

ZNNMN training men to assist curb GBV

By CHARITY MOONGA

THE Zambia National Men's Network (ZNNMN) has started training male champions to assist curb gender based violence (GBV).

ZNNMN national coordinator Nelson Banda said in an interview that his organisation was undertaking activities to sensitize communities especially the men on matters of GBV.

The GBV sensitizations were being done in Lusaka, Chongwe, Chilanga and Rufunsa districts.

"It is sad that men have for a long time now been seen as perpetrators of GBV and this should now stop. We need more

men to be role models and to participate in activities to end this vice," Mr Banda said.

He said the first sensitization programme took place at Chilanga parish church on Saturday and some police officers and councilors attended the programme.

"As you may know, many men are influential and so we want to take advantage of this position to maximize opportunities for men to join the fight against GBV," Mr Banda said.

He explained that instead of being perpetrators of GBV, men should take up the challenge and fight GBV. Meanwhile, Mr Banda has bemoaned the continued spou-

sal killings in Zambia.

He called on increased communication between couples to assist reduce incidences of GBV.

"It is also very sad to see how more and more women are killing their husbands and this issue needs to come to an end."

"We need to improve our communication as families and if there is a problem, let us sit and discuss because these killings are destroying many homes and the children are suffering," he said.

He explained that a family is the smallest part of society and if there is disunity in families, it would be difficult to promote development.

"We need to come up with strategies to dialogue in families to prevent the spousal killings and promote unity,"

Mr Banda said. He further encouraged couples intending to get married to know each other well to avoid misunderstandings when they get into marriage.

"The levels of GBV in marriages currently are just too high and so opening the communication lines among couples will save so many marriages," he said.

Mr Banda said that the ZNNMN will work with the Church, traditional leaders and government institutions, among others to curb GBV incidences.

UNICEF calls for concerted effort to eradicate polio in Zambia

By CHARITY MOONGA

THE United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has called for concerted efforts to eradicate polio in Zambia.

The organisation said that despite the fact that Zambia was certified polio free in 2005, it was still vital for children to be vaccinated. "Every country and