



Senator Bob Menendez
Chairman
U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations
423 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Senator James E. Risch
Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations
423 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

February 2, 2022

Dear Senator Menendez and Senator Risch:

On behalf of the membership and Board of Directors of the Association of Nurses in AIDS Care, we are writing to urge the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to move forward and approve the nomination of John Nkengasong, Ph.D., as Ambassador-at-Large and Coordinator of United States Government Activities to Combat HIV/AIDS Globally at the Department of State. In that role, Dr. Nkengasong will lead the President's Emergency Fund for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), the largest commitment by any nation to address a single disease in history. We are very grateful for the U.S. Government's on-going support of this very effective and life-saving program.

This is a critical appointment and we must have a visionary and collaborative global public health leader as found in Dr. Nkengasong in this role, one with broad experience addressing existing and emerging disease threats including HIV, Ebola, and COVID-19. The global HIV community of clinicians, other members of civil society and other key stakeholders have come together in support of Dr. Nkengasong's nomination when it was announced in September and are concerned that more than five months later it is still not finalized. There is critical work to be done to continue the success of PEPFAR and global health.

The Association of Nurses in AIDS Care (ANAC) is the leading nursing organization responding to HIV/AIDS globally. Founded in 1987, ANAC has members throughout the United States and in more than 60 countries around the world.

We fully support the nomination of John Nkengasong, Ph.D., as Ambassador-at-Large and Coordinator of United States Government Activities to Combat HIV/AIDS Globally at the Department of State and ask the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to move this nomination forward and approve his post.

Respectfully,

Carole Treston RN, MPH, ACRN.FAAN
Executive Director

Melanie Steilen, RN, ACRN, BSN
President