



AMECEA

Association of Member Episcopal Conferences in Eastern Africa

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CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE FOR SEVENTY (70) YEARS OF EXISTENCE AND SERVICE TO HUMANITY

On behalf of the Association of Member Episcopal Conferences in Eastern Africa (AMECEA), I send this congratulatory message to the family of Catholic Relief Services for the enormous achievements made in your efforts to carry out the mission that you have received from our Lord Jesus Christ through the Catholic Bishops of the United States.

As I congratulate you, I recall the opening words of the Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern world ***“The joys and the hopes, the grieves and the anxieties of the men and women of this age, especially those who are poor or in any way afflicted, are the joys and hopes, the grieves and anxieties of the followers of Christ. Indeed, nothing genuinely human fails to raise and echo in their hearts” (GS, No. 1).***

While the above document of the Second Vatican Council was given towards the end of the year 1965, it is true that way back in the year 1943, the founders of CRS had envisioned the concerns of the Council Fathers. Thus for seventy years since its inception, CRS has continued to carry out the commitment of the Bishops of the United States of America to assist the poor and vulnerable.

Throughout the AMECEA Region, CRS has been a major partner with individual Bishops in their Dioceses, National Episcopal Conferences and AMECEA as a Regional Bishops' Conference. In concrete, while drawing from their sole motivation, that is, the gospel of Jesus Christ to cherish, preserve and uphold the sacredness and dignity of human life, foster charity and justice, and to embody Catholic social and moral teachings, CRS has helped the Church to truly share in the joys and hopes, the grieves and the anxieties of men and women in this part of the world.

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