

\*\*\*UNICEF Young Spokespersons \*\*\*

**Zambia: Kondwani Joe Banda, age 17**

Kondwani comes from Lusaka, the Zambian capital, and says that the effects of climate change are seen in all corners of his country. Extreme heat and flooding contribute to the spread of infectious diseases, he says, including cholera and dysentery. Kondwani says that his work as a UNICEF climate ambassador includes educating Zambian youth about climate change, and getting them to take action against it.

Kondwani attended the Children’s Climate Forum, a seven-day event that ended 4 December 2009 when all of the 164 participants, aged 14 to 17, from 44 countries were named Climate Ambassadors. This designation formalized the commitments embodied in the young people’s outcome document, the Climate Declaration. including to commit to personal life style changes for the “common good”; to educate themselves and their communities to mitigate the changing climate; to engage with all generations and governments to combat climate change.

Their commitment is for one year.

To learn more about the network they have formed, the full Declaration and the extensive reporting that youth journalists carried out during the Forum can be viewed at: [www.uniteforclimate.org](http://www.uniteforclimate.org)