

Support the Global Response to HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria in FY14

*****Deadline April 10*****

Dear Colleague:

I urge you to sign on to the letter below requesting \$4.58 billion to support the **President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR)** and \$1.65 billion (FY13 level funding) to support the **Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria** in the FY 2014 State and Foreign Operations appropriations bill.

The U.S.'s bipartisan commitment to PEPFAR and the Global Fund not only saves lives, but also contributes directly to stability, security and economic growth worldwide. Our strong support for PEPFAR and the Global Fund, coupled with scientific advances and lessons learned from a decade of implementation, has the potential to turn the tide on HIV/AIDS and help us meet our target of achieving an AIDS-free generation.

These contributions are just a fraction of 1% of the federal budget, yet enable PEPFAR and the Global Fund to continue its critical, life-saving work and influence the organization's ability to leverage additional resources from other donors. Strong support for both PEPFAR and the Global Fund will enhance U.S. leadership in the world and increase our ability to meet seminal global health goals that are within reach.

A copy of the letter is below. If you need further information or would like to sign on, please contact Jirair Ratevosian in Rep. Lee's office at 5-2661 or Jirair.Ratevosian@mail.house.gov.

Sincerely,

Barbara Lee

Member of Congress

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member Lowey:

We thank you for your continued commitment to global health, to investments in the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and to fighting HIV/AIDS altogether. Our strong support for PEPFAR and the Global Fund, coupled with scientific advances and lessons learned from a decade of implementation, has the potential to turn the tide on HIV/AIDS and help us meet our target of achieving an AIDS-free generation. As you begin to consider the Fiscal Year (FY) 2014 appropriations bill, we encourage you to *explicitly allocate* \$1.65 billion for the Global Fund and \$4.58 billion for PEPFAR so that we can fully capitalize on our prior investments and on these recent scientific advances.

The U.S.'s bipartisan commitment to PEPFAR and the Global Fund not only saves lives, but also contributes directly to stability, security and economic growth worldwide. As of September 30, 2012, PEPFAR had directly supported life-saving antiretroviral treatment for nearly 5.1 million men, women and children worldwide. In FY 2012 alone, among other results, it supported HIV testing and counseling for more than 11 million pregnant women and supported antiretroviral drug prophylaxis to prevent mother-to-child transmission in nearly 750,000 of these women who tested positive for HIV, allowing approximately 230,000 infants to be born HIV-free. Similarly, since its creation in 2002, Global Fund-supported countries and programs have achieved remarkable results: 4.2 million people have been treated for HIV/AIDS; 9.7 million people have received treatment for tuberculosis; 310 million insecticide-treated nets have been distributed; 1.7 million HIV-positive pregnant women have been treated to prevent HIV transmission to their babies; and 100,000 lives have been saved and improved every month.

Globally, our support through PEPFAR and the Global Fund is dramatically reducing the burden of HIV/AIDS in developing countries. Just three weeks ago, the Institute of Medicine released an assessment of PEPFAR that called the program "transformational" in global health. PEPFAR has a long record of bipartisan support in Congress and continues to boost America's image abroad.

Over a year ago, the Global Fund launched a series of U.S. driven reforms—now viewed by many as the fastest, most comprehensive transformation of any multilateral organization ever undertaken—that made it a more efficient global health financing institution. As a result, the Global Fund is better positioned than ever to help accelerate progress on HIV/AIDS, as well as contain tuberculosis and malaria. Through its new funding and partnership models, the Global Fund can use proven interventions and current epidemiological data to achieve greater impact, allowing the organization to shift from the emergency response it provided over a decade ago to one of long-term sustainability. Moreover, the Global Fund's close coordination and interdependent relationship with two of its primary partners -- PEPFAR and the President's Malaria Initiative (PMI) -- further maximizes results in the field and underscores the need for robust funding for both bilateral and multilateral programs.

As the Global Fund enters its Fourth Replenishment effort this fall, all other donors will be carefully monitoring the position of the U.S. For every \$1 invested by the U.S., the Global Fund leverages at least \$2 from other donors, making it an incredible return on investment of

American taxpayer dollars. And while the U.S. has historically been the largest donor, the pooling of resources from the global community ensures the burden of the response to the three diseases does not rest solely on American taxpayers. If the U.S. pulls back at this especially critical moment, not only do we risk rolling back the successes achieved to date, but it will send a signal to other countries that it is acceptable for them to retreat from funding as well.

Strong support for both PEPFAR and the Global Fund will enhance U.S. leadership in the world and increase our ability to meet seminal global health goals that are within reach, including achieving an AIDS-free generation and making historic progress in combating tuberculosis and malaria.

Thank you for your consideration of our request and, once again, for your ongoing leadership in fighting HIV/AIDS and on global health issues.