



EMPLOYEE POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM Original Amendment

This form is for disclosing the receipt of travel expenses from private sources for travel taken in connection with official duties. This form does not eliminate the need to report privately-funded travel on the annual *Financial Disclosure Statements* of those employees required to file them. 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, 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: Meghan Gallagher
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: _____ OR None
 b. Relationship to Traveler: Spouse Child Other (specify): _____
3. a. Dates: Departure: 22 August 2021 Return: 29 August 2021
 b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: _____ OR None
4. Departure City: Washington D.C. Destination: Angola/Botswana Return City: Washington DC
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: ICCF/Halo Trust
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended:
 The delegation met with U.S. Embassy officials, members of Parliament, government ministers, U.S. business representatives and conservation-related NGOs and conducted site visits of U.S.-funded demining sites and conservation projects and met with local community members in Angola and Botswana
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 employee; *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 on this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature of Traveler: Date: 09/13/2021

I authorized this travel in advance. I have determined that all of the expenses listed on the attached *Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form* were necessary and that the travel was in connection with the employee's official duties and would not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

Name of Supervising Member: Rep Michael McCaul Date: 09/13/2021

Signature of Supervising Member:



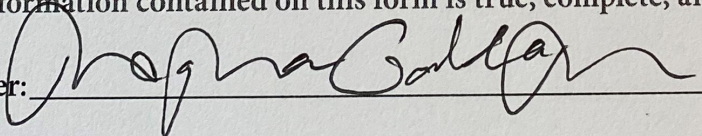
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1. Name of Traveler: Meghan Gallagher
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: _____ OR None
- b. Relationship to Traveler: Spouse Child Other (specify): _____
3. a. Dates: Departure: 22 August 2021 Return: 29 August 2021
- b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: _____ OR None
4. Departure City: Washington D.C. Destination: Angola/Botswana Return City: Washington DC
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 - 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 on this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature of Traveler:  Date: 09/13/2021

I authorized this travel in advance. I have determined that all of the expenses listed on the attached *Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form* were necessary and that the travel was in connection with the employee's official duties and would not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

Name of Supervising Member: Rep Michael McCaul Date: 09/13/2021

Signature of Supervising Member: _____



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.

1. Sponsor(s) who paid for the trip: International Conservation Caucus Foundation (ICCF) and the HALO Trust (USA)
2. Travel Destination(s): Luanda, Cuemba, and Cuito Cuanavale, Angola; and Abu Concession, Botswana
3. Date of Departure: August 22, 2021 Date of Return: August 29, 2021
4. Name(s) of Traveler(s): Meghan Gallagher

Note: You may list more than one traveler on a form only if *all* information is *identical* for each person listed.

5. 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	\$4150.53	\$861.00	\$237.21	\$338 (tips and fees) \$85 (COVID tests) \$16 (Evacuation insurance)
Accompanying Family Member				

6. 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: 09/10/2021

Name: John Gantt / Chris Whatley Title: President / Executive Director

Organization: International Conservation Caucus Foundation (ICCF) / The HALO Trust (USA)

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

Address: 1200 Potomac Street, NW, Washington, DC 20007

Email: johngantt@iccfoundation.us / chris.whatley@halousa.org Telephone: (202) 471-4222

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.



U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

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3. Date of Departure: August 22, 2021 Date of Return: August 29, 2021
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Note: You may list more than one traveler on a form only if *all* information is *identical* for each person listed.

5. Actual amount of expenses paid on behalf of, or reimbursed to, each individual named in Question 4:

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Accompanying Family Member				

6. 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: 09/10/2021

Name: John Gantt / Chris Whatley Title: President / Executive Director

Organization: International Conservation Caucus Foundation (ICCF) / The HALO Trust (USA)

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

Address: 1200 Potomac Street, NW, Washington, DC 20007

Email: johngantt@iccfoundation.us / chris.whatley@halousa.org Telephone: (202) 471-4222

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.



U.S. House of Representatives

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) 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:
International Conservation Caucus Foundation (ICCF) and the HALO Trust (USA)
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:
The HALO Trust (USA)
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):

See addendum.
5. Yes No Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?
6. Date of departure: August 22, 2021 Date of return: August 29, 2021
7. a. City of departure: Washington, DC (Dulles Airport)
b. Destination(s): Luanda, Cuemba, and Cuito Cuanavale, Angola; and Abu Concession, Botswana
c. City of return: Washington, DC (Dulles Airport)
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:



U.S. House of Representatives

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:
See addendum.
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:
Charter flights are being provided while in Angola due to difficulty of accessing demining sites being visited by the group.
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):
\$105/day in Luanda, \$30/day in Cuito Cuanavale, \$70/day in Botswana
- 2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip:
See addendum.
16. Name, nightly cost, and reasons for selecting each hotel or other lodging facility:
- Hotel Name: Skyna Hotel City: Luanda Cost Per Night: \$289
Reason(s) for Selecting: Safety and proximity to meetings
- Hotel Name: Uncharted Mobile Camp City: Cuito Cuanavale Cost Per Night: \$65
Reason(s) for Selecting: Proximity to demining sites
- Hotel Name: Seba Camp City: Abu Concession Cost Per Night: \$130
Reason(s) for Selecting: Safety and proximity to field activities
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.*



U.S. House of Representatives

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	\$3696.00	\$1160.00	\$410.00
For each Accompanying Family Member			

	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	\$770.00	See addendum.
For each Accompanying Family Member		

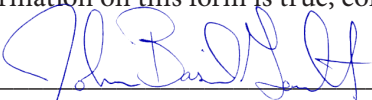
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19. Check only one:

- 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: 07/22/2021

Name: John Gantt Title: President

Organization: International Conservation Caucus Foundation (ICCF)

Address: 1200 Potomac St. NW Washington, DC 20007

Email: johngantt@iccfoundation.us; slylis@internationalconservation.org Telephone: (202) 471-4222

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 | 202-225-7103
More information and forms available at ethics.house.gov



U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

PRIMARY TRIP SPONSOR FORM

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1. Sponsor who will be paying for the trip:
International Conservation Caucus Foundation (ICCF) and the HALO Trust (USA)
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:
The HALO Trust (USA)
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):

See addendum.
5. Yes No Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?
6. Date of departure: August 22, 2021 Date of return: August 29, 2021
7. a. City of departure: Washington, DC (Dulles Airport)
b. Destination(s): Luanda, Cuemba, and Cuito Cuanavale, Angola; and Abu Concession, Botswana
c. City of return: Washington, DC (Dulles Airport)
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:**
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U.S. House of Representatives

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:**
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See addendum.
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:
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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.*
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- 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):
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- 2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip:
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Reason(s) for Selecting: Safety and proximity to meetings
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Reason(s) for Selecting: Proximity to demining sites
- Hotel Name: Seba Camp City: Abu Concession Cost Per Night: \$130
Reason(s) for Selecting: Safety and proximity to field activities
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U.S. House of Representatives

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	\$3696.00	\$1160.00	\$410.00
For each Accompanying Family Member			

	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	\$770.00	See addendum.
For each Accompanying Family Member		

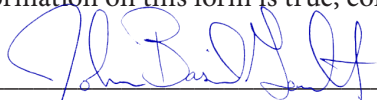
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19. Check only one:

- 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: 07/22/2021

Name: John Gantt Title: President

Organization: International Conservation Caucus Foundation (ICCF)

Address: 1200 Potomac St. NW Washington, DC 20007

Email: johngantt@iccfoundation.us; slylis@internationalconservation.org Telephone: (202) 471-4222

INSTRUCTIONS

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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.

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U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

ADDITIONAL TRIP SPONSOR FORM

This form should be completed by an organization that provides funds, services, or in-kind assistance to another entity to underwrite, in whole or in part, a trip or an event, meal, or activity that will occur during a trip, or a necessary expense that will be incurred during a trip, with express or implicit knowledge or understanding that one or more House Members or employees may participate in or attend that trip or event, or otherwise may be beneficiaries of the gift or donation.

Provide a copy of your completed form to the primary sponsor of the trip.

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. Name of Primary Trip Sponsor: International Conservation Caucus Foundation (ICCF)

2. Name of your organization: The Halo Trust (USA)

3. Yes No Is your organization designated a § 501(c)(3) charitable organization by the Internal Revenue Service?

4. Yes No Does your organization receive funding from any foreign government or multinational organization?

5. **Check one.** I certify that my organization:

a. Has provided a grant, gift, or donation to the above-named Primary Trip Sponsor and conducts an audit or review of its grant, gift, or donation to ensure that the funds are spent in accordance with the terms of its grant, gift, or donation. **OR**

b. Has had a direct role in the organizing, planning, or conducting of a trip to
Destination: Angola/Botswana on Date: August 22-29, 2021
that is being organized or arranged by the above-named Primary Trip Sponsor. **OR**

c. Has provided in-kind support to the above-named Primary Trip Sponsor (e.g., meeting planning assistance, meeting space and set-up, and paying for expenses related to this trip directly to the service provider).

6. **Check only one:**

a. My organization does not employ or retain a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent **OR**

b. My organization employs a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent, but their involvement in planning, organizing, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the travel regulations.

7. 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;

c. I am an officer of this organization and am duly authorized to sign this form; and

d. The information on this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: Chris Whatley Digitally signed by Chris Whatley Date: 2021.07.22 13:12:24 -04'00' Date: 07/22/2021

Name: Chris Whatley Title: Executive Director

Organization: The Halo Trust (USA)

Address: 1730 Rhode Island Ave., NW, Suite 206

Email: chris.whatley@halousa.org Telephone: (202) 331-1266



U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

INSTRUCTIONS

Complete the *Additional Trip Sponsor Form* and submit the forms directly to the Primary Trip Sponsor.

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 | 202-225-7103
More information and forms available at ethics.house.gov



ADDITIONAL TRIP SPONSOR FORM

This form should be completed by an organization that provides funds, services, or in-kind assistance to another entity to underwrite, in whole or in part, a trip or an event, meal, or activity that will occur during a trip, or a necessary expense that will be incurred during a trip, with express or implicit knowledge or understanding that one or more House Members or employees may participate in or attend that trip or event, or otherwise may be beneficiaries of the gift or donation.

Provide a copy of your completed form to the primary sponsor of the trip.

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. Name of Primary Trip Sponsor: International Conservation Caucus Foundation (ICCF)

2. Name of your organization: The Halo Trust (USA)

3. Yes No Is your organization designated a § 501(c)(3) charitable organization by the Internal Revenue Service?

4. Yes No Does your organization receive funding from any foreign government or multinational organization?

5. **Check one.** I certify that my organization:

a. Has provided a grant, gift, or donation to the above-named Primary Trip Sponsor and conducts an audit or review of its grant, gift, or donation to ensure that the funds are spent in accordance with the terms of its grant, gift, or donation. **OR**

b. Has had a direct role in the organizing, planning, or conducting of a trip to
Destination: Angola/Botswana on Date: August 22-29, 2021
that is being organized or arranged by the above-named Primary Trip Sponsor. **OR**

c. Has provided in-kind support to the above-named Primary Trip Sponsor (e.g., meeting planning assistance, meeting space and set-up, and paying for expenses related to this trip directly to the service provider).

6. **Check only one:**

a. My organization does not employ or retain a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent **OR**

b. My organization employs a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent, but their involvement in planning, organizing, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the travel regulations.

7. 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;

c. I am an officer of this organization and am duly authorized to sign this form; and

d. The information on this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: Chris Whatley Digitally signed by Chris Whatley Date: 2021.07.22 13:12:24 -04'00' Date: 07/22/2021

Name: Chris Whatley Title: Executive Director

Organization: The Halo Trust (USA)

Address: 1730 Rhode Island Ave., NW, Suite 206

Email: chris.whatley@halousa.org Telephone: (202) 331-1266



U.S. House of Representatives

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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

August 19, 2021

Ms. Meghan Gallagher
Committee on Foreign Affairs
2120 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ms. Gallagher:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your proposed trip to Angola, Botswana,¹ scheduled for August 22 to 29, 2021, sponsored by International Conservation Caucus Foundation and the Halo Trust (USA).

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.

You must complete an Employee Post-Travel Disclosure Form (which your employing Member must also sign) 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. If you are required to file an annual Financial Disclosure Statement, 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.

¹ 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. 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 employees 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,

Handwritten signatures of Theodore E. Deutch and Jackie Walorski in blue ink. Theodore E. Deutch's signature is on the left, and Jackie Walorski's signature is on the right.

Theodore E. Deutch
Chairman

Jackie Walorski
Ranking Member

TED/JW:adw

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The image shows two handwritten signatures in blue ink. The signature on the left is for Theodore E. Deutch, and the signature on the right is for Jackie Walorski. Both signatures are written in a cursive, flowing style.

Theodore E. Deutch
Chairman

Jackie Walorski
Ranking Member

TED/JW:adw

4. Meghan Gallagher, House Foreign Affairs Committee, Congressman Mike McCaul (R-TX)

Meghan was invited because the issues that are being discussed while in country fall under the jurisdiction of the House Foreign Affairs Committee. Congressman Mike McCaul is also a member of the International Conservation Caucus.

12. ICCF educates policymakers on issues of conservation and good natural resource management. This delegation will enable Congressional staff to see first-hand the ways that U.S. investment is supporting biodiversity conservation and management in the Okavango watershed, as well as see U.S.-supported humanitarian demining programs in Angola and their links to conservation and development goals in the region.

The HALO Trust's mission is to lead the effort to protect lives and restore livelihoods threatened by landmines and the debris of war. The HALO Trust, a U.S. government partner, destroys landmines and other explosive items, and manages dangerous stockpiles of weapons and ammunition.

ICCF and Halo Trust (USA) coordinated on identifying topics of the briefings and speakers for this delegation and organized logistics for travel and accommodations. HALO Trust (USA) led on itinerary and costs while in Cuito Cuanavale and ICCF led on itinerary and costs while in Luanda and Botswana.

15. B. 2. Sites chosen in Angola and Botswana allow participants to experience first hand how U.S. investment in international conservation is contributing to conservation in the Okavango Delta watershed and demining efforts in Angola.

18. Other: visa fees, COVID tests, field activities, Seba Park daily conservation fee, tips



Itinerary

Day 1, Sunday, August 22nd

1100 Depart from IAD on Ethiopian Flight #510 to BOLE International Airport (ADD) to arrive at 0715 on Monday, August 23rd

Day 2, Monday, August 23rd

0715 Arrival into BOLE International Airport (ADD) and connect to Ethiopian Flight #851 at 0940 to Luanda (LAD)

1225 Arrive in Luanda, Angola. Retrieve luggage and proceed to the hotel

1400 Arrival at hotel, unpack and freshen up

1600 Depart for S. Miguel

1630-1730 Visit to Fortress of S. Miguel and briefing on Angola conflict history

Expert guide will brief the delegation on the historical significance of the Fortress, which dates back to Portuguese-colonial Angola and the slave trade, and the history of Angolan military conflicts. The Fortress, which also houses the Museum of the Armed Forces, was used in the Angolan War of Independence and against South African military interventions and has been submitted to be considered a UNESCO World Heritage site. This briefing will provide participants with important historical context on the impact of colonial influence and armed conflict on Angolan politics, society, and security.

1730 Return to hotel

1800 - 1815 Dinner and welcome briefing with HALO's Head of Congressional Affairs Kristen Stevens and ICCF's Executive Vice President Susan Lylis to introduce topics that will be discussed during the trip, including the U.S. humanitarian demining program, transboundary conservation, natural resource management, etc.

1815– 1915 Briefing by The HALO Trust's Tom Gowan on the origins of landmines and other explosive remnants of war in Angola, an overview of the U.S. humanitarian demining program in Angola including work supporting the government with weapons and ammunition stockpile management, and the implementation and impact of this work.



Accommodations: Skyna Hotel

Day 3, Tuesday, August 24th



0700 – 0715 Coffee and light breakfast
0715 Depart for US Embassy
0745 – 0830 COVID-19 Testing at US Embassy

0830 – 0930 Briefing with US Embassy country team 

Embassy officials will brief travelers on security and safety in Angola, speak to the US-Angola relationship, and highlight current bilateral development assistance through USAID.

0930-1000 Travel to government Ministries
1000-1330 Executive branch meetings and lunch

U.S. Embassy assisting to request meetings with:

- *President João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço: to discuss the Government's recent commitments to humanitarian demining and conservation and explore opportunities to further the U.S.-Angola bilateral relationship.*
- *Minister of Culture, Environment, Tourism, Jomo Fortunato (and Secretary of State for Environment, Paula Coelho): to discuss the Government's conservation and sustainable development initiatives in the Southeast, including humanitarian demining efforts, and discuss opportunities for public and private partnerships to advance shared U.S.-Angola interests.* 
- *Minister of External Relations, Tete Antonio: to discuss the Government's recent commitments to demining and conservation and opportunities to further the U.S.-Angola bilateral relationship.*
- *Minister of National Defense, Joao Ernesto Dos Santos: to discuss demining and weapons security assistance efforts throughout Angola, explore further opportunities to assist the Angolan Government in removing explosive threats, and discuss the intersection between conservation and security.* 
- *Minister of State and Head of Security, General Furtado: to discuss demining and weapons security assistance efforts throughout Angola, explore further opportunities to assist the Angolan Government in removing explosive threats, and discuss the intersection between conservation and security.*



- *ANAM, General Petroff and Dr. Adriano: to discuss demining and weapons security assistance efforts throughout Angola, including challenges and opportunities to assist the Angolan Government in removing these explosive threats.*
- *Simportex, General Pizarro: to discuss progress on HALO's Angolan Government-funded demining efforts in the southeast in support of conservation goals, developments on the conservation initiative in this region more broadly, and the path forward in removing all landmines from Mavinga and Luengue-Luiana Parks.*
- *Minister Faustina Fernandes Inglês de Almeida Alves, Minister of Social Action, Family, and Gender Promotion (MASFAMU): to discuss humanitarian demining and conservation projects in Angola.*

Ambassador Nina Fite to accompany delegation to all Ministerial meetings.

1330 - 1400 Travel to parliament

1400 – 1600 Parliament meetings

- *Head of the Parliament's 3rd Commission for External Relations, International Cooperation and Angolan Communities, MP Josefina Pitra Diakite: to discuss Parliamentary initiatives for conservation and sustainable development, including the formation of a conservation caucus/forum and opportunities for collaborative dialogue between the U.S. Congress, the Angolan Parliament, and other ICCF-supported conservation caucuses in the region.*
- *Head of Parliament's 2nd Commission, Roberto Leal Ramos Monterio: to discuss demining and weapons security assistance efforts throughout Angola, explore further opportunities to assist the Angolan Government in removing explosive threats, and discuss the intersection between conservation and security.*
- *President of 5th Commission, Ruth Mendes: to discuss Parliamentary initiatives for conservation and sustainable development, including the formation of a conservation caucus/forum, opportunities for dialogue between the U.S. and Angola, as well as economic opportunities stemming from demining efforts in support of conservation objectives in the southeast, and throughout the country.*

1600-1630 Travel to U.S. Ambassador's residence

1630-1830 Reception briefing with remarks by Ambassador Fite, Angolan government officials, private sector leaders, and NGO representatives

Welcome remarks offered by Ambassador Fite. Representatives of business associations, such as the U.S.-Angola Chamber of Commerce and AmCham



Angola, will present on members' support for conservation and sustainability in Angola. Civil society organizations, such as AKADIR, Mines Advisory Group, and the Nature Conservancy, will present on on-the-ground conservation, demining, and community development initiatives in Angola.

1830-1900 Return to hotel

1900-2000 Dinner with briefing by ICCF's Executive Vice President Susan Lylis on the Parliamentary Conservation Caucus model



Susan Lylis will discuss the Parliamentary Conservation Caucus model and how it is being implemented in legislatures around the world to educate and inspire policymakers, provide a forum for multipartisan discussion and consensus building, and foster collaboration between the public and private sectors to find innovative solutions to natural resource challenges.

Accommodations: Skyna Hotel

Day 4, Wednesday August 25th

0330 Leave for airport

0530 – 0800 Fly from Luanda to Cuemba

0800 - 0830 Travel to HALO Trust demining camp

The HALO camp is situated 100m from the bridge and the waterfall, with the nearest minefield lying just on the far side. Visitors will pick up protective equipment and any other necessary gear in camp.

0830 – 0900 Tour of camp, possible welcome from local government officials, and briefing by Tom Dibb, HALO's Head of Africa Region. He will discuss the significance of the location and the U.S.-funded work in this area and will guide visitors through the camp.

All of HALO's landmine clearance work in Bie Province, where Cuemba is situated, is being funded by the US Government through the State Department's Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement within the Political Military Affairs Bureau. The visitors will therefore be seeing US-funded demining teams in the field.

Cuemba is strategically located on the main road and rail routes between Huambo, Kuito, Bie, and Moxico Provinces. It is the main road to the provincial capital Luena and would be the route taken by National Geographic to reach their research base in Tempue and the Okavango source lakes.



- 0930 - 1000 Travel to minefield
- 1000 – 1230 Minefield and safety briefing by Rob Syfret, HALO Angola’s Program Manager, and minefield visit

Government forces laid mines around the town of Cuemba, and nearby infrastructure, such as the bridge, to defend it from UNITA attacks. It is these minefields which HALO is now clearing.

Rob will show visitors the minefield map, discuss what threats are being found and generally how demining is conducted, and answer any questions. The briefing will highlight safety protocols to keep all visitors safe during the minefield visit.

Before entering the minefield, visitors will put on protective gear under the supervision of highly experienced HALO staff and will have the opportunity to see and handle a variety of demining equipment (metal detectors).

Rob and Tom will lead the group through areas of the minefield, using pathways that have been cleared of all explosive hazards and clearly marked. As deminers conduct their work, Rob and Tom will describe the demining process in more detail.

- 1230 – 1300 Lunch briefing by Rob Syfret and deminers on the impact of U.S. demining programs in Angola through a conservation, security, and development lens, highlighting HALO’s 100 women in demining project

HALO will provide simple bag lunches for visitors to eat outdoors near the minefield next to the waterfall.

- 1300 – 1330 Travel to airport

- 1330 – 1530 Travel by air to Cuito Cuanavale (refueling stop in Menongue)



- 1530 – 1600 Transport to camp, drop luggage at accommodation site

- 1600 – 1700 Briefing by Rhys Mansel, HALO’s Deputy Head of Research and Development. Rhys will brief the party on demining technology, HALO’s R&D work in partnership with the U.S. Department of Defense, and how these efforts are supporting demining progress in Angola.

- 1700 – 1830 Dinner briefing by Rhys Mansel on the Battle of Cuito Cuanavale, and the \$60m Angolan Government demining project to support conservation in the province.

Cuito Cuanavale is where Angolan Government forces, supported by Cubans and Russians, fought the South African and UNITA troops to a standstill. The largest tank battle in Africa since WWII was fought here, and it marked the end of South African intervention in Angola. South African troops returned home, and the



independence of Namibia followed shortly after. As such, Cuito Cuanavale is hugely important to the Angolans with a national holiday celebrated on 23 March each year. Given the military history, Cuito Cuanavale is surrounded by dense minefields.

This briefing will be continued during a visit to the Cuito Cuanavale Monument the following day.

Accommodations: Uncharted Safaris Mobile Camp

Day 5, Thursday, August 26th

0600 – 0630 Breakfast and quick briefing on the day ahead

0630 – 0710 Travel to minefield

0710 – 0845 “HKK029” Minefield visit

The “HKK029” minefield is a huge South African-laid minefield lying to the east of Cuito Cuanavale. The minefield is approximately 20km long and comprises both anti-personnel and anti-tank mines. Both types are laid in very high numbers, and some of the party will be able to safely destroy some R2M2 AP mines under the close supervision of senior HALO staff. The South African mines are notoriously hard to find due to their minimum metal content, and so HALO is conducting research into new technologies which help to locate the mines in partnership with the US Department of Defense. The party will be able to see a range of detectors being trialed on this minefield.

0845 – 0945 Travel to Cuito Cuanavale monument



0945 – 1040 Continuation of briefing on on the Battle of Cuito Cuanavale by Jose Antonio, HALO Trust’s Location Manager for Cuando Cubango Province, including tour of monument and lunch



Located directly next to the airport, this monument has historic significance to Angola. The monument marks the Battle of Cuito Cuanavale. Cuito Cuanavale is where Angolan Government forces, supported by Cubans and Russians, fought the South African and UNITA troops to a standstill. The largest tank battle in Africa since WWII was fought here, and it marked the end of South African intervention in Angola. South African troops returned home, and the independence of Namibia followed shortly after. As such, Cuito Cuanavale is hugely important to the Angolans with a national holiday celebrated on 23 March each year. Given the military history, Cuito Cuanavale is surrounded by dense minefields.

1040 – 1100 Travel to airport and board aircraft



- 1100 Depart for Botswana 
- 1330 Arrive in Maun, clear customs 
- 1430 Depart from Maun to Abu Airstrip, transfer to camp and check in
- 1530 - 1730 Afternoon field briefing with Wilderness Trust's team of rangers and specialists, who will welcome the delegation and offer an introduction of the Okavango Delta ecosystem, focusing on the conservation challenges and opportunities in this region including wildlife corridors and regional conservation issues.

Travel time included as briefing takes place en-route.

- 1830 - 1930 Dinner Briefing with Dr. Nyambe Nyambe, Executive Director of the KAZA TFCA Secretariat, on successes and challenges of the Kavango-Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area

The KAZA TFCA is enormous, larger than Germany and Austria combined and nearly twice as large as the United Kingdom. It lies in the Kavango and Zambezi River basins where Angola, Botswana, Namibia, Zambia, and Zimbabwe converge.

It includes the 15,000 km² Okavango Delta, the world's largest inland delta, as well as Victoria Falls, a World Heritage Site and one of the seven natural wonders of the world.

The KAZA TFCA process evolved from two initiatives: the Okavango Upper Zambezi International Tourism Initiative (OUZIT) and the "Four Corners" Transboundary Natural Resource Management Initiative. However, unlike its predecessors, the KAZA TFCA initiative is owned and led by the governments of the five partner countries, with a clear focus on conservation as the primary form of land use and tourism being a by-product thereof.

The goal of the KAZA TFCA is "to sustainably manage the Kavango Zambezi ecosystem, its heritage and cultural resources based on best conservation and tourism models for the socio-economic wellbeing of the communities and other stakeholders in and around the eco-region through harmonization of policies, strategies and practices."

Its vision is to establish a world-class transfrontier conservation and tourism destination area in the Okavango and Zambezi River Basin regions of Angola, Botswana, Namibia, Zambia, and Zimbabwe within the context of sustainable development.

Accommodations: Seba Camp

Day 6, Friday, August 27th



0530 - 0600 Wakeup and tea

0600 - 1000 Field briefing with Abu Concession guides and elephant experts

The vast Abu Concession is set within the Okavango Delta and as such is at the heart of the rangelands of Africa's largest surviving meta-herd of elephants. The delegation will gain a thorough understanding of the challenges facing African elephants, their role in the greater ecosystem, human-wildlife conflict, and why it is essential to preserve this and other endangered species. Concession guides and elephant experts -Dr. Fabrigas and Dr. Rob Jackson- will educate participants about elephant behavior, as well as elephant conservation efforts and challenges. They will learn about the role of elephants in the larger ecosystem and why the preservation of this species is essential to the wellbeing of Africa's biodiversity as a whole, as well as to the interests of people around the world. Elephants across the continent are being decimated, and wildlife crime threatens to overturn decades of conservation and development gains in the region, yet Botswana itself suffers from destructive over-population of elephants as their safe haven in the region. These topics and their implications for U.S. economic and national security interests will be discussed with concession rangers, who encounter these challenges on a regular basis.

Travel time included as briefing takes place en-route.

1100 – 1300 Brunch Briefing on Okavango Delta Ecosystem, Local Communities, and Ecotourism

Briefing will discuss the Okavango Delta World Heritage Site as well as the importance of a community-driven conservation economy and sustainable tourism in the Okavango River Basin. In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, it will discuss the importance of protecting fragile ecosystems such as the Okavango River Basin, which is home to rich biodiversity and a lifeline for a million people in southern Africa. It will talk about strengthening the resiliency of the local communities who live in harmony with nature, so that conservation of biodiversity can be achieved – as well as the significance of empowering communities with a steady source of income through employment in community-based alternative livelihoods to curb the dependence on wildlife and to make a living. This briefing will also highlight the need for cooperation among tourism companies to work toward benefiting local communities and conservation.

1330 - 1430 Transport to the river

1430 - 1630 Afternoon field visit and briefing on impacts of weather on the waters of the Delta



The Okavango River Basin is Africa's most expansive inland water system and home to its largest remaining elephant populations. It begins in the Angolan highlands and runs through Namibia before entering Botswana and developing into the Okavango Delta, over 1,000 miles from its headwaters. The Okavango River and Delta are an incredible example of the complicated and intricate flood pulse water cycle that supports ecological and social systems in this region including over one million Botswanans, Namibians, and Angolans.

The unusual aspect of the Okavango is that it receives its water in Botswana's dry season. Only after summer rainfall has ceased do the floodwaters arrive in the Delta from further north, creating a fertile oasis crammed with life. It can take six months for the waters to filter down from the Panhandle in the north to the outer limits of the Delta. The level of each year's inundation is primarily dependent on rainfall in the catchment areas in Angola as well as over the Delta itself, and there is a distinct short- and long-term cycle to the flooding patterns of the Okavango and associated river systems.

This afternoon's field visit and briefing will be on the water, and guides will educate participants about the intricacies of the Okavango water system and focus on the impacts of weather patterns on the region and its biodiversity.

1630 - 1830 Return to camp and freshen up for dinner

1830 - 2030 Dinner and briefing on innovative technologies

Bruce Jones, Partner Manager of Vulcan's Earth Ranger, will lead discussions on various technologies being utilized in the region, including Earth Ranger and others, which focus on modernizing wildlife surveys and supporting community-led human-wildlife co-existence. Topics will include USAID-supported initiatives.



Accommodations: Seba Camp

Day 7, Saturday, August 28th

0530 - 0600 Wakeup and tea

0600 - 0900 Field briefing with Wilderness Trust

Lazarus Moalosi of Wilderness Trust will discuss projects in three key areas:

Research and Conservation: *ecological studies of specific species, transboundary movements, migration corridors and human-animal conflicts, interactions between species, and climate change. Such studies help pave the way for better informed conservation management decisions and thus the sustainability of Africa's wildlife and wilderness areas.*



Community Empowerment and Education: Conservation of animals and plants is only as strong as the people who live in their vicinity. Without the engagement and involvement of such people, conservation is likely to exist only on paper. Therefore, educational and financial empowerment of local communities is the bedrock of the Trust, providing much-needed skills and knowledge to these communities.

Anti-Poaching and Management: Hands-on management contributes to the survival of both individual species and their endangered habitats. The Trust supports a number of anti-poaching entities and assists in further management initiatives, such as aerial surveys.

Travel time included as briefing takes place en-route.

- 1000 - 1030 Return to camp, shower, and pack
- 1030 Depart for the airstrip for flight to Maun
- 1200 - 1300 Lunch meeting with co-chairs of the Botswana Conservation Parliamentary Caucus

Since 2016, the Botswana Conservation Parliamentary Caucus' strategic objectives have recognized the importance of ecotourism development, combating environmental crime, and the promotion of community-based conservation. The caucus' goals involve the development and passage of national wildlife policy and legislative actions, implementation of regional policy frameworks, and continued development of criminal justice capacity-building. On August 7th, they will launch their new strategic plan and will share this with the delegation.

- 1300 Depart for airport
- 1415 SA Airlink Flight # 301 from Maun (MUB) to JNB
- 2000 United Flight # 187 from JNB to EWR

Accommodations: Airplane

Day 8, Monday, August 29th

- 0755 Flight #746 from EWR to IAD
- 0912 Arrival at IAD

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Chairman

Jackie Walorski, Indiana
Ranking Member

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Kelle A. Strickland
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August 19, 2021

Ms. Meghan Gallagher
Committee on Foreign Affairs
2120 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ms. Gallagher:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your proposed trip to Angola, Botswana,¹ scheduled for August 22 to 29, 2021, sponsored by International Conservation Caucus Foundation and the Halo Trust (USA).

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.

You must complete an Employee Post-Travel Disclosure Form (which your employing Member must also sign) 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. If you are required to file an annual Financial Disclosure Statement, 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.

¹ 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. 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 employees 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,

Handwritten signatures of Theodore E. Deutch and Jackie Walorski in blue ink. Theodore E. Deutch's signature is on the left, and Jackie Walorski's signature is on the right.

Theodore E. Deutch
Chairman

Jackie Walorski
Ranking Member

TED/JW:adw



Itinerary

Day 1, Sunday, August 22nd

1100 Depart from IAD on Ethiopian Flight #510 to BOLE International Airport (ADD) to arrive at 0715 on Monday, August 23rd

Day 2, Monday, August 23rd

0715 Arrival into BOLE International Airport (ADD) and connect to Ethiopian Flight #851 at 0940 to Luanda (LAD)

1225 Arrive in Luanda, Angola. Retrieve luggage and proceed to the hotel

1400 Arrival at hotel, unpack and freshen up

1600 Depart for S. Miguel

1630-1730 Visit to Fortress of S. Miguel and briefing on Angola conflict history

Expert guide will brief the delegation on the historical significance of the Fortress, which dates back to Portuguese-colonial Angola and the slave trade, and the history of Angolan military conflicts. The Fortress, which also houses the Museum of the Armed Forces, was used in the Angolan War of Independence and against South African military interventions and has been submitted to be considered a UNESCO World Heritage site. This briefing will provide participants with important historical context on the impact of colonial influence and armed conflict on Angolan politics, society, and security.

1730 Return to hotel

1800 - 1815 Dinner and welcome briefing with HALO's Head of Congressional Affairs Kristen Stevens and ICCF's Executive Vice President Susan Lylis to introduce topics that will be discussed during the trip, including the U.S. humanitarian demining program, transboundary conservation, natural resource management, etc.

1815– 1915 Briefing by The HALO Trust's Tom Gowan on the origins of landmines and other explosive remnants of war in Angola, an overview of the U.S. humanitarian demining program in Angola including work supporting the government with weapons and ammunition stockpile management, and the implementation and impact of this work.



Accommodations: Skyna Hotel

Day 3, Tuesday, August 24th



0700 – 0715 Coffee and light breakfast
0715 Depart for US Embassy
0745 – 0830 COVID-19 Testing at US Embassy

0830 – 0930 Briefing with US Embassy country team 

Embassy officials will brief travelers on security and safety in Angola, speak to the US-Angola relationship, and highlight current bilateral development assistance through USAID.

0930-1000 Travel to government Ministries
1000-1330 Executive branch meetings and lunch

U.S. Embassy assisting to request meetings with:

- *President João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço: to discuss the Government's recent commitments to humanitarian demining and conservation and explore opportunities to further the U.S.-Angola bilateral relationship.*
- *Minister of Culture, Environment, Tourism, Jomo Fortunato (and Secretary of State for Environment, Paula Coelho): to discuss the Government's conservation and sustainable development initiatives in the Southeast, including humanitarian demining efforts, and discuss opportunities for public and private partnerships to advance shared U.S.-Angola interests.* 
- *Minister of External Relations, Tete Antonio: to discuss the Government's recent commitments to demining and conservation and opportunities to further the U.S.-Angola bilateral relationship.*
- *Minister of National Defense, Joao Ernesto Dos Santos: to discuss demining and weapons security assistance efforts throughout Angola, explore further opportunities to assist the Angolan Government in removing explosive threats, and discuss the intersection between conservation and security.* 
- *Minister of State and Head of Security, General Furtado: to discuss demining and weapons security assistance efforts throughout Angola, explore further opportunities to assist the Angolan Government in removing explosive threats, and discuss the intersection between conservation and security.*




- *ANAM, General Petroff and Dr. Adriano: to discuss demining and weapons security assistance efforts throughout Angola, including challenges and opportunities to assist the Angolan Government in removing these explosive threats.*
- *Simportex, General Pizarro: to discuss progress on HALO's Angolan Government-funded demining efforts in the southeast in support of conservation goals, developments on the conservation initiative in this region more broadly, and the path forward in removing all landmines from Mavinga and Luengue-Luiana Parks.*
- *Minister Faustina Fernandes Inglês de Almeida Alves, Minister of Social Action, Family, and Gender Promotion (MASFAMU): to discuss humanitarian demining and conservation projects in Angola.*

Ambassador Nina Fite to accompany delegation to all Ministerial meetings.


1330 - 1400 Travel to parliament

1400 – 1600 Parliament meetings

- *Head of the Parliament's 3rd Commission for External Relations, International Cooperation and Angolan Communities, MP Josefina Pitra Diakite: to discuss Parliamentary initiatives for conservation and sustainable development, including the formation of a conservation caucus/forum and opportunities for collaborative dialogue between the U.S. Congress, the Angolan Parliament, and other ICCF-supported conservation caucuses in the region.* 
- *Head of Parliament's 2nd Commission, Roberto Leal Ramos Monterio: to discuss demining and weapons security assistance efforts throughout Angola, explore further opportunities to assist the Angolan Government in removing explosive threats, and discuss the intersection between conservation and security.*
- *President of 5th Commission, Ruth Mendes: to discuss Parliamentary initiatives for conservation and sustainable development, including the formation of a conservation caucus/forum, opportunities for dialogue between the U.S. and Angola, as well as economic opportunities stemming from demining efforts in support of conservation objectives in the southeast, and throughout the country.*

1600-1630 Travel to U.S. Ambassador's residence

1630-1830 Reception briefing with remarks by Ambassador Fite, Angolan government officials, private sector leaders, and NGO representatives

Welcome remarks offered by Ambassador Fite. Representatives of business associations, such as the U.S.-Angola Chamber of Commerce and AmCham 



Angola, will present on members' support for conservation and sustainability in Angola. Civil society organizations, such as AKADIR, Mines Advisory Group, and the Nature Conservancy, will present on on-the-ground conservation, demining, and community development initiatives in Angola.

1830-1900 Return to hotel

1900-2000 Dinner with briefing by ICCF's Executive Vice President Susan Lylis on the Parliamentary Conservation Caucus model



Susan Lylis will discuss the Parliamentary Conservation Caucus model and how it is being implemented in legislatures around the world to educate and inspire policymakers, provide a forum for bipartisan discussion and consensus building, and foster collaboration between the public and private sectors to find innovative solutions to natural resource challenges.

Accommodations: Skyna Hotel

Day 4, Wednesday August 25th

0330 Leave for airport

0530 – 0800 Fly from Luanda to Cuemba

0800 - 0830 Travel to HALO Trust demining camp

The HALO camp is situated 100m from the bridge and the waterfall, with the nearest minefield lying just on the far side. Visitors will pick up protective equipment and any other necessary gear in camp.

0830 – 0900 Tour of camp, possible welcome from local government officials, and briefing by Tom Dibb, HALO's Head of Africa Region. He will discuss the significance of the location and the U.S.-funded work in this area and will guide visitors through the camp.

All of HALO's landmine clearance work in Bie Province, where Cuemba is situated, is being funded by the US Government through the State Department's Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement within the Political Military Affairs Bureau. The visitors will therefore be seeing US-funded demining teams in the field.

Cuemba is strategically located on the main road and rail routes between Huambo, Kuito, Bie, and Moxico Provinces. It is the main road to the provincial capital Luena and would be the route taken by National Geographic to reach their research base in Tempue and the Okavango source lakes.



- 0930 - 1000 Travel to minefield
- 1000 – 1230 Minefield and safety briefing by Rob Syfret, HALO Angola’s Program Manager, and minefield visit

Government forces laid mines around the town of Cuemba, and nearby infrastructure, such as the bridge, to defend it from UNITA attacks. It is these minefields which HALO is now clearing.

Rob will show visitors the minefield map, discuss what threats are being found and generally how demining is conducted, and answer any questions. The briefing will highlight safety protocols to keep all visitors safe during the minefield visit.

Before entering the minefield, visitors will put on protective gear under the supervision of highly experienced HALO staff and will have the opportunity to see and handle a variety of demining equipment (metal detectors).

Rob and Tom will lead the group through areas of the minefield, using pathways that have been cleared of all explosive hazards and clearly marked. As deminers conduct their work, Rob and Tom will describe the demining process in more detail.

- 1230 – 1300 Lunch briefing by Rob Syfret and deminers on the impact of U.S. demining programs in Angola through a conservation, security, and development lens, highlighting HALO’s 100 women in demining project

HALO will provide simple bag lunches for visitors to eat outdoors near the minefield next to the waterfall.

- 1300 – 1330 Travel to airport

- 1330 – 1530 Travel by air to Cuito Cuanavale (refueling stop in Menongue)



- 1530 – 1600 Transport to camp, drop luggage at accommodation site

- 1600 – 1700 Briefing by Rhys Mansel, HALO’s Deputy Head of Research and Development. Rhys will brief the party on demining technology, HALO’s R&D work in partnership with the U.S. Department of Defense, and how these efforts are supporting demining progress in Angola.

- 1700 – 1830 Dinner briefing by Rhys Mansel on the Battle of Cuito Cuanavale, and the \$60m Angolan Government demining project to support conservation in the province.

Cuito Cuanavale is where Angolan Government forces, supported by Cubans and Russians, fought the South African and UNITA troops to a standstill. The largest tank battle in Africa since WWII was fought here, and it marked the end of South African intervention in Angola. South African troops returned home, and the



independence of Namibia followed shortly after. As such, Cuito Cuanavale is hugely important to the Angolans with a national holiday celebrated on 23 March each year. Given the military history, Cuito Cuanavale is surrounded by dense minefields.

This briefing will be continued during a visit to the Cuito Cuanavale Monument the following day.

Accommodations: Uncharted Safaris Mobile Camp

Day 5, Thursday, August 26th

0600 – 0630 Breakfast and quick briefing on the day ahead

0630 – 0710 Travel to minefield

0710 – 0845 “HKK029” Minefield visit

The “HKK029” minefield is a huge South African-laid minefield lying to the east of Cuito Cuanavale. The minefield is approximately 20km long and comprises both anti-personnel and anti-tank mines. Both types are laid in very high numbers, and some of the party will be able to safely destroy some R2M2 AP mines under the close supervision of senior HALO staff. The South African mines are notoriously hard to find due to their minimum metal content, and so HALO is conducting research into new technologies which help to locate the mines in partnership with the US Department of Defense. The party will be able to see a range of detectors being trialed on this minefield.

0845 – 0945 Travel to Cuito Cuanavale monument



0945 – 1040 Continuation of briefing on on the Battle of Cuito Cuanavale by Jose Antonio, HALO Trust’s Location Manager for Cuando Cubango Province, including tour of monument and lunch



Located directly next to the airport, this monument has historic significance to Angola. The monument marks the Battle of Cuito Cuanavale. Cuito Cuanavale is where Angolan Government forces, supported by Cubans and Russians, fought the South African and UNITA troops to a standstill. The largest tank battle in Africa since WWII was fought here, and it marked the end of South African intervention in Angola. South African troops returned home, and the independence of Namibia followed shortly after. As such, Cuito Cuanavale is hugely important to the Angolans with a national holiday celebrated on 23 March each year. Given the military history, Cuito Cuanavale is surrounded by dense minefields.

1040 – 1100 Travel to airport and board aircraft



- 1100 Depart for Botswana 
- 1330 Arrive in Maun, clear customs 
- 1430 Depart from Maun to Abu Airstrip, transfer to camp and check in
- 1530 - 1730 Afternoon field briefing with Wilderness Trust's team of rangers and specialists, who will welcome the delegation and offer an introduction of the Okavango Delta ecosystem, focusing on the conservation challenges and opportunities in this region including wildlife corridors and regional conservation issues.

Travel time included as briefing takes place en-route.

- 1830 - 1930 Dinner Briefing with Dr. Nyambe Nyambe, Executive Director of the KAZA TFCA Secretariat, on successes and challenges of the Kavango-Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area

The KAZA TFCA is enormous, larger than Germany and Austria combined and nearly twice as large as the United Kingdom. It lies in the Kavango and Zambezi River basins where Angola, Botswana, Namibia, Zambia, and Zimbabwe converge.

It includes the 15,000 km² Okavango Delta, the world's largest inland delta, as well as Victoria Falls, a World Heritage Site and one of the seven natural wonders of the world.

The KAZA TFCA process evolved from two initiatives: the Okavango Upper Zambezi International Tourism Initiative (OUZIT) and the "Four Corners" Transboundary Natural Resource Management Initiative. However, unlike its predecessors, the KAZA TFCA initiative is owned and led by the governments of the five partner countries, with a clear focus on conservation as the primary form of land use and tourism being a by-product thereof.

The goal of the KAZA TFCA is "to sustainably manage the Kavango Zambezi ecosystem, its heritage and cultural resources based on best conservation and tourism models for the socio-economic wellbeing of the communities and other stakeholders in and around the eco-region through harmonization of policies, strategies and practices."

Its vision is to establish a world-class transfrontier conservation and tourism destination area in the Okavango and Zambezi River Basin regions of Angola, Botswana, Namibia, Zambia, and Zimbabwe within the context of sustainable development.

Accommodations: Seba Camp

Day 6, Friday, August 27th



0530 - 0600 Wakeup and tea

0600 - 1000 Field briefing with Abu Concession guides and elephant experts

The vast Abu Concession is set within the Okavango Delta and as such is at the heart of the rangelands of Africa's largest surviving meta-herd of elephants. The delegation will gain a thorough understanding of the challenges facing African elephants, their role in the greater ecosystem, human-wildlife conflict, and why it is essential to preserve this and other endangered species. Concession guides and elephant experts -Dr. Fabrigas and Dr. Rob Jackson- will educate participants about elephant behavior, as well as elephant conservation efforts and challenges. They will learn about the role of elephants in the larger ecosystem and why the preservation of this species is essential to the wellbeing of Africa's biodiversity as a whole, as well as to the interests of people around the world. Elephants across the continent are being decimated, and wildlife crime threatens to overturn decades of conservation and development gains in the region, yet Botswana itself suffers from destructive over-population of elephants as their safe haven in the region. These topics and their implications for U.S. economic and national security interests will be discussed with concession rangers, who encounter these challenges on a regular basis.

Travel time included as briefing takes place en-route.

1100 – 1300 Brunch Briefing on Okavango Delta Ecosystem, Local Communities, and Ecotourism

Briefing will discuss the Okavango Delta World Heritage Site as well as the importance of a community-driven conservation economy and sustainable tourism in the Okavango River Basin. In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, it will discuss the importance of protecting fragile ecosystems such as the Okavango River Basin, which is home to rich biodiversity and a lifeline for a million people in southern Africa. It will talk about strengthening the resiliency of the local communities who live in harmony with nature, so that conservation of biodiversity can be achieved – as well as the significance of empowering communities with a steady source of income through employment in community-based alternative livelihoods to curb the dependence on wildlife and to make a living. This briefing will also highlight the need for cooperation among tourism companies to work toward benefiting local communities and conservation.

1330 - 1430 Transport to the river

1430 - 1630 Afternoon field visit and briefing on impacts of weather on the waters of the Delta



The Okavango River Basin is Africa's most expansive inland water system and home to its largest remaining elephant populations. It begins in the Angolan highlands and runs through Namibia before entering Botswana and developing into the Okavango Delta, over 1,000 miles from its headwaters. The Okavango River and Delta are an incredible example of the complicated and intricate flood pulse water cycle that supports ecological and social systems in this region including over one million Botswanans, Namibians, and Angolans.

The unusual aspect of the Okavango is that it receives its water in Botswana's dry season. Only after summer rainfall has ceased do the floodwaters arrive in the Delta from further north, creating a fertile oasis crammed with life. It can take six months for the waters to filter down from the Panhandle in the north to the outer limits of the Delta. The level of each year's inundation is primarily dependent on rainfall in the catchment areas in Angola as well as over the Delta itself, and there is a distinct short- and long-term cycle to the flooding patterns of the Okavango and associated river systems.

This afternoon's field visit and briefing will be on the water, and guides will educate participants about the intricacies of the Okavango water system and focus on the impacts of weather patterns on the region and its biodiversity.

1630 - 1830 Return to camp and freshen up for dinner

1830 - 2030 Dinner and briefing on innovative technologies

Bruce Jones, Partner Manager of Vulcan's Earth Ranger, will lead discussions on various technologies being utilized in the region, including Earth Ranger and others, which focus on modernizing wildlife surveys and supporting community-led human-wildlife co-existence. Topics will include USAID-supported initiatives.



Accommodations: Seba Camp

Day 7, Saturday, August 28th

0530 - 0600 Wakeup and tea

0600 - 0900 Field briefing with Wilderness Trust

Lazarus Moalosi of Wilderness Trust will discuss projects in three key areas:

Research and Conservation: *ecological studies of specific species, transboundary movements, migration corridors and human-animal conflicts, interactions between species, and climate change. Such studies help pave the way for better informed conservation management decisions and thus the sustainability of Africa's wildlife and wilderness areas.*



Community Empowerment and Education: Conservation of animals and plants is only as strong as the people who live in their vicinity. Without the engagement and involvement of such people, conservation is likely to exist only on paper. Therefore, educational and financial empowerment of local communities is the bedrock of the Trust, providing much-needed skills and knowledge to these communities.

Anti-Poaching and Management: Hands-on management contributes to the survival of both individual species and their endangered habitats. The Trust supports a number of anti-poaching entities and assists in further management initiatives, such as aerial surveys.

Travel time included as briefing takes place en-route.

- 1000 - 1030 Return to camp, shower, and pack
- 1030 Depart for the airstrip for flight to Maun
- 1200 - 1300 Lunch meeting with co-chairs of the Botswana Conservation Parliamentary Caucus

Since 2016, the Botswana Conservation Parliamentary Caucus' strategic objectives have recognized the importance of ecotourism development, combating environmental crime, and the promotion of community-based conservation. The caucus' goals involve the development and passage of national wildlife policy and legislative actions, implementation of regional policy frameworks, and continued development of criminal justice capacity-building. On August 7th, they will launch their new strategic plan and will share this with the delegation.

- 1300 Depart for airport
- 1415 SA Airlink Flight # 301 from Maun (MUB) to JNB
- 2000 United Flight # 187 from JNB to EWR

Accommodations: Airplane

Day 8, Monday, August 29th

- 0755 Flight #746 from EWR to IAD
- 0912 Arrival at IAD

4. Meghan Gallagher, House Foreign Affairs Committee, Congressman Mike McCaul (R-TX)

Meghan was invited because the issues that are being discussed while in country fall under the jurisdiction of the House Foreign Affairs Committee. Congressman Mike McCaul is also a member of the International Conservation Caucus.

12. ICCF educates policymakers on issues of conservation and good natural resource management. This delegation will enable Congressional staff to see first-hand the ways that U.S. investment is supporting biodiversity conservation and management in the Okavango watershed, as well as see U.S.-supported humanitarian demining programs in Angola and their links to conservation and development goals in the region.

The HALO Trust's mission is to lead the effort to protect lives and restore livelihoods threatened by landmines and the debris of war. The HALO Trust, a U.S. government partner, destroys landmines and other explosive items, and manages dangerous stockpiles of weapons and ammunition.

ICCF and Halo Trust (USA) coordinated on identifying topics of the briefings and speakers for this delegation and organized logistics for travel and accommodations. HALO Trust (USA) led on itinerary and costs while in Cuito Cuanavale and ICCF led on itinerary and costs while in Luanda and Botswana.

15. B. 2. Sites chosen in Angola and Botswana allow participants to experience first hand how U.S. investment in international conservation is contributing to conservation in the Okavango Delta watershed and demining efforts in Angola.

18. Other: visa fees, COVID tests, field activities, Seba Park daily conservation fee, tips