



U.S. House of Representatives

# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

MEMBER/OFFICER POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM  Original  Amendment

This form is for disclosing the receipt of travel expenses from a private source for travel taken in connection with a Member or officer's official duties. This form does not eliminate the need to report privately-funded travel on the Member or officer's annual *Financial Disclosure Statement*. In accordance with House Rule 25, clause 5, **you must complete this form and file it with the Clerk of the House, by email at [gifttravelreports@mail.house.gov](mailto:gifttravelreports@mail.house.gov), within 15 days after travel is completed.** Please **do not** file this form with the Committee on Ethics.

**NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.**

1. Name of Traveler: Rep. Victoria Spartz
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: \_\_\_\_\_ OR None   
 b. Relationship to Traveler:  Spouse  Child  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
3. a. Dates: Departure: October 11, 2021 Return: October 15, 2021  
 b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: \_\_\_\_\_ OR None
4. Departure City: Chicago, IL Destination: Doha, Qatar Return City: Chicago, IL
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: United States-Qatar Business Council
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended (attach additional pages if necessary):  
Attachment (1) Final Agenda and Description

7. Attached to this form are **each** of the following, *signify that each item is attached by checking the corresponding box*:
  - a.  a completed *Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form*;
  - b.  the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* completed by the trip sponsor **prior** to the trip, **including all** attachments **and** the *Additional Sponsor Form(s)*;
  - c.  page 2 of the completed *Traveler Form* submitted by the Member or officer; **and**
  - d.  the letter from the Committee on Ethics approving my participation on this trip.
8. a.  I represent that I participated in each of the activities reflected in the attached sponsor's agenda.  
*Signify statement is true by checking the box.*  
 b. If not, explain:

**I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.** I have determined that all of the expenses on the attached *Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form* were necessary and that the travel was in connection with my duties as a Member or officer of the U.S. House of Representatives and would not create the appearance that I am using public office for private gain.

Member / Officer Signature: Victoria Spartz  
Date: 10.28.21



U.S. House of Representatives

# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

## SPONSOR POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM

Original  Amendment

This form must be completed by an officer of any organization that served as the primary trip sponsor in providing travel expenses or reimbursement for travel expenses to House Members, officers, or employees under House Rule 25, clause 5. **A completed copy of the form must be provided to each House Member, officer, or employee who participated on the trip within ten days of their return.** You must answer all questions, and check all boxes, on this form for your submission to comply with House rules and the Committee's travel regulations. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in the denial of future requests to sponsor trips and/or subject the current traveler to disciplinary action or a requirement to repay the trip expenses.


**NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.**

- Sponsor(s) who paid for the trip: United States-Qatar Business Council
- Travel Destination(s): Doha Qatar
- Date of Departure: October 11, 2021 Date of Return: October 15, 2021
- Name(s) of Traveler(s): Rep. Victoria Spartz  
*Note: You may list more than one traveler on a form only if all information is identical for each person listed.*
- Actual amount of expenses paid on behalf of, or reimbursed to, each individual named in Question 4:

	Total Transportation Expenses	Total Lodging Expenses	Total Meal Expenses	Total Other Expenses (dollar amount per item and description)
Traveler	\$12836	\$741	\$310 (approximate)	\$30 for return to the US COVID test
Accompanying Family Member				

- All expenses connected to the trip were for actual costs incurred and not a *per diem* or lump sum payment. Signify statement is true by checking box.

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature:  Date: 10/23/2021

Name: Mohammed Barakat Title: Managing Director

Organization: United States-Qatar Business Council

I am an officer of the above-named organization. Signify statement is true by checking box.

Address: 1220 L Street NW, Suite 350, Washington, DC 20005

Email: mohammedbarakat@usqbc.org Telephone: (202) 900-8900

*Committee staff may contact the above-named individual if additional information is required.*

If you have questions regarding your completion of this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103.



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# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

## TRAVELER FORM

This form should be completed by House Members, officers, or employees seeking Committee approval of privately-sponsored travel or reimbursement for travel under House Rule 25, clause 5. The completed form should be submitted directly to the Committee by each invited House Member, officer, or employee, together with the completed and signed trip sponsor form(s) and any attachments. A copy of this form, minus this initial page, will be made available for public inspection. **This form and any attachments may be delivered to the Committee at 1015 Longworth or e-mailed to [travel.requests@mail.house.gov](mailto:travel.requests@mail.house.gov).**

**Your completed request must be submitted to the Committee no less than 30 days before your proposed departure date.** Absent exceptional circumstances, permission will not be granted for requests received less than 30 days before the trip commences. **You must receive explicit approval from the Committee before you depart on this trip.**

Name of Traveler: Victoria Spartz

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

I certify that the information contained on both pages of this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: *H. Renee Hudson*

Name of Signatory (if other than traveler): Renee Hudson, Chief of Staff

For Staff (name of employing Member or Committee): \_\_\_\_\_

Office Address: 1523 Longworth HOB

Telephone Number: 202-225-2276

Email Address of Contact Person: marial.bailey@mail.house.gov or renee.hudson@mail.house.gov

Check this box if the sponsoring entity is a media outlet, the purpose of the trip is to make a media appearance sponsored by that entity, and these forms are being submitted to the Committee less than 30 days before the trip departure date.

NOTE: You must complete all of the contact information fields above, as Committee staff may need to contact you if additional information is required.

**KEEP A COPY OF THIS FORM.** Page 2 (but not this page) must be submitted to the Clerk as part of the post-travel disclosure required by House Rule 25. Travel Regulation § 404(d) also requires you to keep a copy of all request forms and supporting paperwork for three subsequent Congresses from the date of travel.

If there are any questions regarding this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103 or via e-mail: [travel.requests@mail.house.gov](mailto:travel.requests@mail.house.gov).



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# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

## TRAVELER FORM

1. Name of Traveler: Victoria Spartz

2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying or providing in-kind support for the trip:  
United States-Qatar Business Council

3. City and State **OR** Foreign Country of Travel : Doha, Qatar

4. a. Date of Departure: 10/11/2021 Date of Return: 10/14/2021

b. Yes  No  Will you be extending the trip at your personal expense?

If yes, list dates at personal expense: \_\_\_\_\_

5. a. Yes  No  Will you be accompanied by a family member at the sponsor's expense? **If yes:**

(1) Name of Accompanying Family Member: \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Relationship to Traveler:  Spouse  Child  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

(3) Yes  No  Accompanying Family Member is at least 18 years of age:

6. a. Yes  No  Did the trip sponsor answer "Yes" to Question 8(c) on the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* (i.e., travel is sponsored by an entity that employs a registered federal lobbyist or a foreign agent)?

b. **If yes**, and you are requesting lodging for two nights, explain why the second night is warranted:

7. Yes  No  *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* is attached, including agenda, invitee list, and any other attachments and Additional Sponsor Forms.

*NOTE: The agenda should show the traveler's individual schedule, including departure and arrival times and identify the specific events in which the traveler will be participating.*

8. Explain why participation in the trip is connected to the traveler's individual official or representational duties.

**Staff should include their job title and how the activities on the itinerary relate to their duties.**

Qatar invests in American businesses by importing American products. This trip is an opportunity to explore potential expansion of businesses ties between the two nations. Participating in meetings with high-ranking government and business leaders will give the Congressional delegation the opportunity to learn how to expand existing investment, economics, trade, and commercial ties.

9. Yes  No  **Is the traveler aware of any registered federal lobbyists or foreign agents involved planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip?**

10. For staff travelers, to be completed by your employing Member:

### ADVANCED AUTHORIZATION OF EMPLOYEE TRAVEL

I hereby authorize the individual named above, an employee of the U.S. House of Representatives who works under my direct supervision, to accept expenses for the trip described in this request. I have determined that the above-described travel is in connection with my employee's official duties and that acceptance of these expenses will not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

Signature of Employing Member \_\_\_\_\_ Date 10/10/2021



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# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

## PRIMARY TRIP SPONSOR FORM

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers, or employees under House Rule 25, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer, or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee together with a *Traveler Form* **at least 30 days before the start date of the trip**. The trip sponsor should *NOT* submit the form directly to the Committee. The Committee website ([ethics.house.gov](http://ethics.house.gov)) provides detailed instructions for filling out the form.

**NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001. Failure to comply with the Committee's Travel Regulations may also lead to the denial of permission to sponsor future trips.**

1. Sponsor who will be paying for the trip:  
United States-Qatar Business Council (USQBC), a 501(c)(6) trade association, headquarters in Washington, DC
2.  I represent that the trip will not be financed, in whole or in part, by a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent.  
*Signify that the statement is true by checking box.*
3. **Check only one.** I represent that:
  - a.  The primary trip sponsor has not accepted from any other source, funds intended directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip: **OR**
  - b.  The trip is arranged without regard to congressional participation and the primary trip sponsor has accepted funds only from entities that will receive a tangible benefit in exchange for those funds: **OR**
  - c.  The primary trip sponsor has accepted funds from other source(s) intended directly or indirectly to finance all or part of this trip and has enclosed disclosure forms from each of those entities.  
If "c" is checked, list the names of the additional sponsors:
4. Provide names and titles of **ALL** House Members *and* employees you are inviting. **For each House invitee, provide an explanation of why the individual was invited** (include additional pages if necessary):  
**Attachment (1)**
5. Yes  No  Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?
6. Date of departure: 10/10/21 Date of return: 10/16/21
7. a. City of departure: Members' districts  
b. Destination(s): Doha, Qatar  
c. City of return: Members' districts
8. **Check only one.** I represent that:
  - a.  The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965: **OR**
  - b.  The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent: **OR**
  - c.  The sponsor employs or retains a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent, but the trip is for attendance at a one-day event *and* lobbyist / foreign agent involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the Committee's travel regulations.
9. **Check only one of the following:**
  - a.  I checked 8(a) or (b) above; **OR**
  - b.  I checked 8(c) above but am not offering any lodging; **OR**
  - c.  I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for one night; **OR**
  - d.  I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for two nights. If you checked this box, explain why the second night of lodging is warranted:



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# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

10.  Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities House invitees will be participating in during the travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities for trip invitees). *Indicate agenda is attached by checking box.*
11. **Check only one of the following:**
- a.  I represent that a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip. *Signify that the statement is true by checking box; OR*
- b.  *Not Applicable.* Trip sponsor is a U.S. institution of higher education.
12. For *each* sponsor required to submit a sponsor form, describe the sponsor's interest in the subject matter of the trip *and* its role in organizing and/or conducting the trip:
- Attachment (3)
13. **Answer parts a and b. Answer part c if necessary:**
- a. Mode of travel: Air  Rail  Bus  Car  Other  (specify: \_\_\_\_\_)
- b. Class of travel: Coach  Business  First  Charter  Other  (specify: \_\_\_\_\_)
- c. If travel will be first class, or by chartered or private aircraft, explain why such travel is warranted:
14.  I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). *Signify that the statement is true by checking the box.*
15. **Check only one.** I represent that either:
- a.  The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees; **OR**
- b.  The trip involves events that are arranged specifically *with regard* to congressional participation.
- If "b" is checked:
- 1) Detail the cost *per day* of meals (approximate cost may be provided):  
Breakfast: ~\$25; Lunch: ~\$40; Dinner: ~\$60 - per person per day (Approximate)
- 2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip:  
The sponsoring entity works to advance the US business and commercial relationship with the country that is the destination of the trip
16. Name, nightly cost, and reasons for selecting each hotel or other lodging facility:
- Hotel Name: Four Seasons Hotel Doha City: Doha, Qatar Cost Per Night: ~\$250  
Reason(s) for Selecting: Close proximity to meeting locations and easy access
- Hotel Name: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Cost Per Night: \_\_\_\_\_  
Reason(s) for Selecting: \_\_\_\_\_
- Hotel Name: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Cost Per Night: \_\_\_\_\_  
Reason(s) for Selecting: \_\_\_\_\_
17.  I represent that all expenses connected to the trip will be for actual costs incurred and not a per diem or lump sum payment. *Signify that the statement is true by checking the box.*



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# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

**18. Total Expenses for each Participant:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amounts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Faith Estimates	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	\$10,500	\$1,250	\$560
For each Accompanying Family Member	\$10,500	\$0	\$560

	Other Expenses (dollar amount per item)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	\$80	COVID-19 testing
For each Accompanying Family Member	\$80	COVID-19 testing

**NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.**

**19. Check only one:**

- a.  I certify that I am an officer of the organization listed below; **OR**
- b.  *Not Applicable.* Trip sponsor is an individual or a U.S. institution of higher education.

**20. I certify by my signature that**

- a. I read and understand the Committee's Travel Regulations;
- b. I am not a registered federal lobbyist or registered foreign agent; and
- c. The information on this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature:  Date: 09/28/2021

Name: Mohammed Barakat Title: Managing Director

Organization: United States-Qatar Business Council

Address: 1220 L Street NW Suite 350, Washington, DC, 20005

Email: mohammedbarakat@usqbc.org Telephone: Office: 202-457-8555; Cell: 202-900-8900

### INSTRUCTIONS

Complete the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* and submit the agenda, invitation list, any attachments, and any *Additional Trip Sponsor Forms* directly to the Travelers.

Written approval from the Committee on Ethics is required before traveling on this trip. The Committee on Ethics will notify the House invitees directly and will not notify the trip sponsors.

**Willful or knowing misrepresentation on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution under 18 U.S.C. § 1001. Signatures must comply with section 104(bb) of the Travel Regulations.**

**For questions, please contact the Committee on Ethics at:**

1015 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

[ethicscommittee@mail.house.gov](mailto:ethicscommittee@mail.house.gov) | 202-225-7103  
More information and forms available at [ethics.house.gov](http://ethics.house.gov)

Theodore E. Deutch, Florida  
*Chairman*  
Jackie Walorski, Indiana  
*Ranking Member*  
  
Susan Wild, Pennsylvania  
Dean Phillips, Minnesota  
Veronica Escobar, Texas  
Mondaire Jones, New York  
  
Michael Guest, Mississippi  
Dave Joyce, Ohio  
John H. Rutherford, Florida  
Kelly Armstrong, North Dakota



ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS

**U.S. House of Representatives**  
**COMMITTEE ON ETHICS**

Thomas A. Rust  
*Staff Director and Chief Counsel*

David W. Arrojo  
*Counsel to the Chairman*

Kelle A. Strickland  
*Counsel to the Ranking Member*

1015 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515-6328  
Telephone: (202) 225-7103  
Facsimile: (202) 225-7392

October 11, 2021

The Honorable Victoria Spartz  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1523 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Colleague:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your proposed trip to Qatar,<sup>1</sup> scheduled for October 11 to 14, 2021, sponsored by United States Qatar Business Council.

This approval represents the Committee's determination that the proposed trip complies with relevant House rules, federal laws, and Travel Regulations promulgated by the Committee. You should engage in your own assessment of the risks and implications of engaging in travel during the current COVID-19 pandemic.

Committee travel regulations require that you submit your complete pre-trip approval request to the Committee at least 30 days before the commencement of the trip or it will not be granted. Despite your failure to do so in this instance, we are approving your current request. However, any future requests should adhere to the 30-day requirement.

You must complete a Member/Officer Post-Travel Disclosure Form and file it, together with a Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form completed by the trip sponsor, with the Clerk of the House within 15 days after your return from travel. As part of that filing, you are also required to attach a copy of this letter and both the Traveler and Primary Trip Sponsor Forms (including attachments) you previously submitted to the Committee in seeking pre-approval for this trip. You must also report all travel expenses totaling more than \$415 from a single source on the "Travel" schedule of your annual Financial Disclosure Statement covering this calendar year. Finally, Travel Regulation § 404(d) also requires you to keep a copy of all request forms and supporting information provided to the Committee for three subsequent Congresses from the date of travel.

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<sup>1</sup> Please be aware that the Committee's review of the proposed trip does not extend to either the security situation in the destination country or security related to foreign travel in general. We recommend you contact the Office of House Security (OHS) for a safety and security briefing prior to your departure. OHS may be reached at (202) 226-2044 or [ohsstaff@mail.house.gov](mailto:ohsstaff@mail.house.gov). House travelers should also register for the U.S. State Department's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program at <https://step.state.gov>.

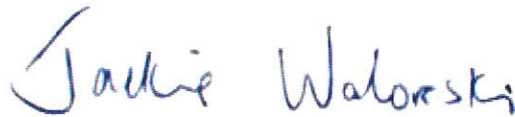
Because the trip may involve meetings with foreign government representatives, we note that House Members may accept, under the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act (FGDA), gifts "of minimal value [currently \$415] tendered as a souvenir or mark of courtesy" by a foreign government. Any tangible gifts valued in excess of minimal value received from a foreign government must, within 60 days of acceptance, be disclosed on a Form for Disclosing Gifts from Foreign Governments and either turned over to the Clerk of the House, or, with the written approval of the Committee, retained for official use.

If you have any further questions, please contact the Committee's Office of Advice and Education at extension 5-7103.

Sincerely,



Theodore E. Deutch  
Chairman



Jackie Walorski  
Ranking Member

TED/JW:adw



**Attachment (2)**  
**Final Agenda**  
**October 11-16, 2021**

**Monday, October 11, 2021 – Arrive in Qatar**

Arrive to Doha, Qatar

Arrival times from US cities/Members' districts to DOH:

- From JFK, Arrive to DOH: 4:25 PM (AST)
- From LAX, Arrive to DOH: 4:30 PM (AST)
- From DFW, Arrive to DOH: 6:00 PM (AST)
- From MIA, Arrive to DOH: 6:05 PM (AST)
- From LAX, Arrive to DOH: 6:30 PM (AST)

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM: Transport from Hamad International Airport to Four Seasons Hotel Doha, West Bay, Doha, and settle into rooms before dinner

8:00 PM – 8:30 PM: Transportation from Four Seasons Hotel Doha to dinner

8:30 PM – 10:00 PM: Dinner and briefing with Meshal bin Hamad Al-Thani, Qatari Ambassador to the United States

Participants were briefed by and engaged in dialogue with Ambassador Meshal bin Hamad Al-Thani and economic team members from the Embassy of Qatar to the United States, on Qatari business engagements in the US as well as plans for Qatari investment. Participants had the opportunity to learn about the planned Qatari outreach in the US and how Qatar is promoting business ventures in the US.

1 hour discussion and 30 minutes for dinner.

**Tuesday, October 12, 2021**

9:15 AM – 9:45 AM: Transportation from Four Seasons Hotel Doha to US Embassy Doha

10:00 AM – 11:30 AM: Briefing by US Embassy team and Chief of Mission at US Embassy Doha

Participants were briefed by US Chief of Mission and US Embassy Doha team on US-Qatar bilateral relations. This briefing provided an opportunity for the participants to learn about the key strengths of the trade/commercial, security, defense, and energy relationship between the US and Qatar.

11:30 AM – 12:00 PM: Transportation from US Embassy Doha to Ministry of Commerce & Industry



12:00 PM – 1:15 PM: Briefing by Sultan Bin Rashid Al-Khater, Undersecretary for Ministry of Commerce & Industry

Participants were briefed by Sultan Bin Rashid Al-Khater on US-Qatar bilateral commercial and trade relations. The US Members learned about Qatar's economic opportunities and initiatives with the US and opportunities to strengthen business ties from a trade and commerce perspective. This briefing covered major events such as the upcoming US-Qatar Economic Roadshow in the US, the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual US-Qatar Strategic Dialogue, the Qatari government's overall view of the US-Qatar trade relationship, and opportunities to collaborate and enhance the commercial relationship between the two countries.

1:15 PM – 1:45 PM: Transportation from Ministry of Commerce & Industry to lunch

1:45 PM – 4:00 PM: Lunch and visit to Katara Village – Hospitality & Tourism sectors and investments

Participants had lunch followed by a tour visit in Katara Village, a key tourism & hospitality development in Qatar. With many American tourism & hospitality companies already operating in Qatar, like Sheraton, Marriott, Intercontinental, etc., and many Qatari investments in the US like St. Regis DC, W Hotel Miami, etc., participants were briefed and engaged in dialogue on the many opportunities to further collaborate with the US in the hospitality sector. Participants discussed which locations may be of interest for Qatari investment in the US, general opportunities for investment in the US hospitality sector, collaboration potential with US-based tourism & hospitality operators, and how investments can create jobs in the participants' district.

1 hour discussion, 30 minutes for lunch, and 45 minutes for the tour.

4:00 PM – 7:30 PM: Return transportation, personal work time, and preparation

7:30 PM – 8:00 PM: Transportation from Four Seasons to dinner

8:00 PM – 9:30 PM: Dinner and briefing by United States-Qatar Business Council (USQBC) Managing Director, Mohammed Barakat

Participants were briefed by USQBC Managing Director on the week's upcoming events and the organization's history operating in both the US and Qatar. Participants were able to gain better insight into the success stories of US companies in Qatar, how the US has engaged Qatar as a key trading partner, and what opportunities exist to expand US business through further contributions to the Qatari economy.

1 hour discussion and 30 minutes for dinner.

**Wednesday, October 13, 2021**



8:15 AM – 8:25 AM: Transportation from Four Seasons to Amiri Diwan

8:30 AM – 10:30 AM: Meetings with Head of State and Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs

- The Amir of Qatar, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani and Head of the Supreme Council for Economic Affairs and Investment (SCEAI)

Participants were briefed and engaged in dialogue with the Amir of Qatar, Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani, on the broad, overarching Qatar foreign and domestic investment strategy, including Qatar's goal of investing \$45 billion in the United States. They learned about existing US-Qatar economic ties and the long-term growth objectives and discussed potential growth opportunities. Participants were able to develop a greater understanding of how the US fits into Qatar's investment strategy and what opportunities can be explored specific to their districts. There was also a discussion on US-Qatar relations, specifically related to political stability and security in the GCC region and upcoming sports events in Qatar.

- Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al-Thani, Chairman of Qatar Investment Authority, Deputy Prime Minister, and Minister of Foreign Affairs

Participants were briefed and engaged in dialogue with Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al-Thani on Qatar's current foreign direct investment strategy. Participants learned about key sectors of interest for Qatari investment in the US and discussed how to facilitate this investment in the US. There was also discussion on US-Qatar relations as well as political stability and security in the GCC region.

10:30 AM – 11:00 AM: Transportation from Amiri Diwan to Education City

11:00 AM – 12:15 PM: Briefing on Education City

Participants were briefed and engaged in dialogue with Education City representatives to learn about Qatar's national education initiatives and the cultural significance of these areas as they pertain to the Qatar-USA 2021 Year of Culture, in addition to the incentives and benefits they could bring to US investment from their home constituencies.

12:15 PM – 12:30 PM: Transportation from Education City to Al-Rayyan World Cup Stadium

12:30 PM – 1:00 PM: Tour of Al-Rayyan World Cup Stadium

Participants met with and were briefed on updates as it relates to the upcoming 2022 FIFA World Cup in Qatar. The briefing covered the operational side of things, information on the priority to advance the sports sector in Qatar, as well as the sustainable development of the World Cup stadiums and smart city infrastructure projects which American companies were involved with.



1:00 PM – 1:30 PM: Transportation from Al-Rayyan World Cup Stadium to The Pearl

1:30 PM – 3:00 PM: Lunch with Khalifa Al-Thani, Qatar Chamber of Commerce & Industry (QCCI) Chairman and QCCI Board Members

Participants had the opportunity to engage in discussion with leading members of Qatar’s private sector and learned about their commercial engagements with the US. Discussions were held around exploring the potential for investment opportunities in the US Members’ respective districts as well as potential for exporting products and services from the US to Qatar.

1 hour discussion and 30 minutes for lunch.

3:00 PM – 7:30 PM: Return transportation and personal work time

7:30 PM – 8:00 PM: Transportation from Four Seasons to dinner

8:00 PM – 9:30 PM: Dinner briefing with Qatari banking and financial senior executives

Participants engaged with and were briefed by senior executives from the financial banking sector to discuss Qatar’s financial system, credit facilitation to exports and imports, ways in which American companies can access and utilize Qatar’s banking system, and connections to the US banking system.

1 hour discussion and 30 minutes for dinner.

#### **Thursday, October 14, 2021**

8:00 AM – 8:15 AM: Transportation from Four Seasons Doha Hotel to Qatar Energy

8:30 AM – 9:30 AM: Briefing by Saad Al-Kaabi, Minister of State for Energy Affairs and President & CEO of Qatar Energy

Participants were briefed by Saad Al-Kaabi on Qatar Energy’s investment strategy in the energy sector and its long and deep history of collaborating with American energy companies. Participants learned about the latest initiative related to the North Field Expansion project in Qatar and the country’s long-term vision for further advancement in the energy and sustainability global space.

9:30 AM – 10:00 AM: Transportation from Qatar Energy to Qatar Free Zones Authority

10:00 AM – 10:45 AM: Briefing by Ahmed Al-Sayed, Chairman of Qatar Free Zones Authority (QFZA)

Participants were briefed by Qatar Free Zones Authority Chairman and learned about key business facilities within the free zones as well as the American companies registered in QFZA.



The briefing also covered the major tenets of Qatar's National Vision 2030, and a discussion took place on how the US and Qatar can align on investment opportunities within this framework. Additionally, participants learned about Qatar's recent infrastructure and technology developments as well as advantages of Qatar's geographic location that will make the country a key hub in the region across all industries. Finally, this engagement included discussion around the opportunities for investment in these areas and how these recent developments can benefit their home districts.

10:45 AM – 11:15 AM: Transportation from Qatar Free Zones Authority to Al Udeid Air Base

11:15 AM – 2:30 PM: Visit to Al Udeid Air Base including a briefing by Brig. General A. Donohue and troop engagement with the 379th Air Expeditionary Wing

During this engagement, participants received a briefing from Brig. General Donohue as well as tour of the US side of Al Udeid Air Base. US Representatives had the opportunity to visit US troops based in or passing through Qatar on critical missions to US security and the security cooperation it has with Qatar. The participants also had the opportunity to see the in-progress \$3B base housing expansion investment by Qatar, which American defense companies are involved with, and which have potential to yield further opportunity for more American business participation and content.

2:30 PM – 7:30 PM: Return transportation and personal work time

7:30 PM – 8:00 PM: Dinner briefing by Mohammed Barakat, USQBC Managing Director and USQBC team

Pre-departure briefing delivered by USQBC Managing Director and USQBC team including a discussion on the last day's engagements and confirmed guests for closing business dinner reception.

1 hour discussion and 30 minutes for dinner.

### **Friday, October 15, 2021**

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM: Personal time

12:00 PM – 12:30 PM: Preparation for meetings and providing travel updates for return to the US

12:30 PM – 1:00 PM: Transportation from Four Seasons Doha to The Pearl

1:00 PM – 3:30 PM: Lunch briefing by Hassan Thawadi, Secretary-General for the Supreme Committee for Delivery and Legacy



Participants were briefed by Hassan Thawadi on the upcoming World Cup in Qatar, including associated contracts, existing collaboration with American companies, and future opportunities for American companies to provide services in support of the events. This discussion also covered the long-term vision for the development and advancement of the sports industry in Qatar and the vast opportunities for American businesses to get involved in the growing sector.

2 hours for discussion and 30 minutes for lunch.

3:30 PM – 6:30 PM: Return transportation and personal work time

6:30 PM – 6:45 PM: Transportation from Four Seasons to dinner reception

6:45 PM – 7:30 PM: Briefing by select USQBC American member companies and business leaders in Qatar

Participants met with current USQBC American members who delivered a briefing on their companies' history in Qatar as well as their future plans, followed by an opportunity to engage in dialogue with USQBC members. Participants were able to gain better insight into the stories of US commercial success in Qatar, how the US has engaged Qatar as a key trading partner, and what opportunities exist to expand US businesses through further participation in the Qatari economy.

7:30 PM – 10:30 PM: Business dinner reception and dialogue event with USQBC member companies and the greater business community present in Qatar

US Members participated in a dinner reception where they met and engaged in dialogue with the US-Qatar business community present in Qatar, including USQBC member companies and USQBC representatives, Qatar officials, Qatari businessmen and women, and US Embassy officials. Participants learned about the experiences of the greater business community and how their constituent districts could benefit from additional business opportunities. This event was also attended by Abdullah Al-Subaie, the Minister of Municipality and Environment and Akbar Al-Baker, Chairman of Qatar National Tourism Council and Group CEO of Qatar Airways.

### **Saturday, October 16, 2021 – Depart Qatar and return to the US**

Departure times from DOH to US cities/Members' districts:

- From DOH to JFK, Departing: 1:10 AM (AST)
- From DOH to LAX, Departing: 1:15 AM (AST)
- From DOH to DFW, Departing: 7:45 AM (AST)
- From DOH to LAX, Departing: 7:50 AM (AST)
- From DOH to ORD, Departing: 8:05 AM (AST)
- From DOH to JFK, Departing: 8:15 AM (AST)



The Honorable Victoria Spartz (R-IN)  
1523 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Reference #: 2021-MB-52

September 1, 2021

Dear Congresswoman Victoria Spartz.

On behalf of the United States Qatar Business Council (USQBC), it is my honor to invite you to visit the State of Qatar as part of a US-Qatar focused bilateral business and investment collaboration program, subject to approval by the House Committee on Ethics. The USQBC will be responsible for planning and conducting the above-mentioned program scheduled for October 10<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

Qatar's commitment to invest in the United States and import products from American businesses offers a great opportunity to explore the potential expansion of business ties between American companies and those of Qatar. During this trip, you will be introduced to Qatar's existing investment, economic, trade, and commercial ties to the United States and opportunities for further development.

While in Qatar, invitees will participate in meetings with high-ranking government and business leaders. In addition, participants will visit key places of business interest including the Qatar Investment Authority (QIA) and the Supreme Council for Economic Affairs and Investment (SCEAI). These visits, among others, will seek to advance US business interests and promote initiatives that will contribute towards the economic growth and job creation in the US.

For further inquiries, please contact the United States Qatar Business Council at [us@usqbc.org](mailto:us@usqbc.org). I hope we will have the opportunity for you to join us on this program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M. Barakat", with a large, stylized flourish extending to the right.

Mohammed H. Barakat  
Managing Director  
US-Qatar Business Council



**Attachment (2)**  
**Draft Agenda\***  
**October 11-16, 2021**

**Monday, October 11, 2021 – Arrive in Qatar**

Arrive to Doha, Qatar

Possible Arrival times from US cities/Members' districts to DOH:

- From IAD, Arrive to DOH: 5:00 PM (AST)
- From SEA, Arrive to DOH: 6:05 PM (AST)
- From DFW, Arrive to DOH: 6:00 PM (AST)
- From JKF, Arrive to DOH: 4:25 PM (AST)
- From LAX, Arrive to DOH: 6:30 PM (AST)

6:00 PM – 7:00 PM: Transport from Hamad International Airport to Four Seasons Hotel Doha, West Bay, Doha, and settle into rooms before dinner

7:00 PM – 7:30 PM: Transportation from Four Seasons Hotel Doha to next engagement

7:30 PM – 9:30 PM: Dinner and briefing with Meshal bin Hamad Al-Thani, Qatari Ambassador to the United States

Participants will be briefed by and engage in dialogue with Meshal bin Hamad Al-Thani and economic team members on Qatari business engagements in the US as well as plans for Qatari investment. Participants will have the opportunity to learn about the planned Qatari outreach in the US and how Qatar is promoting business ventures in the US.

1 hour discussion and 30 minutes for dinner.

**Tuesday, October 12, 2021**

9:00 AM – 10:00 AM: Transportation from Four Seasons Hotel Doha to US Embassy Doha

10:00 AM – 11:30 AM: Briefing by US Embassy team and Chief of Mission at US Embassy Doha

Participants will be briefed by US Chief of Mission and Embassy team on US-Qatar bilateral relations. This will provide an opportunity for the participants to learn about the key strengths of the trade/commercial, security, defense and energy relationship between the US and Qatar.

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM: Transportation to next engagement

12:30 PM – 2:00 PM: Lunch with Ali bin Ahmed Al-Kuwari, Acting Minister of Finance and Minister of Commerce & Industry



During this working lunch, participants will be briefed and engage in dialogue with Ali bin Ahmed Al-Kuwari who will discuss Qatar's economic opportunities and initiatives with the US and opportunities to strengthen business ties from a trade and commerce perspective, as well as on the financial and banking side of the country's engagements. This briefing will cover major events with the US Representatives such as the upcoming US-Qatar Economic Roadshow in the US, the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual US-Qatar Strategic Dialogue, the Qatari government's overall view of the US-Qatar trade relationship, and opportunities to collaborate and enhance the commercial relationship between the two countries.

1 hour discussion and 30 minutes for lunch.

2:00 PM – 2:45 PM: Transportation to next engagement

2:45 PM – 4:45 PM: Visit to Education City to meet with university deans

Participants will be briefed and engage in dialogue with Education City's American universities' deans to learn about Qatar's national education initiatives and the cultural significance of these areas as they pertain to the Qatar-USA 2021 Year of Culture, in addition to the incentives and benefits they could bring to US investment from their home constituencies.

4:45 PM – 6:30 PM: Return transportation, personal work time, preparation, and departure to next engagement

6:30 PM – 7:00 PM: Transportation from Four Seasons Hotel Doha to Next Engagement

7:00 PM – 8:30 PM: Dinner and briefing by United States-Qatar Business Council (USBQC) Managing Director, Mohammed Barakat

Participants will be briefed by USBQC Managing Director on the week's upcoming events and the organization's history operating in both the US and Qatar. Participants will gain better insight into the success stories of US companies in Qatar, how the US has engaged Qatar as a key trading partner, and what opportunities exist to expand US business through further contributions to the Qatari economy.

1 hour discussion and 30 minutes for dinner.

### **Wednesday, October 13, 2021**

9:00 AM – 10:00 AM: Preparation for meetings, updates, and transportation

10:00 AM – 11:00 AM: Meeting with Khalid bin Khalifa bin Abdulaziz Al-Thani – Prime Minister & Minister of Interior; Executive Member for the Supreme Council for Economic Affairs and Investment (SCEAI)



Participants will be briefed and engage in dialogue on the broad, overarching Qatar foreign and domestic investment strategy, including Qatar's goal of investing \$45 billion in the United States. They will learn about existing US-Qatar economic ties and the long-term growth objectives and discuss potential growth opportunities. Participants will develop a greater understanding of how the US fits into Qatar's investment strategy and what opportunities can be explored specific to their districts. There will be discussion on US-Qatar relations as well as political stability and security in the GCC region.

11:00 AM – 12:00 PM: Meeting with Head of State, the Amir of Qatar, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani and Head of the Supreme Council for Economic Affairs and Investment (SCEAI)

Participants will be briefed and engage in dialogue on the broad, overarching Qatar foreign and domestic investment strategy, including Qatar's goal of investing \$45 billion in the United States. They will learn about existing US-Qatar economic ties and the long-term growth objectives and discuss potential growth opportunities. Participants will develop a greater understanding of how the US fits into Qatar's investment strategy and what opportunities can be explored specific to their districts. There will be discussion on US-Qatar relations, specifically related to political stability and security in the GCC region and upcoming sports events in Qatar.

12:00 PM – 12:30 PM: Transportation to next engagement

12:30 PM – 1:30 PM: Meeting and briefing with Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al-Thani, Chairman of Qatar Investment Authority, Deputy Prime Minister, and Minister of Foreign Affairs

Participants will be briefed and engage in dialogue with Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al-Thani on Qatar's current foreign direct investment strategy. Participants will learn about key sectors of interest for Qatari investment in the US and will discuss how to facilitate this investment in the US. There will be discussion on US-Qatar relations as well as political stability and security in the GCC region.

1:30 PM – 2:00 PM: Transportation to next engagement

2:00 PM – 3:30 PM: Lunch with Ahmed bin Jassim Al-Thani, Economic Advisor to the Amir and Secretary General of the Supreme Council of Economic Affairs and Investment (SCEAI)

During this working lunch, participants will be briefed and engage in dialogue with Ahmed bin Jassim Al-Thani who will discuss Qatar's economic engagements with the US and opportunities to strengthen business ties. The briefing will include the major tenets of Qatar's National Vision 2030 and a discussion on how the US and Qatar can align on investment opportunities within this framework. Participants will learn about Qatar's investment strategy and key areas where their districts can benefit from enhanced business ties.

1 hour discussion and 30 minutes for lunch.



3:30 PM – 4:00 PM: Transportation to next engagement

4:00 PM – 5:00 PM: Visits to cultural and business locations (e.g., museums, markets)

Participants will visit key business facilities such as business parks, free zones, and markets that have the potential to host US businesses and further US business interests. Participants will learn about the cultural significance of these areas as they pertain to the Qatar-USA 2021 Year of Culture in addition to the incentives and benefits they could bring to US investment from their home constituencies.

5:00 PM – 6:30 PM: Return transportation, personal time, and departure to next engagement

6:30 PM – 7:00 PM: Transportation from Four Seasons Hotel Doha to next engagement

7:00 PM – 8:30 PM: Dinner briefing with select USQBC American member companies and business leaders in Qatar at the Four Seasons Hotel Doha

Participants will meet with current USQBC American members who will give a briefing on their companies' history in Qatar as well as their future plans, followed by an opportunity to engage in dialogue with USQBC members. Participants will gain better insight into the stories of US commercial success in Qatar, how the US has engaged Qatar as a key trading partner, and what opportunities exist to expand US businesses through further contributions to the Qatari economy.

1 hour discussion and 30 minutes for dinner.

#### **Thursday, October 14, 2021**

9:00 AM – 10:00 AM: Transportation from Four Seasons Doha Hotel to Al Udeid Air Base

10:00 AM – 11:00 AM: Briefing with Minister of State for Defense Affairs, Dr. Khalid bin Mohamed Al Attiyah

Participants will visit Al Udeid Air Base and first be briefed by and engage in dialogue with Dr. Khalid bin Mohamed Al Attiyah on the existing US-Qatar defense and security situation. He will give an overview of the region's security situation and counterterrorism operations as well as strategic US defense purchases and relationships showcasing the security cooperation between the two countries. Participants will learn about opportunities for future further collaboration in the security and defense fields, and other US export opportunities in the areas such as safety and protective equipment, among others.

11:00 AM – 1:00 PM: Tour of Al Udeid Air Base

Participants will tour Al Udeid on both the Qatari and US sides. US Representatives will have the opportunity to visit US troops based in or passing through Qatar on critical missions to US



security and the security cooperation it has with Qatar. The participants will also have the opportunity to see the in-progress \$3B base housing expansion investment by Qatar, which American defense companies are involved with, and which have potential to yield further opportunity for more American business participation and content.

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM: Transportation to next engagement

2:00 PM – 3:30 PM: Lunch with Ahmed Al Sayed, Chairman of the Qatar Free Zones, Yousuf Al Jaida, CEO of Qatar Financial Centre (QFC), and Ali bin Waleed Al-Thani, CEO of Investment Promotion Agency of Qatar (IPA Qatar)

Lunch, briefing, and discussion of Qatar's capabilities in Qatar's free economic zones optimized for shipping, transportation, and service industries leaders of the Free Zones, QFC and the IPA Qatar. Participants will discuss Qatar's recent infrastructure and technology developments as well as advantages of Qatar's geographic location that will make the country a key hub in the region across all industries. Participants will learn about the opportunities for investment in these areas and how these recent developments can benefit their home districts.

1 hour discussion and 30 minutes for lunch.

3:30 PM – 4:00 PM: Transportation to next engagement

4:00 PM – 5:00 PM: Visit to Katara Village – Hospitality & Tourism sectors and investments

Participants will visit Katara Village, a key tourism & hospitality development in Qatar. With many American tourism & hospitality companies already operating in Qatar, like Sheraton, Marriott, Intercontinental, etc., and many Qatari investments in the US like St. Regis DC, W Hotel Miami, etc., participants will be briefed and engage in dialogue on the many opportunities to further collaborate with the US in the hospitality sector. Participants will discuss which locations may be of interest for Qatari investment in the US, general opportunities for investment in the US hospitality sector, collaboration potential with US-based tourism & hospitality operators, and how investments can create jobs in the participants' district.

5:00 PM – 6:30 PM: Return transportation, personal time, departure to next engagement

6:30 PM – 7:00 PM: Transportation from Four Seasons Hotel Doha to next engagement

7:00 PM – 8:30 PM: Dinner briefing by Hassan Thawadi, Secretary-General of the Supreme Committee for Delivery and Legacy

Participants will meet with and be briefed by Hassan Thawadi, the head of the governing body for the 2022 FIFA World Cup. The briefing will involve a discussion around the upcoming World Cup in Qatar, including associated contracts, existing collaboration with American companies, and future opportunities for American companies to provide services un support of the events.



1 hour discussion and 30 minutes for dinner.

**Friday, October 15, 2021**

9:00 AM – 9:30 AM: Preparation for meetings, updates, and transportation

9:30 AM – 10:00 AM: Transportation from Four Seasons Doha Hotel to first engagement

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM: Meet with Supreme Committee for Delivery and Legacy

Participants will meet with and be briefed on updates as it relates to the upcoming 2022 FIFA World Cup in Qatar. The briefing will cover the operational side of things, information on the priority to advance the sports sector in Qatar, as well as the sustainable development of the World Cup stadiums and smart city infrastructure projects which American companies were involved with.

12:00 PM – 2:00 PM: Return transportation, personal work time, preparation, and transportation to next engagement

2:00 PM – 4:30 PM: Lunch along with hospitality & tourism sectors and investments tour with briefing by USQBC Managing Director, Mohammed Barakat, on final engagements and departure process

2 hours for discussion/tour and 30 minutes for lunch.

4:30 PM – 7:15 PM: Return transportation, personal work time, preparation, and departure to next engagement

7:15 PM – 7:30 PM: Transportation to next engagement

7:30 PM – 10:00 PM: Business dinner reception and dialogue event hosted by USQBC with member companies and the greater business community present in Qatar, including Qatari private investors, and bankers

Participants will be invited to a dinner reception where they will meet and engage in dialogue with the US-Qatar business community present in Qatar, including USQBC member companies and USQBC representatives, Qatari businessmen and women, and US Embassy officials. Participants will learn about the experiences of the greater business community and how their constituent districts will benefit from additional business opportunities. Executives from the financial banking sector will engage with US Representatives to discuss Qatar's financial system, credit facilitation to exports and imports, ways in which American companies can access and utilize Qatar's banking system, and connections to the US banking system.



**Saturday, October 16, 2021 – Depart Qatar and return to the US**  
8:35 AM (AST) Depart from DOH

\*Meetings subject to final confirmation.



## **Attachment (1)**

### **Invited US House of Representatives Members**

1. Congressman Darrell Issa – US Representative from California

Explore opportunities for potential Qatari investments in Rep. Issa's district and opportunities for district businesses to export to Qatar in order to promote business expansion and job creation in the district.

2. Congressman Lou Correa – US Representative from California

Explore opportunities for potential Qatari investments in Rep. Correa's district and opportunities for district businesses to export to Qatar in order to promote business expansion and job creation in the district.

3. Congressman Darin LaHood – US Representative from Illinois

Explore opportunities for potential Qatari investments in Rep. LaHood's district and opportunities for district businesses to export to Qatar in order to promote business expansion and job creation in the district.

4. Congressman Jay Obernolte – US Representative from California

Explore opportunities for potential Qatari investments in Rep. Obernolte's district and opportunities for district businesses to export to Qatar in order to promote business expansion and job creation in the district.

5. Congresswoman Claudia Tenney – US Representative from New York

Explore opportunities for potential Qatari investments in Rep. Tenney's district and opportunities for district businesses to export to Qatar in order to promote business expansion and job creation in the district.

6. Congressman Andrew Garbarino – US Representative from New York

Explore opportunities for potential Qatari investments in Rep. Garbarino's district and opportunities for district businesses to export to Qatar in order to promote business expansion and job creation in the district.

7. Congressman Matt Gaetz – US Representative from Florida

Explore opportunities for potential Qatari investments in Rep. Gaetz's district and opportunities for district businesses to export to Qatar in order to promote business expansion and job creation in the district.



8. Congresswoman Victoria Spartz – US Representative from Indiana

Explore opportunities for potential Qatari investments in Rep. Spartz’s district and opportunities for district businesses to export to Qatar in order to promote business expansion and job creation in the district.



### **Attachment (3)**

For *each* sponsor required to submit a sponsor form, describe the sponsor's interest in the subject matter of the trip **and** its role in organizing and/or conducting the trip:

Since it was established in Washington, DC in 1996, the United States Qatar Business Council (USQBC) works to advance US business and investment interests in Qatar and to increase Qatari investments in the United States, in order to advance US business competitiveness and growth and to support US job growth and provide added value to the US economy. The purpose of this trip is help advance US business interests and to allow for better understanding of the available opportunities and collaboration with business, trade, and commercial entities in Qatar. USQBC will coordinate the travel and logistics of this trip and arrange for a series of meetings related to business objectives of the United States, as reflected in the enclosed agenda.