# GOVERNOR'S LETTER

























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#### **EDITORIAL**



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As we launch this new edition of our magazine, we find ourselves at a crossroads a pivotal moment marked by the smooth transition from one leadership term to the next. This handover is far more than a mere administrative change; it symbolizes continuity and renewal, inviting us to reflect collectively on our commitment. It is an opportunity to build on our achievements and sharpen our strategies to meet tomorrow's challenges.

This new term heralds a bold, engaged, and globally minded Rotary, a vision clearly articulated by Governor Abou-Bakar Ouattara during the District Conference and Assembly (DAC) in Ouagadougou in May 2025: "We aspire to a Rotary without borders, one that breaks down prejudices and embodies a fresh vision of service and excellence."

This vision translates into a comprehensive strategic approach aimed at amplifying the visibility of our actions to maximize their impact, fostering constant innovation to address current challenges sustainably, forging strong partnerships with like-minded organizations, and strengthening the spirit of friendship and cohesion that defines our movement. Every initiative, whether improving the lives of the vulnerable or combating global inequalities, actively contributes to building a more just, compassionate, and humane future.

This inaugural issue marks the beginning of a series of regular editions designed to inform, connect, and inspire you. Here, you will meet the future leaders who will drive our mission: the Rotary International President, the District 9101 Governor, and the District Rotaract Representative.

We warmly invite all Rotarians, Rotaractors, and Interactors to stay engaged with District 9101's activities, a dynamic platform for exchange and ideas, offering concrete ways to deepen your involvement and amplify our collective impact.

Together, let us uphold a Rotary of conviction and action: a borderless Rotary, pioneering innovative solutions, grounded in friendship, and relentlessly committed to doing good where every bold, compassionate, and excellence-driven effort counts.

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

# INTRODUCTION OF THE ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

FRANCESCO AREZZO

Francesco AREZZO, a member of the Rotary Club of Ragusa (Italy), was selected by the Board of Directors to serve as Rotary International President for 2025–2026.

The Board convened an extraordinary session following the unexpected resignation of President-Elect Mário César Martins DE CAMARGO on June 8. In accordance with Rotary's policies, the Board selected the new President-Elect from the candidates previously reviewed by the Nominating Committee for the 2023 RI President selection process.

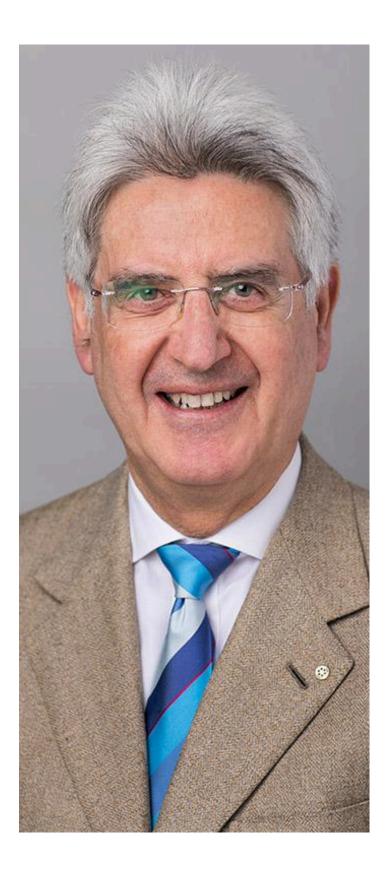
The 2025-2026 presidential theme, announced at the 2025 International Assembly in February, remains **People of Action: Unite for Good**, calling on Rotarians to be a unifying force in an increasingly divided world. Through service, Rotary brings together people of all backgrounds, faiths, and professions to create lasting change in their communities

A practicing orthodontist, Arezzo is active in international professional associations and serves as Vice President of Italy's National Dentists Association for Ragusa Province. He is a Knight of Honor and Devotion in the Sovereign Military Order of Malta and a Rotary Foundation Benefactor, a Paul Harris Fellow, and Major Donor (Level 4).

A Rotarian for over 30 years, Arezzo has served as a Director, Vice Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee, and Training Leader. He and his wife, Anna Maria Criscione, a tourism entrepreneur have two children.

#### Source:

https://www.rotary.org/fr/francesco-arezzo-ofitaly-selected-to-be-2025-26-rotary-internationalpresident



#### FOR ROTARY

# "DARE TO DREAM BIG"

@Yann.A



For the 2025-2026 term, District 9101 will be led by Ivorian Rotarian Abou-Bakar OUATTARA. Born on January 28, 1968, his commitment to Rotary has been profound and unwavering. Beginning his journey in Rotaract, he joined the Rotary Club Abidjan Atlantis in 2006, where he rose through the ranks to become Club President for the 2011-2012 term. His dynamic leadership and ability to mobilize others have been hallmarks of his career, culminating in his selection as District Governor during the 2022 Council of Governors meeting.

Professionally, Abou-Bakar OUATTARA is a respected chartered accountant, serving as CEO of Goodwill Audit & Consulting. His dedication to Rotary's ideals is further demonstrated through his active support of The Rotary Foundation as a Benefactor, Paul Harris Fellow, and Major Donor (Level 4). His exemplary service—both at the club level and through Foundation contributions—reflects his willingness and devotion to fully embrace his role as Governor of District 9101.

N°01 July 2025

# MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR

Dear Rotarians, Rotaractors, and Interactors of District 9101.

As we embark on a new Rotary year, I am filled with enthusiasm and hope for what we will achieve together. The vision of our RI President, "Unite for Good," resonates deeply with the commitment each of you demonstrates daily.

Every project you lead—whether improving health, expanding education, promoting peace, or supporting communities in need—embodies this spirit of unity and service. This year, let us stand together in our diversity, united by shared values, and determined to amplify our impact.

It is vital that the world understands Rotary's true purpose. Misconceptions often overshadow our selfless work, so let us redouble our efforts to share our successes, stories, and the lives we touch. Effective communication is key to growing our impact and inspiring others to join our mission.

Let's share our successes, our impact stories, the lives we touch. Let's use every channel at our disposal to spread the word about what Rotary is really about: an organisation of passionate people, dedicated to serving and making a positive difference in the world.

By making our actions visible and explaining our philosophy and values, we will help to dispel misunderstandings and inspire more people to join us in our mission. Effective communication is a powerful tool for increasing our impact and strengthening our ability to "do good" together.

Thank you for your dedication, creativity, and perseverance. Together, let us build a world of hope, thriving communities, and unwavering solidarity.



I wish you all a rewarding Rotary year, full of success and positive impact. May the spirit of "United for Good" guide our every step, and may our stories inspire the world.

With all my Rotarian fraternity,

#### **Abou-Bakar OUATTARA**

District Governor 9101 Term 2025-2026

## INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT ROTARACT REPRESENTATIVE

## Ange KOUAKOU

@Raima.Timité



Hailing from Côte d'Ivoire, Ange KOUAKOU serves as the District Rotaract Representative (DRR) for District 9101 during the 2025-2026 term.

A dynamic and dedicated professional in media and communications, she brings proven expertise in marketing, public image management, and event coordination to her leadership role.

Her Rotaract journey began in 2015 with the Rotaract Club Abidjan-Lagunes, where she progressively assumed greater responsibilities before being elected by her peers to lead the district.

Her distinguished service includes:

- President, Rotaract Club Abidjan-Lagunes (2021-2022)
- · Chairperson, Organizing Committee for the Bassam District **Assembly** Conference (DAC)
- Advisor to the DRR at the National **Coordination of Rotaract and Interact Clubs of** Côte d'Ivoire

Guided by the vision of "Collective Emulation", DRR Ange KOUAKOU and her district team will cultivate Rotaract as a space for excellence, fellowship, and professional development fostering both personal growth and collective impact.

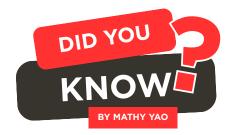
Key objectives for her term include:

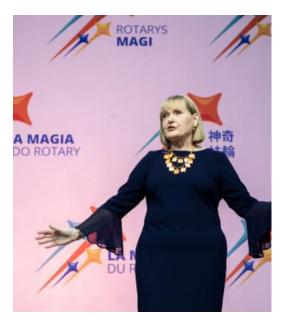
- Enhancing District visibility
- Recruiting 500+ new members
- · Chartering 2+ new Rotaract clubs in emerging areas

The term will feature significant initiatives beginning with an official launch in August, culminating in the District Assembly and Conference (DAC) scheduled for April 2026 in Bouaké.

We extend our warmest wishes to our friend Ange KOUAKOU for a successful and impactful term.

N°01 July 2025 07





# " LOGOS AND PRESIDENTIAL THEMES "

Starting in 2025-2026, Rotary International presidential themes will no longer feature distinct logos. This decision, made by the RI Board in October 2023, aims to standardize Rotary's branding and align messaging with its Action Plan.

The primary reason for this change is to standardize Rotary's communications and brand identity. The new approach will feature a single annual presidential message aligned with Rotary's Action Plan, rather than introducing different themes and logos each year.

It was found that when clubs and districts used these themes and logos to promote external events, it sometimes created confusion about Rotary's core message.

## **July: Maternal and Child Health Month**

July is designated as Maternal and Child Health Month in Rotary. This encompasses Maternal health from pregnancy through postpartum care hild Chealth from infancy through adolescence

To protect these vulnerable populations, multiple programs have been established to provide support, particularly for those in underserved communities.

As part of its commitment to this cause, Rotary has made maternal and child health one of

its key strategic priorities (Area of Focus #4).

Rotary's initiatives in this area include:

- \$172,500 in funding for medical equipment in Brazilian public hospitals
- A program targeting 25% reduction in maternal and neonatal mortality in specific regions
- \$30 million allocated to combat malaria, pneumonia,

and diarrheal diseases in African countries

 Telemedicine training for doctors to improve healthcare access in remote areas

These represent just a few of Rotary's many interventions in this vital field.

For more information, please visit our website: <a href="https://www.rotary.org">www.rotary.org</a>

## **DISTRICT 9101 AWARDS CEREMONY**

(2025-2026 TERM)

The District 9101 Awards Programme was created to encourage and recognise Rotarians and clubs that have made an exceptional contribution to Rotary's objectives. It is part of a dynamic of motivation, recognition and excellence to strengthen the impact of actions within the District. An awards committee has been set up for this purpose.

#### **Objectives:**

- To recognise the commitment and excellence of Rotarians and clubs in the District
- To encourage best practice and collective achievement
- To raise the profile and attractiveness of Rotary

#### Award Categories Include:

- Best Assistant Governor
- Best Club
- Best National Representative of the President of the Learning Committee
- Highest Net Membership Growth
- Best Membership Champion (Rotaract/Rotary Club)
- Best Membership Retention Rate
- Top Contributing Club to The Rotary Foundation (All Funds Combined) (Rotaract/Rotary)
- Top Annual Fund Contributing Club (Rotaract/Rotary)
- Top Polio Fund Contributing Club (Rotaract/Rotary)
- Top Foundation Contributor (Individual Member) (Rotaract/Rotary)
- Best Public Image Club
- Best Community Development Unit (UDC)
- Special Award: Most Dynamic Club Membership
- Special Innovation Award for Club Attractiveness
- Special Arch Klumph Award
- Best District Club Representation at DAC Outside Côte d'Ivoire
- Best Country Representation at DAC Outside Côte d'Ivoire



#### **Award Types:**

Trophies and certificates of recognition will be awarded to the top three performers in each category.

#### **Evaluation Period and Presentation:**

Awards will be based on data collected through March 31, 2026.

Winners will be honored during our upcoming District Assembly and Conference (DAC) from April 21-26, 2026 in Abidjan.

The District 9101 Awards Program for 2025-2026 reflects our commitment to motivation and positive emulation. Its success depends on the active participation of clubs and members. Thank you for helping make this recognition a special moment for our District.

**The Awards Committee** 

## **MAIN EVENTS 2025-2026**

Eventos	Location	Date
Handover	Sofitel Hotel Ivoire	12 july 2025
Leadership Training	Abidjan	22 - 24 july 2025
Seminar on foundation documents	Online	02 August 2025
Symposium with the press	By Country	Sept - Oct - Nov 25
Membership seminar	By Country	20 September 2025
Institute Fusion	Belgium	25 - 28 September 2025
Training Clubs Dynamics/Difficulties	By Clubs/countries	18 october 2025
World Polio Day	District-wide	October 2025
RYLA	Senegal, Guiné, RCI	October - November 2025
World Interact	District-wide	03 - 09 November 2025
West Africa Project Fair	Lomé (Togo)	05 to 12 Nov 2025
Rotaract Africa Summit (RAS 25)	Cotonou (Benin)	20 to 23 November 2025
Foundation Seminar	District-wide	22 november 2025
Council of Governors	Abidjan or surrounding area	December 2025
Public Image Seminar	District-wide	24 January 26
World Rotaract Week	By Country	09 - 15 March 2026
ACD Rotaract 2026	Bouaké	08 - 12 April 2026
ACD Rotary 2026	Abidjan	21 - 26 April 2026
International Convention	Taiwan	13 - 17 June 2026

## **DISTRICT TEAM 2025-2026**

## COMMITEE



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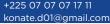
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#### **End Polio Now Coordinator (EPNC)**

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