February 27, 2004

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

I am delighted once again to bring you a new issue of our journal with the hope that it would energize you to continue to think and wrestle with matters concerning Africa's development. The New Year (2004) offers new and exciting development opportunities for Africa but in order to achieve the goals of the development plans, policies and strategies must be carefully and thoughtfully put into place.

The articles in this issue offer many ideas about the development agendas and problems that the communities/countries in Africa continue to face in their endeavors to sustain different aspects of their societies. The theoretical and practical/applied aspects of the articles are noteworthy for they offer a student or researcher or government official or non-governmental organization worker pertinent information on how to improve the exiting conditions in Africa and to add to the debate either by asking the right questions or providing alternative solutions to the nagging problems confronting development in Africa.

Thank you for your unwavering support and we look forward to your comments and contributions.

Valentine James Editor-in Chief