

Ambassador Linda Thomas-Greenfield
United States Mission to the United Nations
799 United Nations Plaza
New York, NY 10017

Dear Ambassador Thomas-Greenfield:

As co-chairs of the Global AIDS Policy Partnership (GAPP), we write to offer our warm congratulations on your selection and confirmation as the United States Ambassador to the United Nations. The GAPP is a coalition of over 70 advocacy, research and implementing organizations committed to ending AIDS for the next generation by expanding and improving global HIV/AIDS and TB programming.

We applaud President-elect Joe Biden's World AIDS Day statement committing to expand support for bipartisan programs like the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria (GFATM). Strong, public support is essential to leveraging U.S. investments and ensuring continuation of global support in ending the HIV/AIDS pandemic by 2030.

As negotiations continue in advance of the UN High-Level Meeting on HIV/AIDS, we encourage the Administration to build on this vocal support by committing to high-level representation at the meeting. The President's or Vice President's presence at the meeting sends a clear message that the U.S. is serious about ending the HIV/AIDS pandemic and shores up global commitments to robust investments. As 2021 marks the 40th anniversary of the first reported cases of AIDS, the UN High-Level Meeting presents a perfect opportunity to recommit the United States as the leader of the global fight against HIV/AIDS with this strong, high-level representation.

Should questions arise about the memo or this letter, or if you need additional information, or if you or your staff would like to speak with members of the GAPP to discuss these issues, please contact Katie Lapidés Coester (kcoester@pedaids.org), Helen Cornman (helencornman@gmail.com), or Kevin Fisher (kevin@avac.org).

Sincerely,

Helen Cornman
Katie Lapidés-Coester
Kevin Fisher
GAPP Co-Chairs