



# IMBISA

INTER-REGIONAL MEETING OF THE BISHOPS OF SOUTHERN AFRICA  
ASSOCIAÇÃO INTER-REGIONAL DOS BISPOS DA AFRICA AUSTRAL

IMBISA CENTRE  
88 BROADLANDS ROAD  
AVONDALE, HARARE.  
TEL NO: (+263-4)336775/336908

P.O.BOX EH 99 EMERALD HILL  
HARARE, ZIMBABWE  
FAX: (+263-4)336909

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## **Thank you Catholic Relief Services (CRS)**

The Bishops of Southern Africa that form the Inter Regional Meeting of Bishops of Southern Africa salute and acknowledge CRS staff and Board.

It is with hearts overflowing with joy that we have the pleasure of writing this letter to the team, for all that CRS does for the Bishops in Southern Africa through its Secretariat: IMBISA based in Harare. The following projects have been a success through support from CRS:

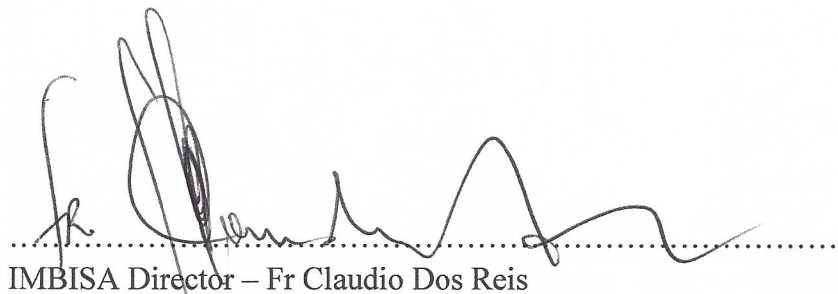
- ❖ *IMBISA Institutional Support and Secretariat strengthening project:* The project witnessed the success full establishment of the Catholic Women Organization in IMBISA (CWOI). The project was implemented between 2015 and May 2017. The project sought to increase the institutional capacity of the women organization and to strengthen its secretariat through production of necessary policy documents and undertaking of capacity building and training of the steering committee to enhance its knowledge and skills so that it is better able to carry out its mandate of championing women issues and challenges as well as coordinating and supporting Conferences and being a voice of women at regional level.
- ❖ *Amplifying the voice of the Catholic Church in democratic electoral processes - Zimbabwe election watch:* With the help from CRS, IMBISA was able to participate in the observation process of the Zimbabwe Harmonised Elections. Thereby enhancing participation of the Church in Zimbabwe in ensuring peaceful and credible 2018 harmonized elections. Through this support IMBISA will have an opportunity to open doors for dialogue with regional institutions such as Southern Africa Development Community (SADC).
- ❖ *11 Special Assembly for Africa of the Synod of Bishops 4-25 October 2009:* CRS and other partners assisted the Bishops in preparing for the Synod, and continued after by supporting them in the execution of its outcomes.
- ❖ *2011 – 2014 Project on Good Governance, Economic Justice and the Family:*

- *Good governance*: Focused on Election observation and capacity building of Election Observers
  - *Economic Justice*: focused on strengthening media presence of IMBISA in Southern Africa
  - *The Family*: This was primarily devoted in the form of activities which were done in preparation for the Plenary Assembly on the “The African Family Today” held in 2013. This initiative gave an opportunity of cross regional cooperation with AMECEA.
- ❖ *Donations*: In 2011 IMBISA received two second hand vehicles from CRS:
- Nissan Almera Sedan Registration
  - Toyota LC Prado Station Wagon

This work is not done only for the IMBISA Secretariat, but is useful to all the communities in southern Africa. And we would like our partnership with CRS to continue with even more support and encouragement.

To CRS we say be strong, do not get discouraged, because your recompense from God will be great. May the Lord bless you abundantly.

Thank you CRS



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IMBISA Director – Fr Claudio Dos Reis