



Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference

16 October 2013

Dear Bishop Kicanas and CRS Board Members

On behalf of the Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference, I would like to congratulate CRS on the occasion of its 70th anniversary. These seventy years encompass selfless dedication and generosity of donors, the Catholic Bishops and Church of the United States of America.

Many programmes have helped to empower and serve the people who are often forgotten and overlooked. They help to build the response of the local Church in different countries to various crises and concerns.

Our own region of Botswana, South Africa and Swaziland has benefited much since CRS was established in South Africa in 2000. Programmes in support of justice and peace, good governance and democracy have been implemented through the Department of Justice and Peace, the Catholic Parliamentary Office and the Denis Hurley Peace Institute. Some of these programmes have been extended to other countries in Africa. Much support has been received by the SACBC AIDS Office and several dioceses are addressing the AIDS pandemic through CRS private funding and through CRS PEPFAR grants.

We thank you, the Board Members and the Staff, for the role you have played in our region, and elsewhere, and wish you "ad multos annos!"

+ Stephen Brislin

Archbishop Stephen Brislin
President
Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference

cc: Ms Caroline Woo and Staff
Ms Dorrett Byrd and Staff
Mr Davor Dakovic and Staff

