the National Bibliography.

Zambia Library Services should change its name to Zambia School and Public Library Services. This is so that its new role becomes more distinct. This means the outdated 'terms of reference' should be scrapped and replaced by more realistic ones. Considering the number of failures of the institution, there is some justification to reduce its role to practicable proportions. In this regard it is proposed that the institution, with the co-operation from other national and private institutions should concentrate on establishing an integrated public and school library system. Obviously more study is required here in order to work out the best way to go about this to meet the changing Zambian requirements. With the implementation of the new Educational Reform, there is a lot of scope for the ZLS to cover. Another argument for this development is that ZLS already has 700 centres scattered around the country. Over 500 of these are in educational institutions which technically means that they are out of reach for the ordinary public. With the experience already amassed in running

District and Provincial public libraries the two services should now be properly organized but still leave the institution as the 'National Lending Library'. ZLS is already expected to provide these services. What is required now is to relieve it of its fringe responsibilities which it has never been able to perform anyway, but has incessantly used as excuses for the poor condition of school and public libraries.

The University of Zambia should continue to develop a National Reference collection. The main reasons being that it has already developed the largest single collection in the country, and that the new Federal system of the University already demands it to expand even further. To fulfil the national role the Board must authorize a special fund to enable a conscious effort to build a national reference collection to be carried out. This means also that it should be a beneficiary of the national legal deposit law. The legal deposit act should therefore be amended to increase the number of copies required from the publisher. These copies would then be distributed among the various relevant national institutions for purposes of fulfilling their specific roles. The Board would determine this minimum number of copies, to whom they should be distributed and pursue any legal proceedings against any defaulting publishers. Due to its proximity to the Library School, and the high concentration of professionals, the University Library should also spearhead research into library techniques. This is a function that would be carried out more in a utilitarian manner as the prerogative for choosing topics and financing such projects would be controlled by a central institution. This high concentration of professional staff could prove advantageous to the Board in several other possible ways.

The Documentation and Scientific Information Centre should develop towards becoming the National Library of Science and Technology. Its continued close attachment to the NCSR may, however, present problems towards national expansionism. This suggests that a gradual process of breaking this relationship should be initiated. The fact is that considering the main pre-occupation of the NCSR on research programmes, and the established supportive role the DSIC is expected to play it would be unthinkable to expect the NCSR to consider the centre as anything else. Although for the convenience of the NCSR the DSIC may stay in close proximity with it, the responsibilities of running the centre should be transferred to the Board.

While developing into the National Library for Science and Technology, the ultimate goal should be to become part of the National Library System. While specializing on building a science collection the DSIC should co-ordinate its services with those of the Technical Library Services for the mining industry, and the Mt. Makulu Agricultural Research Station Library. The reasons for this co-ordination are fairly obvious when one thinks in terms of scientific documentation and the availability ratio of scientific publications to the scientists, researchers and scholars. In relation to documentation, the Centre should publish comprehensive catalogues and bibliographies and finally act as the National Scientific Bibliographic Agency. This can later be expanded to cover all subjects depending on availability of suitable manpower and amount of work to be involved. At the moment the centre is being a little too ambitious for the staff it has. As a result of 'chewing more than it can swallow' the experience of ZLS may

be repeated if care is not taken. Maybe, in the absence of a national centre one understands the desperation in trying to pile too many responsibilities on the DSIC.

Reflecting on these new functions of these libraries, a definite gap to complete the total National Library System becomes manifest. Looking back on what has been discussed on the information needs of the country, and the shortfalls of the present set-up, a distinct role of a National Central Library stands out. This in fact, is what the Board should aim for under its function of 'planning, establishing, developing, organizing and maintaining libraries in Zambia'.

#### 5.4.5. Creation of a National Central Library

The next important element to complete the integration is for the Board to establish a National Central Library. This may need separate legislation but the point is that the responsibility for all that would rest with the Board. All things being equal, and that financial considerations do not outweigh necessity, this should be one of the immediate tasks of the Board while considering re-organizations. Such a library would lift off the pressure of 'broadenization' from the existing libraries. Thus they would be left to concentrate on their relevant functions. Such a library would also perform those traditional functions as yet not taken up by any of the existing libraries, including certain specific functions to meet the special needs of the Zambian community.

##### (a) Traditional functions of the Zambia National Central Library (ZNCL)

The paramount traditional role of the proposed Zambia National Central Library is to supervise the implementation of the National Information, Acquisition and Manpower Policies. The ZNCL

The above constitute the normal functions any National Library in a developing situation would be expected to perform. Apart from their emphasis on Zambia these functions are basically the same as those discussed earlier\*. To avoid repetition we will not discuss them again in this section. However, by implication, it means that a number of functions currently being carried out by the existing libraries would have to be taken over by the ZNCL, to improve the service and make it available to a wider clientele. This ZNCL will largely be the library for the other libraries, rather than for the individual readers, although individual readers will also be allowed direct access to the materials in it.

(b) Special Functions of the Zambian National Central Library

In response to the special needs of the Zambian public the ZNCL will be expected to fulfil them. In conformity to the social and political aspirations of the nation, which encourage the spirit of 'participatory democracy' in the transformation of the nation into an egalitarian society, the ZNCL will therefore be required to perform the following functions:

(i) Building a collection on oral traditions:

In relation to the traditional methods of communication which were basically oral, a rather sad situation is developing as a side-effect of accelerated development. The effect of western civilization which changed the social structure; the effect of modern education which is producing an elitist society; and the effects of rural-urban migration which is separating families and creating a distinct urban elite, are all contributing towards the breakdown of the traditional communication channels. The end result is that the society where grandparents used to impart knowledge on to their

\* See Chapter 1. pp. 11-19

grandchildren is rapidly disappearing, because the two groups have nothing in common any more. As can be deduced from the history of education in Zambia, the majority of the present generation of grandparents are illiterate. This means that the only way of imparting their skills and knowledge to anyone can only be oral and practical. A cardinal point to note here is that it is these illiterate majority who constitute the backbone of the Zambian heritage. It could be argued that at certain levels their knowledge is obsolete anyway, but the question is how does a nation know which way to develop if it does not understand and appreciate where it came from?

The country's political philosophy is to use this cultural heritage as a base for developing a nation-society, and one of the main cornerstones of this revolution is the concept of participatory democracy. That is probably where the first challenge of a typical Zambian National Library manifests itself. To date there have been innumerable research programmes into the various aspects of Zambian life. Most of these research programmes have relied heavily on oral literature. Until 1980 when the UNZA library secured a grant to document the preserved oral literature, its existence has largely been unknown. The ZNCL will be required to take over this responsibility and be able to produce special bibliographies and catalogues of the preserved oral traditions.

Furthermore, the ZNCL will be required to assume a leading role in generating national consciousness to identify and record the various aspects of Zambian life which are as yet unrecorded. The Zambian society is not short of indigenous music, dance, philosophy, religion history, ethnology or most of the subjects known to the western world. The only weakness is that the stores of that sort of

information are human minds whose carriers are not literate or trained to write it down and human beings are mortals. In conjunction with or in consultation with other agencies like the University of Zambia Institute for Social Research the ZNCL would spare some funds to necessitate the collection and preservation of such material using modern conventional methods of cassette, video or reel-to-reel recording. This information once collected, would be stored in the ZNCL where, should need arise later, it would be transcribed, translated and even published and then finally made available to a wider community. The successful execution of such a programme would constitute the first library collection with a deep Zambian flavour. Without it, it will increasingly become difficult for future generations to understand the origins of their society.

(ii) Literacy

To only stop at recording oral literature is not enough. It would be tantamount to exploiting the community of 'have-nots' for the benefit of the 'haves', contrary to the country's humanist ideology. It would still leave the interviewees in no better condition than they were found in. That is why the oral traditions campaign should be closely followed by a vigorous campaign to eradicate illiteracy. The recent Jamaican literacy campaign code-named JAMAL was a success partly because of the role played by the Jamaica Library Service. The ZNCL could learn from the Jamaican experience and be able to initiate, sponsor, participate in, finance and assist in campaigns for the eradication of illiteracy. Without prejudice to efforts being made by the Department of Community Development in promoting functional literacy, the ZNCL should co-operate to initiate joint programmes. The exact nature of the role of the ZNCL in the initial stages is to select

popular themes under promotion by other institutions, e.g. nutrition, road safety, hygiene etc., and prepare illustrated posters with captions explaining the message being depicted. With the co-operation of ZLS these posters would then be distributed to the appropriate locations for use by literacy classes and for displaying in public places. Literacy students could also be wooed to join literacy classes through radio programmes, which the ZNCL could help in preparing. As the programme progresses the various levels of literary attainment would entail more specialized work for the ZNCL to meet the changing needs of reading materials.

The role of the ZNCL would also involve the provision of facilities for would-be authors to transcribe some of the oral literature already stored as discussed earlier. Through contact with philanthropic organizations both at home and abroad, finance could be sought to aid other efforts to eradicate illiteracy. This would be through identifying areas and levels of need, and distribution of relevant literature.

The role of the ZNCL in this context would thus be to provide a major link in the country's transition from an oral society to a literary one which would also be able to transcend both tribal and geographical boundaries to engulf the whole nation. It would thus be actively participating in the creation of a nation-society for which the country's political ideology is aiming.

### (iii) Assessment of User Needs

With the progress of literacy campaigns, various levels of achievement would be attained. In order for the ZNCL to adjust in order to meet these varying levels, it must obtain some feedback from the impact of these literacy campaigns. Assessment of user needs

has been acknowledged by UNESCO as one of its NATIS objectives requiring national action. Owing to the immediacy of the eradication of illiteracy, and in order for libraries to be relevant, the ZNCL should initiate the task of monitoring the changing user needs. This means also that the ZNCL should co-ordinate all efforts in this direction, at all levels, so as to reflect the total national picture.

Apart from considering user needs in relation to literacy campaigns, the problem of library irrelevance has already been highlighted from other perspectives. It has been established already that a certain amount of effort by some of the existing libraries has been misdirected because the user needs were only assumed. In a country with such meagre financial resources as Zambia, it is necessary the most is made out of whatever money is spent on reading materials. This makes it necessary to monitor the changing user needs in order to reduce wastage of funds on materials that are not likely to be used. Monitoring of user needs can be done through continuous evaluation of stock by all the national institutions in relation to demand. Such an activity would contribute towards the eventual formulation of the National Acquisition Policy, as it would be on this demand, as well as on the sources of supply of materials that policy would be based. The prevailing social and economic factors also dictate that library services should be developed in support of national aspirations. This is becoming more and more evident in developing countries where such services were originally established to support and perpetuate a foreign legacy. Such services should therefore strive for absolute relevance through responding to changing user demands.

Since independence education has improved and expanded tremendously. Apart from producing the various levels of qualified

people, the expansion has been very rapid. In order to meet the user requirements of the emerging specialists, libraries should also expand at the same speed and with the relevant levels of reading materials. To do so would be difficult without feedback from the changing user needs. User needs must therefore be constantly assessed. The ZNCL should spearhead the exercise. Since it will be responsible for supervising the implementation of the National Information, Acquisition and Manpower Policies it is imperative that it does so from a position of strength. Such strength would in this respect be the knowledge about user needs. It is this knowledge that will help to pinpoint areas, levels and amounts at which to provide efficient national library services.

(iv) Promotion of the reading habit

To complete the whole cycle in the transformation to a literary society, the ZNCL must also take special interest in the promotion of the reading habit. This is because once reading has been raised out of virtual illiteracy and that at every level of literacy is being adequately provided for, reading still stands the risk of remaining utilitarian. It is in fact in the knowledge that reading is traditionally considered as utilitarian that a conscious attempt to change the attitude is justified.

In Zambia, citizens are encouraged to actively participate in the governing of their affairs, it is imperative that such citizens must constantly remain knowledgeable. The situation is that the current information services are pitched at the assumption that those they are supposed to serve will already be sufficiently motivated to read. This assumption is unavoidable especially in educational institutions where reading is intended for definite goals and achievements.

The ZNCL should promote the reading habit by publishing and circulating special reviews and previews of books and articles on current popular topics. This could also be supported by the mounting of special book exhibitions on the same topics. Such exhibitions can be organized on a periodic basis and in conjunction with the other libraries in the country, as this is another UNESCO objective for NATIS requiring national action. Special 'National Book Weeks' could be organized by the ZNCL with such other institutions as Publishers and Booksellers. During these 'weeks' quiz contests and essay writing competitions could be organized in schools and supervised by the ZNCL which at the end of it will co-ordinate what books or book tokens would be offered to the winners. Public competitions could also be organized in conjunction with the mass media. This would involve the publishing of such competitions whose sources for answers would be advertised as being in the 'local library'. Such competitions would require a lot of effort in designing them, setting the questions, marking and co-ordination of prizes. This is why the ZNCL which is not only a central national institution, but has the influence manpower, and finance, would be the most appropriate to co-ordinate the promotion of the reading habit.

Reflecting on these four special functions of the ZNCL, it will be noticed that the role of the library in the community will be revolutionized. Instead of being a passive institution staying mainly in the background, it will move to the fore-front and take an active role in shaping the destiny of the nation. That is what 'participatory democracy' is all about!

### 5.5. CONCLUSION

The purpose of this study was to find a solution to the current chaotic state concerning libraries at national level in Zambia. To pitch the study at the proper tone, the ideal had to be established first. This is so that any further discussion on the topic may be reflected on these 'standards' to ascertain what may either be termed successes or failures. In this case the 'ideal' was discovered not to exist in some concrete conceptual form, but rather in the proliferation of different institutions that tell almost the same success story. More precisely, there is still a lot of dispute in formulating a universally acceptable definition of a national library, but that what constitutes such an institution is the carrying out of certain functions selected from a special list. Moreover, it was also discovered that even this list of functions was not finite and that as a result the concept of national libraries remains permanently confused.

This then led to the need to justify or authenticate the concept which appeared to create so much controversy to define. To do this international, regional and national developments towards national library services have been examined. This effort has revealed that there is tremendous work being carried out all over the world by various organizations towards achieving standardized patterns of library development at national and international levels. Leading in this crusade is UNESCO. Under its General Information Programme it is pursuing the two concepts of a World Science Information System (UNISIST) and the need for the integration and planning of national information systems (NATIS). The professional organization IFLA is on the other hand pressing for internationally acceptable standards of

Universal Bibliographical Control and Universal Availability of Publications. Within the African continent, and in particular, within the eastern, central and southern African region, similar developments are also taking place either as regional efforts of UNESCO and IFLA or by other professional and governmental organizations of both local and foreign origin. The message here became clear that in spite of the controversy on definitions there is a world wide revolution in organizing library and information services into national institutions which will in turn form a world information system.

In order to determine Zambia's efforts towards this world-wide consciousness of the development of information services, four institutions purported to be oriented to meet national needs have been examined. Before even comparing these developments to the international consciousness being created, these services appear to be unsatisfactory in themselves. This is firstly because they are inadequate, and secondly because a substantial proportion of what is there is irrelevant to the national needs that the institutions are supposed to meet. The entire library structure does not meet the most important needs of the majority of the Zambian people. An assessment of the demand for information in education, adult literacy, industrial and scientific research programmes, and through the ordinary consumption of newspaper has shown a definite increase in demand. Such demand could also be assumed to be growing even in those areas where it cannot be measured in statistical terms such as, in government and administrative circles, and especially among the policy-makers. But in spite of the evidence of increasing demand these national information services show no conscious sign to strive to meet the demand.

The picture is even worse when implications of the growing international consciousness are interpreted on the Zambian situation. Zambia does not and cannot participate in this crusade because it lacks the basic requirements. The machinery just does not exist to enable these developments to take root. The idea of active participation in such activities still appears remote as the pre-condition for such participation has yet to be met.

This far the problem under investigation has been clearly exposed. There could be several ways of solving this problem as probably more and more attention is paid to its complexities. However, in suggesting solutions in this specific instance the attitude adopted was that of 'looking after the penny and letting the pound take care of itself'. The suggestions made have been tailored to meet the proven requirements of the country, which like any other independent nation is striving to create its own identity while at the same time trying to co-exist with the rest of the world. These suggestions involve the initiating of a chain-reaction of events starting with the ZLA, to legislation for a Board, reorganizing of the current structure by the Board, and ending up with a clearly defined National Library System whose services would be spearheaded and co-ordinated by a Zambian National Central Library. It is ZLA which should activate the reaction by seeking legislation for a Board. From then on, if the structure and functions of the Board receive statutory recognition, the Board would re-organize the library structure up to the establishment of a national central library. After this the Board would formulate policy and the NCL would lead and conduct the implementation. This it will do directly or through delegation or co-ordination with the other institutions comprising the national information system.

By modern synthesis, the National Library System and the National Library are two mutually related entities. The one cannot survive without the other. For Zambia the development of this type of service would be most appropriate as it would: reflect and preserve the national cultural heritage; respond relevantly to national information needs; co-exist and interact with other international and national information systems; and in the final analysis help to achieve the national social, cultural and political aspirations.

This study may not necessarily have come up with all the answers or solutions to the problem. However, it is my hope that it will generate enough interest on the subject and hopefully will initiate action towards doing something about the problem.

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APPENDIX IDRAFT LIBRARIES BILL

A bill to provide for the establishment, development, organization and maintenance of libraries in Zambia, to provide for the establishment of a National Library Advisory Council, a National Library; to provide for the creation of Public Library Authorities; to provide for the financial support of the library service and to provide for the recognition of the Zambia Library Association and matters connected therewith.

Be it enacted by the legislature of the Republic of Zambia in the year nineteen hundred and seventy seven as follows:-

PART IPRELIMINARY

short  
title  
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and  
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cement.

Inter-  
preta-  
tion.

1. a. This Act may be cited as the Zambia Libraries Act 1977.
- b. It extends to the whole of the Republic of Zambia.
- c. It shall come into force on such date as the President of the Republic of Zambia may by order appoint.
2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires:-
  - a. "Book" includes:-
    - (1) Every volume part or division of a volume, and pamphlet in any language.
    - (2) Every sheet of music, map, chart or plan separately printed.
    - (3) Newspapers, periodicals and other such materials.
    - (4) Audio Visual material, such as:- films, tapes, gramophone records, microforms and other related material.
  - b. "Library" is a planned collection of books, manuscripts and other records, selected and organized to meet the reading, study or research needs of a specific clientele.

- c. "Public Library" means a library within the public library system of the Republic of Zambia which permits members of the public to use its materials for reference or borrowing without charging fees or subscriptions, except as otherwise specified.
- d. "School Library" is a planned collection of books and other records selected and organized to meet the reading, study and research needs of the school.
- e. "National Library" means the library which has the responsibility of collecting all books published in and about Zambia and by nationals of Zambia abroad, either through Legal Deposit or purchase.
- f. "Association" means Zambia Library Association.
- g. "Council" means National Library Advisory Council.
- h. "Librarian" is a person possessing full professional qualifications in librarianship which have been obtained from an institution recognized as competent by the Zambia Library Association, and is a member of that Association.
- j. "Minister" means Minister of Education.
- k. "Year" means the financial year, ending on 31st December of the calendar year.
- l. "Local Authority" means any Council established under the Local Government Act of Zambia.

## PART II

### ESTABLISHMENT OF ADEQUATE LIBRARY SERVICE

- 3. a. The Government of the Republic of Zambia through the Minister of Education shall establish, maintain and develop an adequate library service in the country.
- b. For carrying out the purpose of sub-section 3.a. above, there shall be created under the Ministry of Education:-
  - (1) A National Library Advisory Council
  - (2) A Library Inspectorate in the Ministry of Education.
  - (3) A National Library.

c. The Minister shall discharge his responsibility under this section through:-

- (1) The National Library Advisory Council.
- (2) The Library Inspectorate.
- (3) The National Library.
- (4) Zambia Library Service.
- (5) Local Government public libraries.
- (6) The libraries of educational institutions, except the University of Zambia Library.
- (7) Government departmental libraries.

Responsibilities of the Minister of Education

4. a. The responsibility of the Minister shall be:-

- (1) To develop Zambia Library Service throughout those areas of the country served by local authority libraries.
- (2) To develop library services in all its further educational institutions throughout the country, except the University of Zambia.
- (3) To develop a national school library service, both through Zambia Library Service and the local authority libraries by means of money allocated for the financing of such a service as provided adequate under S.S.11.a.
- (4) To develop public libraries.
- (5) To develop, equip and maintain the National Library.

b. (1) The Minister shall have power to specify and publish standards of adequate library service, in consultation with the National Library Advisory Council and the Association.

- c. (1) The Minister shall have compulsory powers to ensure the maintenance of minimum standards of public library service.
- (2) The Minister may by agreement with the local authority, apply the provisions of the Act progressively subject to central superintendence.

National Library Advisory Council

5. a. The National Advisory Council members shall comprise the following:-
- (1) Minister of Education: Chairman.
  - (2) Librarian of the University of Zambia.
  - (3) Director of National Archives.
  - (4) Secretary of the Local Government Service Commission.
  - (5) Librarian of the National Library.
  - (6) Senior Libraries Inspector, Minister of Education, who shall be Secretary.
  - (7) Not more than four other members, two of whom shall have special knowledge of libraries and the other two with no special knowledge of libraries to be appointed by the Minister and who shall serve for a period of not longer than two years unless re-nominated by the Minister.
  - (8) Chairman of Zambia Library Association.
  - (9) Secretary General of the National Council for Scientific Research.
- b. Any casual vacancy in the office of any nominated member of the Council shall be filled by nomination and the member so nominated shall hold office for the remaining period.
- c. The Council shall meet at least three times in a year and seven members shall constitute a quorum.
- d. (1) The Council shall advise the Minister on all matters relating to the establishment, development, maintenance and promotion of library service in Zambia.
- (2) The Council shall advise the Minister on such matters as:-
- (a) Library training.
  - (b) Inter-library co-operation.
  - (c) Library standards.
  - (d) Provision of adequate library funds.
  - (e) Adequate conditions of service for library personnel.
  - (f) Encouragement of local literature and publishing.
- e. The Council shall frame regulations for transacting its business and for matters in respect of which regulations are to be framed by it under this Act and may appoint sub-committees.

Functions.

Library InspectorateFunct-  
ions.

6. The Library Inspectorate in the Ministry of Education shall be separate from any library service and shall be responsible for maintaining the standard of all libraries in sub-sections 3.c. (2) - (7) of this Act.

The National LibraryFunct-  
ions.

7. a. The functions of the National Library shall be:-
- (1) The collection of literature published in and about Zambia and by nationals of Zambia abroad.
  - (2) The preparation of a national bibliography both current and retrospective.
  - (3) The creation and maintenance of a National Union Catalogue of the holdings of the libraries in Zambia.
  - (4) The collection and preservation of all non-book materials relating to Zambia.
  - (5) The organization of inter-library loans on a national and international scale.
  - (6) The standardization of cataloguing practice in the country and the publication of a code relating to the local languages.
  - (7) To serve as a Legal Deposit Library.
  - (8) To develop a comprehensive collection of books on a national scale.
- b. The National Librarian shall be appointed by the Minister and he shall have a rank equivalent to Under-Secretary in the Civil Service.
- c. In addition to the books the National Library acquires through purchase:-
- (1) The publisher of every book published in Zambia shall, within two months of the publication, deliver at his own expense a copy of the book to the Librarian of the National Library, who shall give a written receipt for every copy received by him.

- (2) Every copy delivered under the provisions of this section shall be a copy of the whole book with all maps and illustrations belonging thereto, finished and coloured in the same manner as the best copies of the book are published, and shall be bound, sewn or stitched together, and on the best paper on which the book is printed.
- (3) If any publisher fails to comply with the provisions of this section, he shall be guilty of an offence and liable to a fine not exceeding Forty Kwacha. When any publisher is convicted of such offence, the court may, in addition to imposing a penalty, order the publisher so convicted to comply with the provisions of this section by delivering the copy of the book to the authority to whom delivery ought to have been made.

Penalty

PART III

PUBLIC LIBRARY AUTHORITIES

8. a. The Public Library Authorities shall consist of:-
- (1) Ministry of Education - Zambia Library Service.
  - (2) Ministry of Local Government - City and Municipal Councils.
- b. 1. The library authority shall have the responsibility of providing the following departmental services:-
- (1) Adult reference service
  - (2) Adult lending library service
  - (3) Children's reference library service
  - (4) Children's lending library service
  - (5) School library service to provide books on loan to all schools in the area covered, and to promote the development of the schools' own libraries.
  - (6) Such branch and mobile libraries as are necessary to increase the efficient running of the library service whilst paying regard to patterns of communication with the main central library.

Composition

Responsibilities

2. The library authority shall have the responsibility to employ in addition to the chief librarian, such qualified librarians as are necessary for the efficient running of the service. Such personnel shall have status and salary at the same level as comparable professional officers in the authority's service.
3. The library authority shall have the right to require a deposit on special services provided, e.g. gramophone records and films and also for members who live outside the approved area of service. These deposits must be covered by appropriate and approved regulations.
4.
  - a. The library authority shall provide sufficient books based on the standards set by the Minister to satisfy the educational, cultural and recreational needs of the people of the area served.
  - b. The chief librarian shall be professionally well qualified and shall have the status equal to comparable professional officers in the authority's service.
  - c. Equipment in the Public Library may be provided for audio-visual materials.
  - d.
    - (1) Use of the Public Library shall be free and open to all.
    - (2) Charges may be levied for the late return, loss or damage of the books and their reservation. These charges must be covered by appropriate and approved regulations.

Local Government Library Advisory Committee

9. a. Each City and Municipal Library authority will establish a Library Advisory Committee.

The Chairman of the Local Government Service Commission, shall, with the approval of the Minister, appoint members of the Local Government Library Advisory Committee. The following shall be appointed members:-

- (1) One Councillor from the local authority, and who shall be the Chairman of the Committee.
- (2) The Chief Officer of the Library Service.

- (3) The City or Municipal Librarian, who shall be the Secretary.
- (4) One Principal from an institution of higher education within the authority's area.
- (5) One Headmaster from a secondary school within the authority's area.
- (6) One Head Teacher from a primary school within the authority's area.
- (7) Not more than four other members, two of whom shall have special knowledge of libraries and the two with no special knowledge of libraries to be appointed by the Chairman and who shall serve for a period of not longer than two years unless re-nominated by the Chairman.
- (8) One member of the Library Inspectorate shall be an ex-officio member.

- b. Any casual vacancy in the office of any nominated member of the Committee shall be filled by nomination and the member so nominated shall hold office for the remaining period.
- c. The Committee shall meet at least four times in a year and eight members shall constitute a quorum. Copies of the minutes of each meeting shall be sent to the Secretary of the Council and the Secretary of the Association within one month of adoption of such minutes.

- (1) The Committee shall advise the Local Authority on all matters relating to the establishment, development, maintenance and promotion of library service in the Local Authority's area.
- (2) The Committee shall advise the Local Authority on such matters as:-
  - (a) The implementation of library staff training.
  - (b) The implementation of inter-library co-operation.
  - (c) The implementation of library standards.
  - (d) The provision of adequate library funds.
  - (e) Adequate conditions of service for library personnel.
  - (f) Encouragement of local literature and publishing.
  - (g) Such other matters as may be referred to it by the Council.

Func-  
tions.

- e. The Committee shall frame regulations for transacting its business, and for matters in respect of which regulations are to be framed by it under this Act.

PART IV

INTER-LIBRARY CO-OPERATION

10. a. (1) The National Library shall be responsible for the organization of inter-library loans throughout the Republic of Zambia and is empowered to make those arrangements that will further this objective including the purchase of lesser used material for loan to other libraries.
- (2) The National Library may, if it deems it necessary, levy financial contributions from co-operating libraries for the inter-lending service.
- b. Local Authority libraries shall have the power to co-operate with each other or with Zambia Library Service to provide a joint library service in a given area.
- c. Local Authority libraries shall have the power to co-operate with each other or with Zambia Library Service or other institutions in order to provide the most effective type of joint specialized service.
- d. Local Authority libraries shall have the power to render assistance to other libraries or institutions within their area.
- e. Local Authority libraries shall have the power to render assistance in support of community development projects and rural reconstruction centres. This assistance shall only be rendered under agreed terms.
- f. In rendering assistance in sub-sections 10.d. & e. Local authorities shall continue to remain as the sole public library service for the area.

PART VFINANCE

11. a. All expenses incurred by the Minister in the discharge of his functions under this Act including the expenses in:
- (1) Creation and maintenance of the National Library.
  - (2) Operation of Government departmental libraries.
  - (3) Ministry of Education libraries.
  - (4) Local authority libraries.
  - (5) Allowances for members of the National Library Advisory Council for each Council meeting attended, etc., shall be paid from moneys appropriated by Parliament for the purpose.
- b. (1) Allowance as cited in 11.a(5) shall be determined by the Minister from time to time.
- (2) The Minister shall be empowered to solicit or receive grants or donations from individuals or organizations for the purpose of furthering library development in Zambia.
- (3) Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, individual libraries may receive grants or donations from individuals or organizations for the purpose of improving library services in those libraries falling under their jurisdiction.

PART VIREGULATIONS

12. a. The Council shall determine and publish "Model Regulations" as a guide for the governance of library services on such matters as:-
- (1) Opening hours.
  - (2) Conduct of users.
  - (3) Such other regulations as are necessary for the efficient running of the library service.
- b. The library authorities named in this Act shall have the power to make regulations, using the Model Regulations as a guide, on the governance of the library service.

- c. The Librarian, whilst in the conduct of his duty, shall be indemnified against providing security for library equipment, books or other related materials and for loss of or damage to books unless negligence or dishonesty is proved against him.

Schedule 1

PART VII

ZAMBIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

13. a. Zambia Library Association shall be recognized as the professional representative of librarians, information scientists and archivists in Zambia.
- b. The objectives of the Association are as set out below:-
- (1) To unite all persons engaged in library work or interested in libraries in Zambia.
  - (2) To encourage the establishment and development of libraries and library co-operation in Zambia.
  - (3) To improve the standards in all aspects of librarianship, bibliography and documentation in Zambia.
  - (4) To act as an advisory and public relations body in all matters pertaining to libraries, bibliography and documentation in Zambia.
  - (5) To stimulate an awareness among central and local government bodies and other institutions of their responsibilities in providing adequate library services and facilities.
  - (6) To promote whatever may tend to the improvement of the position and the qualification of librarians.
  - (7) To undertake all such activities (e.g. meetings, conferences, publications, etc.) which will further the above objectives.
- c. The Association shall be empowered to advise both the Council and individual libraries on all matters pertaining to the provision of library service. This advice to be without prejudice to the authority of the Council.