



Greetings to you all colleagues

I hope you are all well wherever you are well.

It is always my absolute pleasure to communicate with you.

This month, I attended the 75th UNHCR Executive Committee Meeting in Geneva, Switzerland, from 14-18 October 2024, alongside high-level respective country government representatives, UN Agencies, the African Development Bank, the World Bank, and close to 40 NGOs and network organizations globally on an invite basis. This meeting was crucial for AIRD, as it provided a significant platform to engage with key international stakeholders, discuss global pledges to refugees and vulnerable populations, progress to date, and continue commitment into the future. It was also a very good opportunity to reinforce AIRD's commitment to addressing humanitarian challenges and collaborating on strategies that ensure efficient and sustainable support for refugees. The overall trend is despite a global increase in humanitarian crises and challenges, there is reduced funding to match the challenges including UNHCR funding. I will share my full meeting report with you soon.

From the funding angle, I congratulate AIRD Uganda on winning the UNHCR's logistic partnership competition for 2025. This will help the country program strengthen its capacity to deliver, expand its reach, and enhance its impact on issues affecting refugees.

I also want to applaud our HQ Business Development Team and all those who participated in for AIRD being able to proceed to the next phase in the selection process for the 100& Change Proposal worth \$100 Million USD. As we are currently going through reviews, we hope for the best results.

This month, we also managed to successfully register with Global Affairs Canada (GAC), the Development Agency of the Government of Canada. This adds to AIRD's recognition of its credibility and commitment to supporting refugees. This registration opens up new opportunities for funding and collaboration, enhancing AIRD's capacity to deliver humanitarian aid, expand its programs, and build partnerships with Canadian and international stakeholders in the development and humanitarian sectors. It also strengthens AIRD's reputation as a trusted organization capable of managing resources effectively in challenging environments.

I express my heartfelt gratitude for the incredible work AIRD Tanzania Country Program and staff is all doing, which profoundly impacts the lives of refugees as we support their safe repatriation. Your dedication to ensuring seamless operations has been crucial in helping displaced families return to their home countries with dignity. Every task you perform—from vehicle servicing to meticulous fuel management—directly contributes to the well-being of refugees, offering them a chance to rebuild their lives. Thanks to your tireless efforts. AIRD Tanzania continues to be a vital force in restoring hope and shaping a brighter future for thousands. Let's remain committed to this mission, knowing that each of us plays a key role in making a difference. Refer to the links to view the videos and the impact stories.

You are all greatly appreciated for your contribution to improving the lives of refugees.

Cheers

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'Fikru Abebe Abebe'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Fikru Abebe Abebe