



SVERIGES AMBASSAD

**Embassy of Sweden
Lusaka**

PRESSRELEASE

Zambian Lubuto Project nominated to the prestigious Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award (ALMA) – world's largest prize for children's and youth literature

Swedish Ambassador, Mr Lars Ronnås visits the Lubuto Library Project on Monday 16 March at 14.30

153 candidates from all over the globe are nominated for the prestigious Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award (ALMA) and among them the Zambian Lubuto Project. The award of five million Swedish kronor (Kwacha 3,069,000,000) is the world's largest for children's and youth literature and the second-largest literature prize in the world.

ALMA sends a signal to the world that children and youth literature is worth millions and that children and youth are invaluable. In the same spirit, the Lubuto Library Project engages numerous volunteers who gather street children and youth around the library's more than 4,000 books as well as theatre, story telling and art – all out of the conviction that books have the power to inspire, take children out of their difficult lives and offer them a look into a world of possibilities.

The Lubuto Library project is nominated in the category "Promoters of Reading". The winner or winners of ALMA 2009 will be announced on 24 March.

To honour the nomination of the Lubuto initiative, the Swedish Ambassador to Zambia, Mr Lars Ronnås, will pay a visit to the Lubuto Library Project on Monday 16 March at 14.30. The Embassy of Sweden would like to invite media to participate in the visit.

More information on:

ALMA – www.alma.se

Lubuto Library Project – www.lubutu.org

For details about the visit, please contact:

Karin Fällman (From 13 March)

First Secretary

Swedish Embassy

Phone: 251711

Cell: 0977-771282

Cajsa Werner (Until 12 March)

Third Secretary

Swedish Embassy

Phone. 251711

Cell: 0977-695824