

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS,  
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SUBCOMMITTEE ON STATE, FOREIGN  
OPERATIONS, AND RELATED PROGRAMS,  
RANKING MEMBER



**Nita M. Lowey**  
**Congress of the United States**  
**17th District, New York**

[lowey.house.gov](http://lowey.house.gov)

**WASHINGTON**

2365 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
(202) 225-6506  
FAX: (202) 225-0546

**WESTCHESTER**

222 MAMARONECK AVENUE  
SUITE 312  
WHITE PLAINS, NY 10605  
(914) 428-1707  
FAX: (914) 328-1505

**ROCKLAND**

67 NORTH MAIN STREET  
SUITE 101  
NEW CITY, NY 10956  
(845) 639-3485  
FAX: (845) 634-4079

December 19, 2017

Mr. Renold Julien  
Executive Director/President  
Konbit Neg Lakay/Rockland County Haiti Relief  
16 E. Church St.  
Spring Valley, NY 10977

Mr. Kurt Kannemeyer  
Executive Director  
HACSO  
24 West St.  
Spring Valley, NY 10977

Dear Mr. Julien and Mr. Kannemeyer,

Thank you for taking the time to share your views regarding the reallocation of United States' United Nations (UN) peacekeeping credits to the United Nations' cholera response in Haiti. I appreciate the opportunity to hear from community leaders and to respond to your letter.

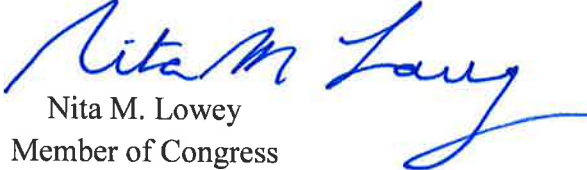
The Haitian cholera epidemic has devastated the country, resulting in close to 10,000 deaths and more than 800,000 individuals sickened by the disease. While the situation has improved, the outbreak is far from over and will require comprehensive, strategic efforts to finally be stopped. As you are aware, the UN announced in 2016 a new, \$400-million approach to combat cholera in Haiti, including the creation of a trust fund to generate and manage the initiative's resources. While a handful of countries have contributed to the fund, many countries, including the United States, have not, potentially jeopardizing the progress already achieved.

As you discussed in your letter, the Senate Appropriations Committee included authorization for the reallocation of \$11.75 million in U.S. peacekeeping credits to the UN's cholera trust fund in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 State and Foreign Operations Appropriations bill. Because it is imperative that we support Haiti during its recovery, I support the inclusion of this language in the final FY2018 State and Foreign Operations Appropriations bill and will urge my colleagues in the House and Senate to do the same.

Additionally, I am gravely concerned by the Administration's decision to rescind Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Haiti. This is why I am a proud cosponsor of two bills to address this issue: H.R. 4384, ASPIRE-TPS Act, and H.R. 4253, the American Promise Act. Earlier this month, I also joined a letter to Speaker Ryan and Leader Pelosi to urge them to bring to the floor legislation to protect TPS holders before they are required to leave the country.

Thank you again for sharing your views with me. Please rest assured that I will continue to support Haiti and its recovery.

Sincerely,

  
Nita M. Lowey  
Member of Congress