



May 4, 2022

The Honorable Charles Schumer

Majority Leader

U.S. Senate

Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Schumer,

On behalf of the Global AIDS Policy Partnership (GAPP), we appreciate that the Senate Foreign Relations Committee has cleared Dr. John N. Nkengasong's nomination to be Ambassador-at-Large and Coordinator of United States Government Activities to Combat HIV/AIDS Globally and urge you to schedule a floor vote for Dr. Nkengasong as swiftly as possible.

As hard-fought gains in the fight against HIV continue to be threatened by a concurrent global pandemic and a retreating global donor base, high-level political leadership is critical and a rapid confirmation of the Global AIDS Coordinator is imperative to ensure Dr. Nkengasong is able to guide the implementation of the program. PEPFAR has also been instrumental in the response to COVID-19 in Africa and Dr. Nkengasong's leadership, given his background at the Africa CDC, is needed as PEPFAR's platform continues to be leveraged to mitigate the effects of the pandemic in PEPFAR priority countries. Additionally, it is crucial that the Global AIDS Coordinator, who serves as the U.S. representative to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria, is in place to negotiate the Administration's priorities and ensure a successful Seventh Replenishment, hosted by the United States in September. Demonstrating that ending HIV as a global health threat is a priority for the U.S. is a determining factor in our ability to urge other donor countries to increase resources to end HIV by 2030 and meet globally agreed commitments.

Dr. Nkengasong is an eminently qualified candidate for the role of Global AIDS Coordinator. His wealth of experience in infectious disease mitigation and control in Africa gives him unrivaled insight into the challenges that PEPFAR faces in reaching those not receiving HIV services. His work at the onset of the HIV pandemic demonstrates his deep understanding of how to prevent and treat HIV, and his recent work to halt the spread of COVID-19 across Africa lends invaluable knowledge to guide the course of PEPFAR in the coming years as Africa contends with these concurrent pandemics.

We respectfully request that you prioritize these nomination proceedings to ensure that the lifesaving work of the PEPFAR program continues without interruption.

The members of the GAPP welcome the opportunity to work with you and your staff on these crucial and timely issues. Should any questions arise, if you need additional information, or if you would like to meet with members of the GAPP to discuss these issues, please contact Co-Chairs Katie Lapedes Coester, ([kcoester@pedaids.org](mailto:kcoester@pedaids.org)) or Alex Vance ([avance@iapac.org](mailto:avance@iapac.org)). We appreciate your leadership and look forward to your assistance in the fight against the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

Sincerely,

AIDS Healthcare Foundation  
American Jewish World Service  
amFAR, The Foundation for AIDS Research  
AVAC  
Children's AIDS Fund International  
Christian Connections for International Health  
Council for Global Equality  
Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation  
Fast-Track Cities Institute  
Fòs Feminista  
Friends of the Global Fight Against AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria  
Global Health Council  
Global Network of Black People working in HIV  
Health GAP  
HIV+Hepatitis Policy Institute  
Human Rights Campaign  
IAVI  
International Association of Providers of AIDS Care  
International Partnership for Microbicides  
John Snow, Inc. (JSI)  
MPact: Global Action for Gay Health & Rights  
NASTAD  
Prevention Access Campaign  
RESULTS  
Treatment Action Group