



U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

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, B-81 Cannon House Office Building, 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: Serena Gobbi
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: _____ OR None
 b. Relationship to Traveler: Spouse Child Other (specify): _____
3. a. Dates: Departure: April 9, 2022 Return: April 16, 2022
 b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: _____ OR None
4. Departure City: Washington, DC Destination: Tashkent, Uzbekistan Return City: Washington, DC
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: United Nations Foundation
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended: Meetings with UN groups, Uzbekistan government, U.S. embassy officials, Site visits such as tour and meeting with students at an UN-funded children's AIDS clinic
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 *Grantmaking or Non-Grantmaking Sponsor Forms*;
 - 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: 04/25/2022

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: Norma J Torres Date: 4/29/22

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: United Nations Foundation
2. Travel Destination(s): Tashkent and Samarkand, Uzbekistan
3. Date of Departure: Saturday, April 9, 2022 Date of Return: Saturday, April 16, 2022
4. Name(s) of Traveler(s): Serena Gobbi; Katherine Curtis

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	\$2,169.37	\$728	\$405.89	\$230 (translation serv); \$59.97 (covid test)
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: 4/25/2022

Name: Peter Yeo Title: Senior Vice President

Organization: United Nations Foundation

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

Address: 1750 Pennsylvania Ave NW Suite 300 Washington, DC 20006

Email: pyeo@unfoundation.org Telephone: 202-887-9040

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

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.

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: Serena Gobbi

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: _____

S Gobbi

Name of Signatory (if other than traveler): _____

For Staff (name of employing Member or Committee): Norma J. Torres

Office Address: 2227 Rayburn House Office Building

Telephone Number: (202) 225-6161

Email Address of Contact Person: Serena.Gobbi@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.



U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

TRAVELER FORM

1. Name of Traveler: Serena Gobbi
2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying or providing in-kind support for the trip:
United Nations Foundation
3. City and State OR Foreign Country of Travel : Uzbekistan
4. a. Date of Departure: April 9 Date of Return: April 16
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.
As Legislative Director for Norma J. Torres, I oversee her work on the SFOPS Appropriations sub-committee. In this role, she works to determine how the federal government's budget should be spent abroad, including on relationships with foreign countries and refugee and humanitarian assistance such as during the Afghan refugee crisis.
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

Norma J. Torres

Date 03/10/2022



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:

United Nations Foundation

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):

Please see attached.

5. Yes No Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?

6. Date of departure: Saturday, April 9, 2022 Date of return: Saturday, April 16, 2022

7. a. City of departure: Washington, DC

b. Destination(s): Tashkent, Termez, and Samarkand, Uzbekistan

c. City of return: Washington, DC

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:
Please see attachment.
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):
\$97 per day in Tashkent; \$62 per day outside Tashkent.
- 2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip:
Please see attached.
16. Name, nightly cost, and reasons for selecting each hotel or other lodging facility:
- Hotel Name: Hilton Tashkent City City: Tashkent Cost Per Night: \$180
Reason(s) for Selecting: Favorable cost and location.
- Hotel Name: Hotel Karvon Saroy City: Termez Cost Per Night: \$80
Reason(s) for Selecting: Favorable cost and location.
- Hotel Name: L'Argamak Hotel City: Samarkand Cost Per Night: \$80
Reason(s) for Selecting: Favorable cost and location.
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	\$2,300	\$780	\$415
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	\$50	Covid test to return to U.S.
For each Accompanying Family Member	\$160	Uzbekistan visa


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: 3/7/2022
 Name: Peter Yeo Title: Senior Vice President
 Organization: United Nations Foundation
 Address: 1750 Pennsylvania Ave NW Suite 300 Washington, DC 20006
 Email: pyeo@unfoundation.org Telephone: 202-887-9040

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

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:
United Nations Foundation
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):
Please see attached.
5. Yes No Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?
6. Date of departure: Saturday, April 9, 2022 Date of return: Saturday, April 16, 2022
7. a. City of departure: Washington, DC
b. Destination(s): Tashkent, Termez, and Samarkand, Uzbekistan
c. City of return: Washington, DC
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:
Please see attachment.
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):
\$97 per day in Tashkent; \$62 per day outside Tashkent.
- 2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip:
Please see attached.
16. Name, nightly cost, and reasons for selecting each hotel or other lodging facility:
- Hotel Name: Hyatt Regency Tashkent City: Tashkent Cost Per Night: \$180
Reason(s) for Selecting: Favorable cost and location.
- Hotel Name: Hotel Karvon Saroy City: Termez Cost Per Night: \$80
Reason(s) for Selecting: Favorable cost and location.
- Hotel Name: Emirhan Hotel City: Samarkand Cost Per Night: \$80
Reason(s) for Selecting: Favorable cost and location.
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	\$2,300	\$780	\$415
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	\$50 \$160	Covid test to return to U.S. Uzbekistan visa
For each Accompanying Family Member		


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: 3/7/2022

Name: Peter Yeo Title: Senior Vice President

Organization: United Nations Foundation

Address: 1750 Pennsylvania Ave NW Suite 300 Washington, DC 20006

Email: pyeo@unfoundation.org Telephone: 202-887-9040

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

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

April 4, 2022

Ms. Serena Gobbi
Office of the Honorable Norma Torres
2227 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ms. Gobbi:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your proposed trip to Uzbekistan,¹ scheduled for April 9 to 16, 2022, sponsored by United Nations Foundation.

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,



Theodore E. Deutch
Chairman



Jackie Walorski
Ranking Member

TED/JW:rp

UNF Learning Trip to Uzbekistan
Answers to Primary Trip Sponsor Form Questions 4, 12, and 15b2

4. Names and titles of all House invitees and explanation of why the individual was invited:

The following individuals have been invited to participate in this learning trip to Uzbekistan because they work directly on issues related to U.S. foreign policy, U.S.-UN relations, U.S.-Uzbekistan relations, humanitarian assistance, sustainable development, international organizations, and/or related regional issues.

Serena Gobbi, Legislative Director
Rep. Norma Torres

Emily Ackerman, Legislative Director
Rep. Guy Reschenthaler

Mena Hanna, Senior Policy Adviser
Rep. Jeff Fortenberry

Anubhav Gupta, Senior Professional Staff Member
House Foreign Affairs Committee

Katherine Curtis, Professional Staff Member
House Foreign Affairs Committee

Amber Unwala, Legislative Director
Rep. Greg Meeks

Zachary Isakowitz, Legislative Director
Rep. Michael McCaul

Mike Lucier, Legislative Director
Rep. Jennifer Wexton

Kelvin Lum, Legislative Director
Rep. Ami Bera

Alex Cisneros, Legislative Director
Rep. Young Kim

Hillary Caron, Legislative Director
Rep. Andy Kim

Paul Howell, Chief of Staff
Rep. Trent Kelly

Louise Bentsen, Chief of Staff
Rep. Vicente Gonzalez

Valerie Foy, Legislative Assistant
Rep. Don Bacon

Katie Gallagher, Legislative Assistant
Rep. Ron Estes

Bubba White, Legislative Assistant
Rep. Michael Guest

Eliana Goodman, Legislative Assistant
Rep. David Kustoff

12. Description of the sponsor's interest in the subject matter of the trip and its role in organizing and/or conducting the trip:

UNF works to educate all Americans, including the U.S. Congress, on the importance of a strong U.S.-UN relationship. Over the course of this trip, the delegation will be offered an up-close view of the work of the 25 United Nations agencies, funds and programmes operating on-the-ground in Uzbekistan and how they, together with the U.S. and Uzbek government, are reducing poverty, strengthening health systems, advancing gender equality, safeguarding cultural heritage, and responding to dire humanitarian needs. Through these efforts, the delegation will develop a better understanding of how these joint efforts have enhanced Uzbekistan's prosperity, and, in turn, led to new mechanisms of multilateral support for national reforms aimed at liberalizing the economy, protecting fundamental human rights, and building responsive, democratic institutions.

The delegation will conduct multiple site visits and engage in several high-level meetings, including with the UN Resident Coordinator in Uzbekistan, U.S. Amb. Daniel Rosenblum, and various other UN leaders and Uzbekistan government officials. The delegation, in addition, will travel to Termez, a city on the Uzbekistan-Afghanistan border that has become a major logistical hub used by the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the World Food Programme (WFP), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), and others to ensure the expeditious delivery of emergency lifesaving humanitarian supplies to the people of Afghanistan.

UNF is the sole sponsor of this trip, organizing all aspects of the program and logistics. UNF handles all outreach to congressional staff and is the contact for planning purposes.

15b2. Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip:

This year marks the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the U.S. and Uzbekistan. While always a strategic partner, Uzbekistan has made, over the last six years, considerable progress towards greater transparency and prosperity, leveraging an expanded sense of openness to partner with the UN on a wide range of transformative projects. These developments, particularly considering recent regional events, have positioned Uzbekistan as an influential U.S. ally and, potentially, a long-term stabilizing force across Central Asia.

Additionally, as humanitarian demands swell across Afghanistan, the city of Termez—located on Uzbekistan’s southern border with Afghanistan—has become a critical staging post for emergency supplies delivered via the UN. Operating out of the Termez Cargo Center, UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, and IOM have already sent hundreds of tons of food, shelter, and medical supplies to Afghanistan via the narrow Soviet-built bridge that connects the two countries, with much more planned for distribution. As debate rages on as to how to deliver humanitarian assistance most effectively without supporting or recognizing the Taliban, an understanding of the working environment and the successes and challenges involved in the emergency relief operations being coordinated via Termez will be critical to informing future U.S. response to the crisis.



**UNF Congressional Learning Trip to Uzbekistan
April 9-16, 2022**

***All Times Local**
+9 hours from Washington, DC*

Saturday, April 9 --- Travel

Attire: Casual.

11:15pm Depart Dulles International Airport (IAD) on Turkish Airlines 8 to Istanbul Airport (IST)
Flight time 9h 50m

Sunday, April 10 --- Travel/Arrival

Attire: Casual.

4:05pm Arrive IST
Layover 2h 35m

6:40pm Depart IST on Turkish Airlines 370 to Tashkent Vostochny Airport (TAS)
Flight time 4h 25m

Monday, April 11 --- Arrival/Tashkent

Attire: Casual & Business

1:05am Arrive TAS

1:30am Transit via hired car to Hilton Tashkent City

2:00am Arrive at Hilton Tashkent City

Overnight Hilton Tashkent City
2, Islam Karimov Street Block 5
100027, Uzbekistan
+998 71 210 88 88

9:30am – 10:00am Breakfast at the hotel

10:00am – 10:15am Transit via hired car to UN Uzbekistan Office

10:15am – 10:45am **UN Security Briefing**

The delegation will receive a briefing from the UN Department of Safety and Security detailing the current political and security situation in Uzbekistan and provide guidance on any safety protocols that must be adhered to during the course of the learning trip.

Location: UN Uzbekistan Office

10:45am – 11:45am **Meeting with the UN Country Team**

The delegation will have a high-level discussion with the UN Country Team, facilitated by the UN Resident Coordinator, on the work of the 25 agencies, funds, and programmes operating in Uzbekistan, including efforts, within the context of the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework, to reduce poverty, promote good health and wellbeing, and achieve gender equality.

The meeting will provide the delegation with general background on the UN's presence in Uzbekistan, including key points of partnership between the U.S. and Uzbekistan—including the UN's work strengthening the Government of Uzbekistan's COVID-19 response.

Location: UN Uzbekistan Office

11:45am – 12:00pm Transit via hired car to U.S. Embassy Tashkent

12:00pm – 1:00pm **Meeting with Modified Country Team, led by U.S. Amb. Daniel Rosenblum**

The delegation will meet with Daniel Rosenblum, U.S. Ambassador to Uzbekistan, and his team to discuss U.S.-Uzbekistan relations, U.S.-UN cooperation measures, and how the U.S. is supporting an Uzbekistan-led program of reforms aimed at liberalizing the economy, protecting fundamental freedoms, and developing democratic institutions and civil society.

This meeting will provide the delegation with important background and perspectives on U.S.-Uzbek relations, areas for enhanced coordination, and explore the role the U.S., in conjunction with various UN agencies, play in advancing wide-ranging reform initiatives.

Location: U.S. Embassy Tashkent

1:00pm – 1:15pm Transit via hired car to Caravan

1:15pm – 2:15pm **Working Lunch with Roli Asthana, UN Resident Coordinator in Uzbekistan**

The delegation will have a working lunch with the UN Resident Coordinator to discuss key priority areas. Ms. Asthana was appointed as the UN Resident Coordinator in Uzbekistan on February 6, 2022. She brings more than 25 years of experience in sustainable development, which she has acquired while serving in leadership roles outside the UN at the international level. She was most recently posted as Development Director of the UK Foreign,

Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) in China after occupying other senior positions at FCDO's precursor, the UK Department for International Development (DFID).

The meeting will help the delegation understand the role of the UN Resident Coordinator, the office's scope of work, and how the RC facilitates partnerships between the U.S., Uzbekistan, and other donor countries.

Location: Caravan

2:15pm – 2:30pm Transit via hired car to Republican Cold Chain Warehouse

2:30pm – 3:30pm **Tour of Republican Cold Chain Warehouse and Meeting with Ministry of Health Staff**

The Republican Cold Chain Warehouse is the largest vaccine facility in Central Asia, established with the support of UNICEF, and officially handed over to the Ministry of Health on Nov 20, 2021. The facility can store large numbers of vaccines with different temperature requirements (including ultra-cold temperatures) and has been a critical step toward establishing a more robust national immunization program.

This tour and meeting will help the delegation understand the RCCW's impact on maternal and child health and the Uzbek government's improved capacity to supply and manage vaccines, as well as ongoing efforts to strengthen national and local capacities in the management, planning, monitoring and evaluation of supply and cold chain systems.

3:30pm – 3:45pm Transit via hired car to Tashkent City Polyclinic

3:45pm– 4:45pm **Tour of Tashkent City Polyclinic and Meeting with Ministry of Health Staff, Healthcare Workers, and UNICEF Staff**

With the support of the U.S Government and USAID, Uzbekistan has been able to significantly strengthen its COVID-19 response efforts via cold chain equipment, PPE, ancillary items, and of, course, vaccines. To date, the country has received over 7 million covid vaccine doses via bilateral U.S. shipments and the COVAX Facility, which is partially funded by the U.S. Government.

4:45pm – 5:15pm Transit via hired card to hotel

5:15pm – 6:00pm Executive Time

6:00pm – 6:15pm Transit via hired car to U.S. Ambassador's Residence

6:15pm – 7:30pm **Working Reception at U.S. Ambassador's Residence**

The U.S. Ambassador is hosting a welcome reception, which will allow the delegation to meet with the larger U.S. diplomatic community as well as key foreign interlocutors to discuss domestic and regional developments that impact U.S.-Uzbekistan relations.

Location: U.S. Ambassador's Residence

7:30pm – 7:45pm Transit via hired car to hotel

Overnight Hilton Tashkent City

Tuesday, April 12 --- Tashkent/Travel/Termez

Attire: Business & Casual

8:30am – 9:00am Breakfast at the hotel

9:00am – 9:30am Transit via hired car to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

9:30am – 10:30am **Meeting with H.E. Abdulaziz Kamilov, Minister of Foreign Affairs**

The delegation will meet with Abdulaziz Kamilov, Minister of Foreign Affairs to discuss regional challenges and responses, including an update on the creation of a humanitarian logistics hub in Termez that is currently operating under the auspices of the United Nations.

This meeting is important for the delegation to understand U.S.-Uzbek efforts to strengthen humanitarian cooperation and support the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, (UNHCR) the World Food Programme (WFP), and UNICEF as they leverage Termez's infrastructure to facilitate the direct delivery of humanitarian supplies to neighboring Afghanistan. This meeting will also be an opportunity to informally commemorate the 30-year anniversary of diplomatic relations between the U.S. and Uzbekistan, which were first established in 1992.

10:30am – 10:45am Transit via hired car to the Ministry of Economic Development and Poverty Reduction

10:45am – 11:45am **Meeting with H.E. Jamshid Kuchkarov, Minister of Economy**

The delegation will meet with Jamshid Kuchkarov, Minister of Economy to discuss how the Ministry works with the International Labor Organization (ILO), UN Development Programme (UNDP), UNICEF and others on the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework and how the Framework contributes to poverty reduction in Uzbekistan.

This meeting will help the delegation understand the Government of Uzbekistan's partnership with UN agencies on poverty reduction within the context of the Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework.

- 11:45am – 12:00pm Transit via hired car to Senate Building
- 12:00pm – 1:00pm **Meeting with H.E. Tanzila Kamalovna Narbaeva, Chairperson of the Senate of Uzbekistan**
- The delegation will meet with Tanzila Kamalovna Narbaeva, Chairperson of the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of Uzbekistan and the Chairperson of the Women's Committee from 2016-2019, to discuss progress Uzbekistan is making—in partnership with the UN Population Fund (UNFPA), International Organization for Migration (IOM), UNESCO and others—to combat gender-based violence and discrimination, increase women's representation in decision making processes, and modernize its education system.
- This meeting will help the delegation understand domestic political priorities and the working-level relationship between Uzbek lawmakers and various UN programs and projects that focus on gender equality and related issues.
- 1:00pm – 1:15pm Transfer via hired car to International Plov Center
- 1:15pm – 2:15pm **Working Lunch with Mikaela Meredith, USAID Mission Director**
- The delegation will have a working lunch with Mikaela Meredith, USAID Mission Director to discuss how USAID is helping diversify the Uzbek economy, increase regional trade, and strengthen private businesses.
- USAID launched its first bilateral mission to Uzbekistan in October 2020. This meeting will help the delegation understand the progress USAID has made over the last two years in Uzbekistan and how, among other priorities, it promotes U.S. investment in and development of Central Asia that promotes greater regional stability and prosperity—which will provide important context and background on the delegation's visit to Samarkand.
- Location: International Plov Center*
- 2:15pm – 2:30pm Transit via hired car to UNDP Incubator Hub
- 2:30pm – 3:30pm **Meeting with Uzbek Youth Participating in UN Development Programme (UNDP) Entrepreneurship Programmes**
- The delegation will learn about UNDP's entrepreneurship initiative, which is helping youth (age 18-30) develop entrepreneurial and business skills and aims to create incubators and accelerators which will support a new generation of young entrepreneurs.
- The visit will help the delegation understand how UNDP is promoting youth employment in Uzbekistan, particularly among college and university graduates, young women, returning migrants, and other vulnerable groups.

Location: UNDP Incubator Hub

3:30pm – 3:45pm Transit via hired car to Monocentre Isgha Marhamat

3:45pm – 4:45pm **Tour of Isgha Marhamat Employment Centre and Meeting with Students**

The delegation will tour the Isgha Marhamat Employment Centre which provides professional education courses and vocational training services to locals, as well as employment assistance to labor migrants.

This tour and meeting will help the delegation understand how UNDP, together with national and local authorities, is liberalizing the economy and working towards reducing poverty.

Location: Monocentre Isgha Marhamat

4:45pm – 5:15pm Transit via hired car to hotel

5:15pm – 6:45pm **Executive Time/Dinner/Prepare for flight to Termez**

6:45pm – 7:15pm Transit via hired car to TAS

7:15pm – 8:40pm Check-in for flight

8:40pm Depart TAS on Uzbek Airways 69 to Termez Airport (TMJ)
Flight time 1h 20m

10:00pm Arrive TMJ

10:15pm Transit via hired car to Hotel Karvonsaroy (Termez Cargo Center)

10:45pm Arrive Hotel Karvon Saroy

Overnight Hotel Karvon Saroy

Wednesday, April 13 --- Termez

Attire: Field Dress.

8:00am – 8:30am Breakfast at the hotel

8:30am – 9:00am Transit via hired car to Governor's Office

9:00am – 10:00am **Courtesy Meeting with H.E. Tura Bobolov, Surkhandarya Regional Governor**

The delegation will conduct a courtesy meeting with Gov. Bobolov to inform him of the purpose of the visit and learn more about the ongoing partnership

between the regional government and UN agencies operating in/around Termez.

This meeting is an important introduction for the delegation to gain an understanding of the overall situation in Termez, particularly as it relates to the delivery of humanitarian supplies to neighboring Afghanistan.

Location: Gov. Bobolov's Office

10:00am – 10:15am Transit via hired car to Barqaror Hayot Office

10:15am – 11:00am **Meeting with Barqaror Hayot**

The delegation will meet with local representatives from Barqaror Hayot, an NGO that assists victims of human trafficking and former prisoners with rehabilitation and reintegration into normal life, supports anti-human trafficking efforts, and prepares labor migrants to adapt to working abroad.

Barqaror Hayot is among the most well-established and successful NGOs operating in Uzbekistan and is a key UNICEF and IOM partner in Termez, which is assisting with the reintegration of returnees from the conflict zones. This meeting will help the delegation understand the environment in which NGOs operate in Uzbekistan and BH, UNICEF, and IOM's work supporting returnees via business skills courses, lectures/classes to overcome social problems in reintegration, and efforts to increase legal literacy.

Location: Barqaror Hayot Office

11:00am – 11:15am Transit via hired car to Red Crescent Society Termez Office

11:15am – 12:00pm **Meeting with Red Crescent Society**

The delegation will meet with local representatives of the Red Crescent Society. The Red Crescent Society of Uzbekistan is the oldest humanitarian organization in the country and was established to implement the ideas of humanism and mercy, assistance to public authorities and local governments with humanitarian activities. The organization is a full member of the International Federation of Red Cross (IFRC) and Red Crescent Societies.

RCS Termez is working in partnership with IFRC and UNICEF on earthquake preparedness activities, which is funded by USAID. This meeting will help the delegation understand how the U.S., UN, and RCS are working together in the region.

Location: Red Crescent Society Termez Office

12:00pm – 12:10pm Transit via hired car to the Termez Centre for Education in Afghanistan

12:10pm – 1:00pm **Tour of Termez Centre for Education in Afghanistan and Meeting with Afghan Students**

The Termez Centre for Education in Afghanistan was established in 2018, offering Afghan students higher and secondary specialized education in 17 areas, including the Uzbek and English languages, physics and chemistry. The Uzbek government partnered with UNDP in 2019 to expand the Centre's offerings via a cross-border initiative that provides scholarships and educational opportunities for Afghan women, who face disproportionate barriers to education and employment.

This meeting will help the delegation understand the evolving socio-economic situation in Afghan border cities and ongoing Uzbek and UN efforts to provide substantive educational and professional opportunities to Afghan women.

1:00pm – 1:15pm Transit via hired car to Karvon Saroy Restaurant

1:15pm – 2:30pm **Working Lunch with Mr. Nodirbek Jalilov, Director of the Termez Cargo Center**

The delegation will have a working lunch with the Director of the Termez Cargo Center, as well as staff from UNICEF, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the World Food Programme (WFP), and the International Organization for Migration (IOM), which are coordinating and facilitating the delivery of humanitarian supplies to Afghanistan via the Termez Cargo Center.

This working lunch will help the delegation understand general TCC operations and history of the Center.

Location: Karvon Saroy Restaurant

2:30pm – 3:00pm Transit via hired car to Termez Cargo Center

3:00pm – 4:00pm **Tour of Termez Cargo Center**

Located roughly one mile from the Uzbekistan-Afghanistan border, the Termez Cargo Centre has become a key component of the UN's efforts to deliver sustained humanitarian assistance directly to the Afghan people. A former military hub, the Government of Uzbekistan has kept the TCC's infrastructure open and has permitted UN agencies and humanitarian groups to utilize it, as well the Friendship Bridge which spans the Amu Darya River, and connects Termez with Hairatan.

Over the last several months, UNCHR, UNICEF, and WFP have delivered hundreds of tons of humanitarian relief items to Afghanistan via the TCC. This tour will be critical to understanding how the UN is responding the Afghan crisis and working to ensure aid reaches vulnerable people directly.

4:00pm – 4:50pm	<p>Joint Briefing with UNICEF, UNHCR, and WFP</p> <p>The delegation will receive a briefing from UNICEF, UNHCR, and WFP staff that are coordinating Afghanistan humanitarian relief operations via the TCC.</p> <p>This will be an important meeting for the delegation to understand the aid procurement, transport, and delivery process, as well as day-to-day operations and anticipated needs and preplacement efforts.</p>
4:50pm – 5:00pm	Transit via hired car to Termez-Hairatan Border Area
5:00pm – 6:30pm	<p>Tour of Termez-Hairatan Border Area, Friendship Bridge, and Meeting with Border Officials</p> <p>The delegation will receive a briefing from border officials on duties and work performed to support the expedited processing of UN humanitarian aid deliveries. The Friendship Bridge (the only bridge on the southern border between Uzbekistan and Afghanistan) spans the Amu Darya River and is a vital connection point between Termez and Hairatan.</p> <p>This meeting will help the delegation understand the various regulatory and personnel support mechanisms that the Government of Uzbekistan has enabled to simplify the facilitation of cross-border humanitarian deliveries.</p>
6:30pm – 6:45pm	Transit via hired car to hotel
6:45pm – 7:30pm	Executive Time
7:30pm – 7:31pm	Transit to Karvon Saroy Restaurant
7:31pm – 8:31pm	<p>Working Dinner with Local Uzbek Authorities</p> <p>The delegation will have a working dinner with local Uzbek Authorities to discuss regional diplomatic initiatives and priorities, including support offered to the UN and related NGOs that are responding to growing humanitarian demands in Afghanistan.</p> <p>This meeting will help the delegation understand local perspectives on the Afghan response and create new channels of communication between policymakers and Uzbek partners.</p> <p><i>Location: Karvon Saroy Restaurant</i></p>
Overnight	Hotel Karvon Saroy

Thursday, April 14 --- Samarkand

Attire: Field Dress

- 5:30am – 6:00am Breakfast at the hotel
- 6:00am – 11:00am Transit via hired car to Samarkand
- 11:00am – 11:15am Check-in to L'Argamak Hotel
4 Sulton Muhammad, Samarqand 140104
+998 66 239 11 01
- 11:15am – 11:45am Executive Time
- 11:45am – 12:00pm Transit via hired car to Platan
- 12:00pm – 1:30pm **Working Lunch with Dr. Alexandros Makarigakis, UNESCO Officer-in-Charge**

The delegation will have a working lunch Alexandros Makarigakis, UNESCO Officer-in-Charge to learn about UNESCO's work and presence in Samarkand.

This meeting will help the delegation understand how UNESCO partners with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan for UNESCO, the Ministry of Culture, and other Uzbek entities to collectively safeguard cultural heritage in Samarkand (with particular focus on Bibi-Khanum Mosque, Gur-e Amir Complex, and the Registan).

Location: Platan
- 1:30pm – 1:45pm Transit via hired car to Bibi-Khanum Mosque
- 1:45pm – 2:45pm **Visit Bibi-Khanum Mosque and UNESCO Field Briefing**

The architecture and townscape of Samarkand, situated at the crossroads of ancient cultures, are masterpieces of Islamic cultural creativity. In recognition of its importance, UNESCO designated Samarkand as World Heritage Site in 2001. The Bibi-Khanum Mosque is one of the properties included in the 2001 designation of Samarkand as a UNESCO World Heritage site.

As Uzbekistan seeks to diversify its economy and become a regional tourism destination, however, its efforts to preserve its most cherished landmarks has generated some unwanted attention. The government has carried out substantial repairs to historic buildings in Samarkand, including Bibi Khanym Mosque, which was built in Samarkand between 1399 and 1404 to commemorate the wife of Mongol conqueror Timur. In response, UNESCO warned that some restoration work could damage the authenticity of the historical sites and expressed concern about urban regeneration. Multiple

meetings were held between UNESCO and the Uzbek government over the course of 2021 and, in September, a new International Advisory Committee (IAC) on World Heritage Sites in Uzbekistan was announced. The IAC seeks to collaborate more closely in protecting and preserving Uzbekistan's monuments, and to do so in a manner that engages with local communities and experts.

This visit and briefing will help contextualize UNESCO's cultural heritage protection efforts, how these efforts impact the local economy, and provide tangible examples of protection reforms stemming from the creation of the IAC.

2:45pm – 3:00pm Transit via hired car to Gur-e Amir Complex

3:00pm – 4:00pm **Visit Gur-e Amir Complex and UNESCO Field Briefing**

Gur-e Amir (Tomb of the Commander) is a mausoleum of the 14th-century Mongol conqueror Timur. Completed in 1404, it was originally intended to be the tomb of Timur's grandson Muhammad Shah, but after Timur's death in 1405 he was interred there as well, along with other members of his family. Gue-e Amir is one of the properties included in the 2001 designation of Samarkand as a UNESCO World Heritage site.

This visit and briefing will help contextualize UNESCO's cultural heritage protection efforts, how these efforts impact the local economy, and provide tangible examples of protection reforms stemming from the creation of the IAC.

4:00pm – 4:15pm Transit via hired car to USAID Partner Field Office

3:45pm – 4:45pm **Meeting with USAID and Local Implementing Partners**

The delegation will meet with representatives from USAID's Future Growth Initiative and regional partners that are working to increase local competitiveness, create new jobs, and improve incomes for Central Asia's growing workforce.

This meeting will help the delegation understand the impact of USAID's Future Growth Initiative, a program designed—in part—to help prospective entrepreneurs in Samarkand benefit from the region's burgeoning tourism industry. Partnering with the Association of Private Tourism Agencies in Uzbekistan, USAID has helped train 200 entrepreneurs and 100 tour operators on the basics of guesthouse management, business management, marketing, and accounting, in addition to designing new tourist routes in the region. Since the program launched, an additional ten new guesthouses have opened in the Jizzakh, Samarkand, and Bukhara regions of Uzbekistan, hosting nearly 1,000 local and foreign visitors as of Nov. 2021. Thirty-five local residents, mostly women, have gained employment through new jobs created by these guesthouses.

4:45pm – 5:00pm Transit via hired car to hotel

5:00pm – 5:45pm Executive Time

5:45pm – 6:00pm Transit via hired car to the Registan

6:00pm – 7:00pm **Visit the Registan and UNESCO Field Briefing**

The Registan ensemble is located in the heart of Samarkand and played a seminal role in the development of Islamic architecture over the entire region, from the Mediterranean to the Indian subcontinent. The Registan grew up around the tomb to the 9th-century saint Imam Muhammad ibn Djafar, but by the 14th century the area was also the commercial heart of the town. Six roads ran through the square, and it was connected directly with Timur's citadel. Imperial decrees were shouted from the rooftops, and people would also have gathered around the building to watch military pageants and other forms of spectacle. The Registan is one of the properties included in the 2001 designation of Samarkand as a UNESCO World Heritage site.

This visit and briefing will help contextualize UNESCO's cultural heritage protection efforts, how these efforts impact the local economy, and provide tangible examples of protection reforms stemming from the creation of the IAC.

7:00pm – 8:00pm Executive Time

8:00pm – 8:15pm Transit via hired car to Restaurant Samarkand

8:15pm—9:15pm **Working Dinner with local UNDP Staff and Representatives from the Regional State Inspection on Protection and Utilization of Cultural Heritage**

The delegation will have a working dinner with local UNDP staff and representatives from the Regional State Inspection on Protection and Utilization of Cultural Heritage, which is in charge of day-to-day activities related to the World Heritage Sites such as registration, monitoring, technical supervision of conservation and restoration, or technical expertise of new projects.

This working dinner will help the delegation understand ongoing efforts to ensure improved cooperation between the various national and local authorities that set international standards for conservation.

Location: Restaurant Samarkand

Overnight L'Argamak Hotel

Friday, April 15 --- Samarkand/Travel

Attire: Field Dress

- 5:30am Break
- 6:00am Transit via hired car to Samarkand Railway Station
- 6:37am Train to Tashkent
- 8:47am Arrive Tashkent Railway Station
- 8:47am – 9:30am Transit via hired car to Hilton Tashkent City
- 9:30am – 10:30am **COVID-19 testing for delegation (required for return to U.S.)**

Location: Hilton Tashkent City

- 10:30am – 12:00pm **Meeting with Ryszard Komenda, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights Regional Representative for Central Asia**

The delegation will meet with Ryszard Komenda, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights Regional Representative for Central Asia to discuss how OHCHR works with the Government of Uzbekistan Government on ongoing efforts to enhance protection of fundamental human rights including expression, assembly, fair trial, deprivation of liberty, and the right to religious freedom and belief.

This meeting will help the delegation understand the progress Uzbekistan has made over the last several years in developing a culture of human rights, including the releasing of political prisoners, prohibition on the use of evidence extracted under torture, and adoption of laws on statelessness and asylum.

Location: Hilton Tashkent City

- 12:00pm – 1:30pm **Working Lunch with Aidai Kurmanova UN Environment Programme Head of Sub-Regional Office for Central Asia**

The delegation will meet with Aidai Kurmanova, Head of the UN Environment Programme's (UNEP) Regional Office for Central Asia, to discuss the situation caused by the shrinking of the Aral Sea and to receive an update on the impact of the Multi-Partner Human Security Trust Fund for the Aral Sea Region, which was launched in 2018.

The Aral Sea was once the world fourth largest lake, and its progressive drying out over several decades has caused a cascade of environmental, socioeconomic, health and humanitarian challenges for the governments and communities in the region. This meeting will help the delegation understand what the UNCT and MPHSTF are doing, in conjunction with various

government partners, to ensure environmental, economic, food, social and health security for affected communities.

Location: Hilton Tashkent City

1:30pm – 1:45pm Transit via hired car to UN Uzbekistan Office

1:45pm – 2:45pm **Meeting with Ashita Mittal, UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Regional Representative for Central Asia**

The delegation will meet with Ashita Mittal, UNODC Regional Representative for Central Asia to discuss UNODC’s broad scope of work, Including its efforts on countering transnational organized crime/illicit drug trafficking and preventing terrorism.

This meeting will help the delegation understand the coordinating role UNDOC plays in assisting in the implementation of national law enforcement strategies, enhancing institutional capacity, developing technical infrastructure and promoting international and regional cooperation in Central Asia.

Location: UN Uzbekistan Office

2:45pm – 3:45pm **Meeting with Azizkhon Khankhodjaev, International Labor Organization (ILO) National Coordinator**

The delegation will meet with Azizkhon Khankhodjaev, ILO National Coordinator to discuss ILO’s work combatting forced labor, modern slavery, and human trafficking, particularly its efforts monitoring and reporting on successful efforts to eliminate child labor and forced labor in the cotton, textile, and garment industry.

As of March 2022, Uzbekistan has been declared ‘free’ of child and forced labor, an industry that employs some 2 million people per year. According to the forthcoming 2021 ILO Third-Party Monitoring Report of the Cotton Harvest in Uzbekistan based on eleven thousand interviews with cotton pickers, (an ILO project which has been ongoing since 2015) 99% of those involved in the 2021 cotton harvest worked voluntarily. According to the report, one in eight people of working age in Uzbekistan participated in the cotton harvest—the world’s largest recruitment effort.

Location: UN Uzbekistan Office

3:45pm – 4:00pm Transit via hired car to hotel

4:00pm – 5:45pm Executive Time

5:45pm – 6:00pm Transit via hired car to Afsona Restaurant

6:00pm – 8:00pm **Working Dinner Debrief with U.S. Embassy and UN Country Team**

The delegation will have a working dinner and debrief to discuss lessons learned and explore opportunities for continued U.S. engagement and collaboration.

This working dinner will allow the delegation to discuss lessons learned, post-learning trip follow-up, and potential opportunities for continued engagement and coordination with the U.S. Congress and UN in Uzbekistan.

Location: Afsona Resaurant

8:00pm – 8:15pm Transit via hired car to hotel

Overnight Hilton Tashkent City
2, Islam Karimov Street Block 5
100027, Uzbekistan
+998 71 210 88 88

Saturday, April 16 --- Travel

Attire: Casual

6:30am Transit via hired car to TAS

7:00am Arrive TAS

7:05am Check-in for flight

9:05am Depart TAS on Turkish Airlines 369
Flight time 5h 10m

12:15pm Arrive IST
Layover 2h 45m

3:00pm Depart IST on Turkish Airlines 7
Flight time 11h 05m

7:05pm Arrive IAD



**UNF Congressional Learning Trip to Uzbekistan
April 9-16, 2022**

Updated April 4 at TST

***All Times Local**
+9 hours from Washington, DC*

Saturday, April 9 --- Travel

Attire: Casual.

11:15pm Depart Dulles International Airport (IAD) on Turkish Airlines 8 to Istanbul Airport (IST)
Flight time 9h 50m

Sunday, April 10 --- Travel/Arrival

Attire: Casual.

4:05pm Arrive IST
Layover 2h 35m

6:40pm Depart IST on Turkish Airlines 370 to Tashkent Vostochny Airport (TAS)
Flight time 4h 25m

Monday, April 11 --- Arrival/Tashkent

Attire: Casual & Business

1:05am Arrive TAS

1:30am Transit via hired car to Hyatt Regency Tashkent

2:00am Arrive at Hyatt Regency Tashkent

Overnight Hyatt Regency Tashkent
1 A Navoi Avenue
Tashkent 100017, Uzbekistan
+998 71 207 12 34

9:30am – 10:00am Breakfast at the hotel

10:00am – 10:15am Transit via hired car to UN Uzbekistan Office

10:15am – 10:45am **UN Security Briefing**

The delegation will receive a briefing from the UN Department of Safety and Security detailing the current political and security situation in Uzbekistan

and provide guidance on any safety protocols that must be adhered to during the course of the learning trip.

Location: UN Uzbekistan Office

10:45am – 11:45am **Meeting with the UN Country Team**

The delegation will have a high-level discussion with the UN Country Team, facilitated by the Acting UN Resident Coordinator, on the work of the 25 agencies, funds, and programmes operating in Uzbekistan, including efforts, within the context of the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework, to reduce poverty, promote good health and wellbeing, and achieve gender equality.

The meeting will provide the delegation with general background on the UN's presence in Uzbekistan, including key points of partnership between the U.S. and Uzbekistan—including the UN's work strengthening the Government of Uzbekistan's COVID-19 response.

Location: UN Uzbekistan Office

11:45am – 12:00pm Transit via hired car to Senate Building

12:00pm – 1:00pm **Meeting with First Deputy Chair of the Senate, Sodiq Safaev**

The delegation will meet with First Deputy Chair of the Senate, Sodiq Safaev to discuss the work of the Oliy Majlis (Parliament) of Uzbekistan.

This meeting will help the delegation understand domestic political priorities and the working-level relationship between Uzbek lawmakers and various UN programs and projects.

Location: Senate Building

Accompanied from the UN by Mr. Munir Mammadzade, UN Resident Coordinator ad interim/UNICEF Representative and Ms. Matluba Umurzakova, Development Coordination Officer for Data Management, Results Monitoring, and Reporting at the Resident Coordinator's Office

1:00pm – 1:15pm Transit via hired car to UNODC Office

1:15pm – 2:30pm **Working Lunch with Ashita Mittal, UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Regional Representative for Central Asia and the UNODC Team**

The delegation will have a working lunch with Ashita Mittal, UNODC Regional Representative for Central Asia to discuss UNODC's broad scope of work, including its efforts on countering transnational organized crime/illicit drug trafficking and preventing terrorism.

This meeting will help the delegation understand the coordinating role UNDOC plays in assisting in the implementation of national law enforcement strategies, enhancing institutional capacity, developing technical infrastructure and promoting international and regional cooperation in Central Asia.

Location: UNODC Office and local lunch will be provided by UNODC

Accompanied from the UN RCO by Ms. Rusyan Jill Mamiit, Development Coordination Officer for Partnerships and Development Finance

2:30pm – 2:45pm Transit via hired car to Republican Cold Chain Warehouse

2:45pm – 3:45pm **Tour of Republican Cold Chain Warehouse and Meeting with Ministry of Health Staff**

The Republican Cold Chain Warehouse is the largest vaccine facility in Central Asia, established with the support of the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF), and officially handed over to the Ministry of Health on Nov 20, 2021. The facility can store large numbers of vaccines with different temperature requirements (including ultra-cold temperatures) and has been a critical step toward establishing a more robust national immunization program.

This tour and meeting will help the delegation understand the Republican Cold Chain Warehouse’s impact on maternal and child health and the Uzbek government’s improved capacity to supply and manage vaccines, as well as ongoing efforts to strengthen national and local capacities in the management, planning, monitoring and evaluation of supply and cold chain systems.

Location: 6 Bunyodkor Street, Chilanzar District

Accompanied from the UN by Mr. Munir Mammadzade, UN Resident Coordinator ad interim/UNICEF Representative and UNICEF Health and Nutrition Specialist Mr. Fakhridin Nizamov

3:45pm – 4:00pm Transit via hired car to Ministry of Economic Development and Poverty Reduction

4:00pm – 5:00pm **Meeting with First Deputy Minister of Economic Development and Poverty Reduction, N. Norkulov**

The delegation will meet with First Deputy Minister of Economic Development and Poverty Reduction, N. Norkulov to discuss how the Ministry works with the UN and others on the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework and how the Framework contributes to poverty reduction in Uzbekistan.

This meeting will help the delegation understand the Government of Uzbekistan's partnership with UN agencies on poverty reduction within the context of the Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework.

Location: Ministry of Economic Development and Poverty Reduction

Accompanied from the UN by Mr. Munir Mammadzade, UN Resident Coordinator ad interim/UNICEF Representative and Ms. Matluba Umurzakova, Development Coordination Officer for Data Management, Results Monitoring, and Reporting at the Resident Coordinator's Office

- 5:00pm – 5:15pm Transit via hired card to hotel
- 5:15pm – 6:45pm Executive Time
- 6:45pm – 7:00pm Transit via hired car to U.S. Ambassador's Residence
- 7:00pm – 8:30pm **Working Reception at U.S. Ambassador's Residence**

The U.S. Ambassador is hosting a welcome reception, which will allow the delegation to meet with the larger U.S. diplomatic community as well as key foreign interlocutors to discuss domestic and regional developments that impact U.S.-Uzbekistan relations.

Location: U.S. Ambassador's Residence

Accompanied from the UN by Mr. Munir Mammadzade, UN Resident Coordinator ad interim/UNICEF Representative (confirmed) and by Ms. Rusyan Jill Mamiit, Development Coordination Officer for Partnerships and Development Finance

- 8:30pm – 8:45pm Transit via hired car to hotel
- Overnight Hyatt Regency Tashkent

Tuesday, April 12 --- Tashkent/Travel/Samarkand

Attire: Business

- 9:00am – 9:30am Breakfast at the hotel
- 9:30am – 10:00am Transit via hired car to Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- 10:00am – 11:00am **Meeting with Special Representative of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan for Afghanistan, Ismatulla Irgashev**

The delegation will meet with the Special Representative of the President of Uzbekistan on Afghanistan, Ismatulla Irgashev to discuss regional challenges and responses, including an update on the creation of a humanitarian logistics

hub in Termez that is currently operating under the auspices of the United Nations.

This meeting is important for the delegation to understand U.S.-Uzbek efforts to strengthen humanitarian cooperation and support the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, (UNHCR) the World Food Programme (WFP), and UNICEF as they leverage Termez’s infrastructure to facilitate the direct delivery of humanitarian supplies to neighboring Afghanistan. This meeting will also be an opportunity to informally commemorate the 30-year anniversary of diplomatic relations between the U.S. and Uzbekistan, which were first established in 1992.

Location: Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Accompanied from the UN by Mr. Munir Mammadzade, UN Resident Coordinator ad interim/UNICEF Representative and Ms. Matluba Umurzakova, Development Coordination Officer for Data Management, Results Monitoring, and Reporting at the Resident Coordinator’s Office

11:00am – 11:30am Transit via hired car to U.S. Embassy

11:30am – 12:30pm **Meeting with US Modified Country Team, led by U.S. Amb. Daniel Rosenblum**

The delegation will meet with Daniel Rosenblum, U.S. Ambassador to Uzbekistan, and his team to discuss U.S.-Uzbekistan relations, U.S.-UN cooperation measures, and how the U.S. is supporting an Uzbekistan-led program of reforms aimed at liberalizing the economy, protecting fundamental freedoms, and developing democratic institutions and civil society.

This meeting will provide the delegation with important background and perspectives on U.S.-Uzbek relations, areas for enhanced coordination, and explore the role the U.S., in conjunction with various UN agencies, play in advancing wide-ranging reform initiatives.

Location: U.S. Embassy Tashkent

12:30pm – 1:00pm Transfer via hired car to International Plov Center

1:00pm – 2:15pm **Working Lunch with Mikaela Meredith, USAID Mission Director**

The delegation will have a working lunch with Mikaela Meredith, USAID Mission Director to discuss how USAID is helping diversify the Uzbek economy, increase regional trade, and strengthen private businesses.

USAID launched its first bilateral mission to Uzbekistan in October 2020. This meeting will help the delegation understand the progress USAID has made over the last two years in Uzbekistan and how, among other priorities,

it promotes U.S. investment in and development of Central Asia that promotes greater regional stability and prosperity—which will provide important context and background on the delegation’s visit to Samarkand.

Location: International Plov Center

2:15pm – 2:30pm Transit via hired car to Parliament Building

2:30pm – 3:30pm **First Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Chamber, Akmal Saidov**

The delegation will meet with First Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Chamber, Akmal Saidov to discuss the work of the Oliy Majlis (Parliament) of Uzbekistan.

This meeting will help the delegation understand domestic political priorities and the working-level relationship between Uzbek lawmakers and various UN programs and projects.

Location: Parliament Building

Accompanied from the UN by Mr. Munir Mammadzade, UN Resident Coordinator ad interim/UNICEF Representative and Ms. Matluba Umurzakova, Development Coordination Officer for Data Management, Results Monitoring, and Reporting at the Resident Coordinator’s Office

3:30pm – 3:45pm Transit via hired car to Monocentre Isga Marhamat

3:45pm – 4:30pm **Tour of Isga Marhamat Employment Centre and Meeting with Students**

The delegation will tour the Isga Marhamat Employment Centre which provides professional education courses and vocational training services to locals, as well as employment assistance to labor migrants.

This tour and meeting will help the delegation understand how UNDP, together with national and local authorities, is liberalizing the economy and working towards reducing poverty.

Location: Monocentre Isga Marhamat

4:30 – 5:30pm **Meeting with Uzbek Youth Participating in UN Development Programme (UNDP) Entrepreneurship Programmes**

The delegation will learn about UNDP’s entrepreneurship initiative, which is helping youth (age 18-30) develop entrepreneurial and business skills and aims to create incubators and accelerators which will support a new generation of young entrepreneurs.

The visit will help the delegation understand how UNDP is promoting youth employment in Uzbekistan, particularly among college and university graduates, young women, returning migrants, and other vulnerable groups.

Location: Monocentre Isgha Marhamat

Accompanied from the UN by Mr. Munir Mammadzade, UN Resident Coordinator ad interim/UNICEF Representative, Ms. Matilda Dimovska UNDP Resident Representative in Uzbekistan, Ms. Doina Munteanu UNDP Deputy Resident Representative in Uzbekistan, UNDP Head of Inclusive Growth Cluster Ms. Diyora Kabulova

5:30pm – 5:45pm Transit via hired car to hotel

5:45pm – 6:45pm **Executive Time/Dinner**

Wednesday, April 13 --- Tashkent/Samarkand

Attire: Business Casual.

8:30am – 9:30am Breakfast at the hotel and prepare for travel to Samarkand in the evening

9:30am – 11:30am **Virtual Meeting with UN Agencies based in Termez**

Located roughly one mile from the Uzbekistan-Afghanistan border, the Termez Cargo Centre has become a key component of the UN's efforts to deliver sustained humanitarian assistance directly to the Afghan people. A former military hub, the Government of Uzbekistan has kept the TCC's infrastructure open and has permitted UN agencies and humanitarian groups to utilize it, as well the Friendship Bridge which spans the Amu Darya River, and connects Termez with Hairatan.

Over the last several months, UNCHR, UNICEF, and WFP have delivered hundreds of tons of humanitarian relief items to Afghanistan via the TCC. This meeting (which was made virtual due to a security alert for the region issued by the U.S. Embassy in Tashkent) will be critical to understanding how the UN is responding the Afghan crisis and working to ensure aid reaches vulnerable people directly.

Location: Hyatt Regency Tashkent

11:30am – 12:00pm Transit via hired car to IOM Office

12:00pm – 1:30pm **Working Lunch with Mr. Sanjarbek Toshbaev International Organization for Migration Head of Office in Uzbekistan and the Staff of IOM**

IOM Uzbekistan supports Government of Uzbekistan in several thematic areas, in line with government priorities, and institutional, national and international frameworks (including the Global Compact for

Migration, United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2021-2025 for Uzbekistan and the IOM Central Asia Regional Strategy 2021-2025).

In this visit the delegation will have the opportunity to interact with the staff of the IOM Country Office and learn about labor mobility and human development, migration and health, prevention of trafficking in persons, environment and climate change, migrant protection and assistance, border management, community stabilization and operational movement with the focus on promoting and protecting the rights, health and safety of migrants and their family members, mobility tracking and reintegration of returned migrants.

Location: 4 Lomonosov Street, Mirzo Ulughbek District, and lunch will be provided by the IOM

Accompanied from the UN RCO by Ms. Rusyan Jill Mamiit, Development Coordination Officer for Partnerships and Development Finance

1:30pm – 2:00pm Transit via hired car to Westminster International University in Tashkent

2:00pm – 3:00pm **UNFPA Project on Gender-Based Violence with the Private Sector**

There will be a dialogue with private companies (mostly human resource managers) on gender-based violence (GBV) at the workplace. UNFPA and their project partner, the Westminster International University in Tashkent (WIUT) will present the case findings and recommendations from their survey. There will be an opportunity for the delegates to interact with the members of the private sector during the event.

Location: Westminster International University in Tashkent

Accompanied from the UN by Mr. Munir Mammadzade, UN Resident Coordinator ad interim/UNICEF Representative (to be confirmed), Ms. Dilora Ganieva UNFPA's National Programme Analyst on Gender Issues in Uzbekistan, Ms. Rusyan Jill Mamiit Development Coordination Officer for Partnerships and Development Finance at the Resident Coordinator's Office (to be confirmed).

3:00pm – 3:30pm Transit via hired car to the Institute of Virology

3:30pm – 5:00pm **Visit to the Daycare Center for Children and Adolescents living with HIV (Institute of Virology), UNAIDS/WHO/UNICEF/UNFPA**

The Joint Programme on HIV that commenced in 2008 in Uzbekistan has helped established the Center to improve the quality of life of HIV-positive children/adolescents by providing psychosocial support and non-medical care services, expanding access to ARV treatment services. The Joint Programme provides technical support in capacity building of clients of the center

(children/adolescents and their parents/care providers), medical personnel, psychologists. Young people who were clients themselves now conduct trainings and consult peers, participate in various conference on behalf of HIV+ young people with open faces, and do HIV prevention work among general youth.

Location: Institute of Virology

Accompanied from the UN by Mr. Munir Mammadzade, UN Resident Coordinator ad interim/UNICEF Representative (to be confirmed), Ms. Charoskhon Maksudova UNAIDS Country Manager in Uzbekistan, Ms. Kamila Fatikhova UNAIDS Consultant in Uzbekistan

- 5:00pm – 6:00pm Transit via hired car to hotel and Executive Time
- 6:00pm – 6:30pm Transit via hired car to the train station for travel to Samarkand
- 6:45pm – 9:00pm Travel to Samarkand by Afrosiyob train
- 9:00pm – 10:00pm Transit via hired car to hotel

Check-in to Emirhan Hotel

46A, Dahbet Street
Samarkand, 1401020
+998 66 238 70 02

Thursday, April 14 --- Samarkand

Attire: Field Dress

- 9:30am – 10:00am Breakfast at the hotel
- 10:00am – 10:30am Transit via hired car to Office of Deputy Prime-Minister/Minister of Tourism
- 10:30am – 12:00pm **Joint Meetings with Mr. Aziz Abduhakimov, Deputy Prime-Minister/Minister of Tourism, Rector of the Samarkand Tourism University, Deputy Governor of Samarkand Region, and Mayor of Samarkand**

The delegation will have a meeting with Mr. Aziz Abduhakimov, Deputy Prime-Minister/Minister of Tourism; Rector of the Samarkand Tourism University; Deputy Governor of Samarkand Region; and Mayor of Samarkand to discuss regional economic developments and the liberalization of the private tourism market.

Accompanied from the UN by *Mr. Alexandros Marakigakis*, UNESCO Officer-in-Charge in Uzbekistan, *Mr. Simon Hacker*, Team Leader at the Resident Coordinator's Office

- 12:00pm – 12:15pm Transit via hired car to Platan

12:15pm – 1:30pm **Working Lunch with Dr. Alexandros Makarigakis, UNESCO Officer-in-Charge and Mr. Simon Hacker, Team Leader at the Resident Coordinator’s Office**

The delegation will have a working lunch with Alexandros Makarigakis, UNESCO Officer-in-Charge to learn about UNESCO’s work and presence in Samarkand.

This meeting will help the delegation understand how UNESCO partners with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan for UNESCO, the Ministry of Culture, and other Uzbek entities to collectively safeguard cultural heritage in Samarkand (with particular focus on Bibi-Khanum Mosque, Gur-e Amir Complex, and the Registan).

Location: Platan

1:30pm – 1:45 pm Transit via hired car to Gur-e Amir Complex

1:45pm – 2:30pm **Visit Gur-e Amir Complex and UNESCO Field Briefing**

Gur-e Amir (Tomb of the Commander) is a mausoleum of the 14th-century Mongol conqueror Timur. Completed in 1404, it was originally intended to be the tomb of Timur’s grandson Muhammad Shah, but after Timur’s death in 1405 he was interred there as well, along with other members of his family. Gur-e Amir is one of the properties included in the 2001 designation of Samarkand as a UNESCO World Heritage site.

This visit and briefing will help contextualize UNESCO’s cultural heritage protection efforts, how these efforts impact the local economy, and provide tangible examples of protection reforms stemming from the creation of the IAC.

2:30pm – 2:45pm Transit via hired car to Registan

2:45pm – 3:30pm **Visit Registan and UNESCO Field Briefing**

The Registan ensemble is located in the heart of Samarkand and played a seminal role in the development of Islamic architecture over the entire region, from the Mediterranean to the Indian subcontinent. The Registan grew up around the tomb of the 9th-century saint Imam Muhammad ibn Djafar, but by the 14th century the area was also the commercial heart of the town. Six roads ran through the square, and it was connected directly with Timur's citadel. Imperial decrees were shouted from the rooftops, and people would also have gathered around the building to watch military pageants and other forms of spectacle. The Registan is one of the properties included in the 2001 designation of Samarkand as a UNESCO World Heritage site.

This visit and briefing will help contextualize UNESCO’s cultural heritage protection efforts, how these efforts impact the local economy, and provide tangible examples of protection reforms stemming from the creation of the IAC.

3:30pm – 3:45pm Transit via hired car to Bibi-Khanum Mosque

3:45pm – 4:15pm **Visit Bibi-Khanum Mosque and UNESCO Field Briefing**

The architecture and townscape of Samarkand, situated at the crossroads of ancient cultures, are masterpieces of Islamic cultural creativity. In recognition of its importance, UNESCO designated Samarkand as World Heritage Site in 2001. The Bibi-Khanum Mosque is one of the properties included in the 2001 designation of Samarkand as a UNESCO World Heritage site.

As Uzbekistan seeks to diversify its economy and become a regional tourism destination, however, its efforts to preserve its most cherished landmarks has generated some unwanted attention. The government has carried out substantial repairs to historic buildings in Samarkand, including Bibi Khanym Mosque, which was built in Samarkand between 1399 and 1404 to commemorate the wife of Mongol conqueror Timur. In response, UNESCO warned that some restoration work could damage the authenticity of the historical sites and expressed concern about urban regeneration. Multiple meetings were held between UNESCO and the Uzbek government over the course of 2021 and, in September, a new International Advisory Committee (IAC) on World Heritage Sites in Uzbekistan was announced. The IAC seeks to collaborate more closely in protecting and preserving Uzbekistan’s monuments, and to do so in a manner that engages with local communities and experts.

This visit and briefing will help contextualize UNESCO’s cultural heritage protection efforts, how these efforts impact the local economy, and provide tangible examples of protection reforms stemming from the creation of the IAC.

Accompanied from the UN by Mr. Alexandros Marakigakis, UNESCO Officer-in-Charge in Uzbekistan, Mr. Simon Hacker, Team Leader at the Resident Coordinator’s Office, Mr. Dmitriy Voyakin Director of the International Institute for Central Asian Studies (for selected sites)

4:15pm – 4:45pm **Transit via hired car to Konigil Tourist Zone of the Samarkand District**

4:45pm – 5:45pm **Meeting with USAID and Local Implementing Partners**

The delegation will meet with representatives from USAID’s Future Growth Initiative and regional partners that are working to increase local competitiveness, create new jobs, and improve incomes for Central Asia’s growing workforce.

This meeting will help the delegation understand the impact of USAID’s Future Growth Initiative, a program designed—in part—to help prospective entrepreneurs in Samarkand benefit from the region’s burgeoning tourism industry. Partnering with the Association of Private Tourism Agencies in Uzbekistan, USAID has helped train 200 entrepreneurs and 100 tour operators on the basics of guesthouse management, business management, marketing, and accounting, in addition to designing new tourist routes in the region. Since the program launched, an additional ten new guesthouses have opened in the Jizzakh, Samarkand, and Bukhara regions of Uzbekistan, hosting nearly 1,000 local and foreign visitors as of Nov. 2021. Thirty-five local residents, mostly women, have gained employment through new jobs created by these guesthouses.

Location: Konigil Tourist Zone of the Samarkand District

- 5:45pm – 6:45pm Transit via hired car to hotel
- 6:45pm – 8:00pm Executive Time
- 8:00pm – 8:15pm Transit via hired car to Restaurant Samarkand

8:15pm—9:15pm **Working Dinner with UN Colleagues, Partners, and Representatives from the Regional State Inspection on Protection and Utilization of Cultural Heritage**

The delegation will have a working dinner with local UN staff and representatives from the Regional State Inspection on Protection and Utilization of Cultural Heritage, which is in charge of day-to-day activities related to the World Heritage Sites such as registration, monitoring, technical supervision of conservation and restoration, or technical expertise of new projects.

This working dinner will help the delegation understand ongoing efforts to ensure improved cooperation between the various national and local authorities that set international standards for conservation.

Location: Restaurant Samarkand

Accompanied from the UN by Mr. Alexandros Marakigakis, UNESCO Officer-in-Charge in Uzbekistan, Mr. Simon Hacker, Team Leader at the Resident Coordinator’s Office

Overnight Emirhan Hotel

Friday, April 15 --- Samarkand/Travel

Attire: Field Dress

5:30am Boxed Breakfast

- 6:00am Transit via hired car to Samarkand Railway Station
- 6:37am Afrosiyob train to Tashkent
- 8:47am Arrive Tashkent Railway Station
- 8:47am – 9:30am Transit via hired car to Hyatt Regency Tashkent
- 9:30am – 11:00am **COVID-19 Testing for Delegation and Hotel Check-in**

Location: Hyatt Regency Tashkent

- 11:00am – 12:00pm **Meeting with the Ministry of Investments and Foreign Trade and the Resident Coordinator’s Office/Technical Secretariat of the Multi-Partner Human Security Trust Fund for the Aral Sea Region in Uzbekistan**

The Aral Sea was once the world fourth largest lake, and its progressive drying out over several decades has caused a cascade of environmental, socioeconomic, health and humanitarian challenges for the governments and communities in the region. The UN Multi-Partner Human Security Trust Fund for the Aral Sea region in Uzbekistan (MPHSTF) serves as a unique unified platform for international development cooperation and the mobilization of donor resources to implement integrated measures in the Aral Sea region.

The MPHSTF brings together the expertise of a diverse network of stakeholders, including international financial institutions and donor organizations, the Government of Uzbekistan, regional and local authorities, UN agencies, and community-based organizations. The MPHSTF goes beyond short-term fixes and advances comprehensive solutions that are innovative, foster technology exchange through South-South cooperation, actively include the affected communities, and are preventive rather than reactive in their nature.

This meeting will help the delegation understand what the MPHSTF is doing, in conjunction with various government partners, to ensure environmental, economic, food, social and health security for affected communities.

Location: Hyatt Regency Tashkent

Accompanied from the UN by Development Cooperation Officer for Partnerships and Development Finance Ms. Rusyan Jill Mamiit and the Members of the Technical Secretariat of the MPHSTF

- 12:00pm – 1:15pm **Working Lunch with Azizkhon Khankhodjaev, International Labor Organization (ILO) National Coordinator**

The delegation will meet with Azizkhon Khankhodjaev, ILO National Coordinator to discuss ILO’s work combatting forced labor, modern slavery, and human trafficking, particularly its efforts monitoring and reporting on successful efforts to eliminate child labor and forced labor in the cotton, textile, and garment industry.

As of March 2022, Uzbekistan has been declared ‘free’ of child and forced labor, an industry that employs some 2 million people per year. According to the forthcoming 2021 ILO Third-Party Monitoring Report of the Cotton Harvest in Uzbekistan based on eleven thousand interviews with cotton pickers, (an ILO project which has been ongoing since 2015) 99% of those involved in the 2021 cotton harvest worked voluntarily. According to the report, one in eight people of working age in Uzbekistan participated in the cotton harvest—the world’s largest recruitment effort.

Location: Hyatt Regency Tashkent

1:15pm – 1:30pm Transit via hired car to UN Uzbekistan Office

1:30pm – 2:30pm **Meeting with the UN Resident Coordinator, Roli Asthana**

The delegation will meet with the UN Resident Coordinator to discuss key priority areas. Ms. Asthana was appointed as the UN Resident Coordinator in Uzbekistan on February 6, 2022. She brings more than 25 years of experience in sustainable development, which she has acquired while serving in leadership roles outside the UN at the international level. She was most recently posted as Development Director of the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) in China after occupying other senior positions at FCDO’s precursor, the UK Department for International Development (DFID).

The meeting will help the delegation understand the role of the UN Resident Coordinator, the office’s scope of work, and how the RC facilitates partnerships between the U.S., Uzbekistan, and other donor countries.

Location: UN Uzbekistan Office

2:30pm – 2:45pm Transit via hired car to Artel Electronics factory

2:45pm – 3:45pm **Visit to Artel Electronics (UN Global Compact)**

As Central Asia’s leading producer of household appliances and electronics, Artel Electronics has long been committed to advancing its environmental, social, and governance (ESG) program. On 28 November 2021, Artel became the first-ever Central Asian company in the household appliance and electronics sector to join the UN Global Compact—the largest global corporate sustainability initiative.

This meeting will help the delegation understand the progress the UN Global Compact has made as it works to help businesses align their operations and strategies with ten universally accepted principles in the areas of human rights, labor, environment, and anti-corruption.

Location: Artel Electronics Office

Accompanied from the UN by Development Cooperation Officer for Partnerships and Development Finance Ms. Rusyan Jill Mamiit and the Members of the Technical Secretariat of the MPHSTF

3:45pm – 4:00pm Transit via hired car to hotel

4:00pm – 5:45pm Executive Time

5:45pm – 6:00pm Transit via hired car to Afsona Restaurant

6:00pm – 8:00pm **Working Dinner Debrief with U.S. Embassy and UN Country Team**

The delegation will have a working dinner and debrief to discuss lessons learned and explore opportunities for continued U.S. engagement and collaboration.

This working dinner will allow the delegation to discuss lessons learned, post-learning trip follow-up, and potential opportunities for continued engagement and coordination with the U.S. Congress and UN in Uzbekistan.

Location: Afsona Resaurant

8:00pm – 8:15pm Transit via hired car to hotel

Overnight Hyatt Regency Tashkent
2, Islam Karimov Street Block 5
100027, Uzbekistan
+998 71 210 88 88

Saturday, April 16 --- Travel

Attire: Casual

6:30am Transit via hired car to TAS

7:00am Arrive TAS

7:05am Check-in for flight

9:05am Depart TAS on Turkish Airlines 369
Flight time 5h 10m

12:15pm Arrive IST

Layover 2h 45m

3:00pm

Depart IST on Turkish Airlines 7
Flight time 11h 05m

7:05pm

Arrive IAD

UNF Learning Trip to Uzbekistan
Answers to Primary Trip Sponsor Form Questions 4, 12, and 15b2

4. Names and titles of all House invitees and explanation of why the individual was invited:

The following individuals have been invited to participate in this learning trip to Uzbekistan because they work directly on issues related to U.S. foreign policy, U.S.-UN relations, U.S.-Uzbekistan relations, humanitarian assistance, sustainable development, international organizations, and/or related regional issues.

Serena Gobbi, Legislative Director
Rep. Norma Torres

Emily Ackerman, Legislative Director
Rep. Guy Reschenthaler

Mena Hanna, Senior Policy Adviser
Rep. Jeff Fortenberry

Anubhav Gupta, Senior Professional Staff Member
House Foreign Affairs Committee

Katherine Curtis, Professional Staff Member
House Foreign Affairs Committee

Amber Unwala, Legislative Director
Rep. Greg Meeks

Zachary Isakowitz, Legislative Director
Rep. Michael McCaul

Mike Lucier, Legislative Director
Rep. Jennifer Wexton

Kelvin Lum, Legislative Director
Rep. Ami Bera

Alex Cisneros, Legislative Director
Rep. Young Kim

Hillary Caron, Legislative Director
Rep. Andy Kim

Paul Howell, Chief of Staff
Rep. Trent Kelly

Louise Bentsen, Chief of Staff
Rep. Vicente Gonzalez

Valerie Foy, Legislative Assistant
Rep. Don Bacon

Katie Gallagher, Legislative Assistant
Rep. Ron Estes

Bubba White, Legislative Assistant
Rep. Michael Guest

Eliana Goodman, Legislative Assistant
Rep. David Kustoff

12. Description of the sponsor's interest in the subject matter of the trip and its role in organizing and/or conducting the trip:

UNF works to educate all Americans, including the U.S. Congress, on the importance of a strong U.S.-UN relationship. Over the course of this trip, the delegation will be offered an up-close view of the work of the 25 United Nations agencies, funds and programmes operating on-the-ground in Uzbekistan and how they, together with the U.S. and Uzbek government, are reducing poverty, strengthening health systems, advancing gender equality, safeguarding cultural heritage, and responding to dire humanitarian needs. Through these efforts, the delegation will develop a better understanding of how these joint efforts have enhanced Uzbekistan's prosperity, and, in turn, led to new mechanisms of multilateral support for national reforms aimed at liberalizing the economy, protecting fundamental human rights, and building responsive, democratic institutions.

The delegation will conduct multiple site visits and engage in several high-level meetings, including with the UN Resident Coordinator in Uzbekistan, U.S. Amb. Daniel Rosenblum, and various other UN leaders and Uzbekistan government officials. The delegation, in addition, will travel to Termez, a city on the Uzbekistan-Afghanistan border that has become a major logistical hub used by the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the World Food Programme (WFP), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), and others to ensure the expeditious delivery of emergency lifesaving humanitarian supplies to the people of Afghanistan.

UNF is the sole sponsor of this trip, organizing all aspects of the program and logistics. UNF handles all outreach to congressional staff and is the contact for planning purposes.

15b2. Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip:

This year marks the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the U.S. and Uzbekistan. While always a strategic partner, Uzbekistan has made, over the last six years, considerable progress towards greater transparency and prosperity, leveraging an expanded sense of openness to partner with the UN on a wide range of transformative projects. These developments, particularly considering recent regional events, have positioned Uzbekistan as an influential U.S. ally and, potentially, a long-term stabilizing force across Central Asia.

Additionally, as humanitarian demands swell across Afghanistan, the city of Termez—located on Uzbekistan’s southern border with Afghanistan—has become a critical staging post for emergency supplies delivered via the UN. Operating out of the Termez Cargo Center, UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, and IOM have already sent hundreds of tons of food, shelter, and medical supplies to Afghanistan via the narrow Soviet-built bridge that connects the two countries, with much more planned for distribution. As debate rages on as to how to deliver humanitarian assistance most effectively without supporting or recognizing the Taliban, an understanding of the working environment and the successes and challenges involved in the emergency relief operations being coordinated via Termez will be critical to informing future U.S. response to the crisis.