



All-Party Parliamentary Group on HIV/AIDS
House of Lords
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The Rt Boris Johnson MP Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
Westminster
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Dear Prime Minister,

As the Government prepares for this year's 47th G7 Summit, it will be essential to ensure that G7 leaders give serious consideration to the steps needed to accelerate the end of the COVID-19 pandemic and the reopening of economies across the globe.

We are writing to urge that Winnie Byanyima, Executive Director of UNAIDS and Under-Secretary General, be included in the G7 process, given the leading role which UNAIDS is playing to support countries in responding to the pandemic.

UNAIDS's 25 years of experience have made it a vital and unique leader in how countries can overcome pandemics. It has pioneered the multi-sectoral approach reinforcing the medical dimension with the social dimension, harnessing the contribution of communities and businesses as partners. The leadership, infrastructure and lessons of the HIV response are now being leveraged to fight COVID-19, helping countries maintain continuity of services in the face of extraordinary challenges.

The fight against AIDS is not yet won, and has been further knocked off course by the COVID-19 crisis, but it is a winnable one, and many of the bold shifts the world needs to make to beat AIDS - from education for all, to universal health coverage, to tackling discrimination, to empowering women - will also key in overcoming the COVID-19 crisis and in preparedness for future pandemics.

Winnie Byanyima is an experienced and adept G7 partner who served on the 2018 G7 Gender Equality Advisory Council and addressed the G7 leaders in-person at Charlevoix.

She convenes the Education Plus Initiative bringing together five UN agencies and a broad alliance working with African governments and partners in support of adolescent girls' education and empowerment, a core UK priority.

Prior to her role leading UNAIDS, she served as the Executive Director of Oxfam International, and has also served as a diplomat and parliamentarian.

Pandemics can only be pushed back through broad and deep collaboration. UNAIDS, and Winnie Byanyima, have an exceptional record, and will bring an enormously valuable contribution to the success of the G7.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. The Members of the APPGs on HIV/AIDS look forward to working with you and your Cabinet to ensure a successful G7 presidency that strengthens health and well-being for all.

Yours sincerely,

Baroness Barker – Vice Chair - All Party Parliamentary Group HIV/AIDS

Baron Black of Brentwood – Vice Chair - All Party Parliamentary Group HIV/AIDS