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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ATLANTA HAWKS' DIKEMBE MUTOMBO AMONG WINNERS OF NATION'S HIGHEST HONOR FOR VOLUNTEER SERVICE

President's Service Awards to be presented Tuesday, June 13

WASHINGTON, DC, June 5- The nation's highest honor for volunteer service, the President's Service Awards, will be presented to 20 individuals and organizations during ceremonies at the White House, Tuesday, June 13. Dikembe Mutombo of the Atlanta Hawks is among the winners. Sponsored by the Points of Light Foundation and the Corporation for National Service, the Awards are the most prestigious national recognition given for volunteer community service directed at solving the country's critical social problems. Created in 1982, the President's Service Awards also provide the opportunity to focus public attention on the important efforts made by the nation's volunteers, who now number more than 109 million people of all ages. In addition to the 20 award winners, 31 individuals and organizations have been named citationists or finalists.

(Editors Note: A complete list of winners and citationists, by state, can be found on the Points of Light Foundation Web site, www.pointsoflight.org. Contact names and phone numbers for winners are provided for your use only and are not for publication).

An NBA All-Star, Dikembe Mutombo established the Dikembe Mutombo Foundation to help poor and disadvantaged people in his native country, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (Zaire). In the United States, Mutombo is involved with Strong STARTS, a national NBA program targeting adolescents suffering from untreated emotional disorders that impair academic performance and social achievement. He is a spokesman for the Hawks' Team Up program, which encourages middle school students to be active in community service. Mutombo has donated \$3 million for construction of a 300-bed general hospital in Kinshasa, Congo's capital, and is spearheading the effort to raise another \$12 million needed to complete it. He also is actively involved in the country's efforts to vaccinate 10 million children under the age five. (Contact Susan Johnson, (770) 989-9745).