



21 August 2017

Hon Mr. Cyril Ramaphosa MP

Leader of Government Business & Deputy President of the Republic of South Africa

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Dear Mr. Ramaphosa

THE DECISION TO APPOINT CRISELDA KANANDA-DUDUMASHE TO THE SANAC BOARD

On 20 August it was reported that Criselda Kananda-Dudumashe is due to be appointed to the Board of the South African National AIDS Council (hereinafter referred to as SANAC). This article, attached hereto as Annexure “A” also states that you have been provided with Ms Kananda-Dudumashe’s name and that you are to make said appointment during this week. Seeing as there is no public process for the nomination of SANAC Board members I herewith make submissions pertaining to Ms Kananda-Dudumashe, prior to her appointment.

As can be derived from Annexure “A” she praised the conduct of former Deputy Minister Mduduzi Manana and the work that he has done. She furthermore was a supporter of former Minister’s Manto Tshabalala-Msimang’s “quack remedies”. The article further states that “*Dudumashe claimed to be a disciple of Tine van der Maas, the Dutch nurse who said that her concoction of lemons, olive oil, beetroot, garlic and vitamins could stop AIDS*”. It is also stated that “*Dudumashe spoke at her (Nozipho Bhengu) funeral, condemning both ARVs and TAC*”.

In a news article released on 26 June 2014, attached hereto as Annexure “B” it is further stated that “*Kananda, who has tested HIV positive herself told the Citizen newspaper she will never take antiretrovirals because they are deadly and easy way out. Like Maggiore she (Kananda-Dudumashe) insists that HIV does not cause AIDS, and that Aids is instead the result of a compromised immune system, of living an unhealthy lifestyle and being attacked by infectious diseases*”. This position is reiterated in an article dated 1 April 2012 attached hereto as Annexure “C”. The fact that she is so

blatantly opposed to ARVs and does not believe that HIV causes AIDS is cause for grave concern. Appointing her to the SANAC Board could have dire consequences on all matters pertaining to HIV/AIDS in our country.

Finally, on 20 August 2017 it was reported that during a presentation given by Ms Kananda-Dudumashe at the HE AIDS Gender Based Violence dialogue at the University of Venda in Thohoyandou, Limpopo on the 18th of August 2017 she made various controversial statements, as can be seen in Annexure “D”. She allegedly stated the following: *“...she said that all men should stand up... then some remained sitting... Then she went on to say: Even if you are a ‘she’ man... as long as you’ve got a dick between your legs you are a man... so stand up...”* She further stated *“all men should take off their hats for the national anthem... If you’re confused about being a man, look between your legs”*. These statements show absolute intolerance, insensitivity and ignorance when it comes to the LGBTI community.

The various controversial statements by Ms Kananda-Dudumashe clearly suggests that she is not fit to hold any position on the SANAC Board. We have already seen how detrimental AIDS denialism is and it is clear that we have no place for this in South Africa. Therefore, based on the abovementioned, I hereby humbly request your intervention in said matter by ensuring that Ms Kananda-Dudumashe is not appointed to the SANAC Board.

Your prompt response in this regard will be most appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Patricia Kopane MP
DA Shadow Minister of Health