

# CEO's Message

JAN  
2024



Greetings to You All and Happy New Year

I warmly welcome you all from the festive holidays and hope that you had a restful time, rejuvenated and excited about 2024.

As we embark on a new year, I want to express my deepest gratitude for your unwavering commitment to supporting refugees, the cause of our existence, AIRD as an organization. Your dedication and compassion make a profound impact on the lives of those seeking refuge and provides an opportunity for a better future.

In 2024, let's continue working together to create a welcoming and inclusive environment. Your efforts not only transform individual lives, but also contribute to building stronger, more resilient communities.

Team, as we embark on a new year, let's channel our collective energy into innovation and collaboration. Your dedication fuels our success, and together, we'll achieve remarkable milestones in 2024.

I would like to congratulate all the CP leaders and their teams on the successful renewal of the partnership with UNHCR as we also pursue aggressively funding from diversified donors. This demonstrates the confidence in us to deliver and calls on each of us to do our best to fulfill the trust bestowed on us as a team.

I also express my sincere gratitude to all CPDs and their teams for their hard work and dedication in successfully completing the 2024-2025 Country Strategic Plans. Your strategic insights and tireless

efforts will contribute significantly to AIRD growth and define the lasting impact AIRD will have on people in need. These strategies have set ambitious yet realistic targets, and set the roadmap to successfully continue to support emergency relief efforts but also to widen our interventions by supporting communities with key long-term community development programs.

Very sadly, as you are all aware, we lost our Finance & Administration Director, Michael Mawuko on 18th Dec. 2023. His legacy of leadership and dedication has left an indelible mark on our organization. The Patron, AIRD Board of Directors and myself will be traveling to Ghana soon for his burial and to comfort the family during this painful period.



This month, on 21st January, we also lost another staff, Nzengue Marcellin, who was the electro-mechanic at the CAR Country Program. He was very competent at his job, always available and exceptionally experienced. I send my sincere condolence to his colleagues and family during this difficult time. In this challenging time, I hope you shall all come together to honor his memory as a team.



These deaths weigh heavily on our hearts. Despite the profound sadness that envelops us, it is essential that we find strength in Unity and navigate through these losses. Remember, our collective strength will guide us forward.

I Wish you a year filled with fulfilment, growth, and continued compassion.

Thank you all for being the heart of our Mission.

**Fikru Abebe Abebe**