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 by email at* gifttravelreports@mail.house.gov, within 15 days after travel is completed.** Please ***do not*** file this form with the Committee on Ethics.

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

1. Name of Traveler: Xiomara Villarreal
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: _____ ***OR*** ☒ None
   b. Relationship to Traveler: ☐ Spouse ☐ Child ☐ Other (specify): _____
3. a. Dates: Departure: June 16, 2024 Return: June 21, 2024
   b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: _____ ***OR*** ☒ None
4. Departure City: Washington DC Destination: Hargeisa, Somalia (Somaliland) Return City: Washington DC
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: Red Sea Foundation, Humpty Dumpty Institute
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended: Meetings to understand Somaliland political and governing outlay
   Events were to understand arts and culture and history of Somaliland
7. Attached to this form are ***each*** of the following, *signify that each item is attached by checking the corresponding box*:
   a. ☐ a completed *Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form*;
   b. ☒ the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* completed by the trip sponsor ***prior*** to the trip, ***including all*** attachments ***and*** the *Additional Sponsor Form(s)*;
   c. ☒ page 2 of the completed *Traveler Form* submitted by the employee; ***and***
   d. ☒ the letter from the Committee on Ethics approving my participation on this trip.
8. a. ☒ I represent that I participated in each of the activities reflected in the attached sponsor's agenda. *Signify statement is true by checking the box.*
   b. If not, explain: _____

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

Signature of Traveler: _____ **Date:** 7/2/2024

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: John Carter **Date:** 7/2/2024

Signature of Supervising Member: _____

last updated 7/2023

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 in the trip *within 10 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 or provided in-kind support for the trip: The Humpty Dumpty Institute, Redsea Cultural Foundation,American Global Institute
2. Travel Destination(s): Hargeisa, Berbera - Somaliland
3. Date of Departure: June 16, 2024 Date of Return: June 21, 2024
4. Name(s) of Traveler(s): Xiomara Villareal

   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	$3,593.15	$369.78	$283.03	$41.67 Laas Geel heritage site access
Accompanying Family Member	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

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: JOSEPH MERANTE Digitally signed by JOSEPH MERANTE Date: 2024.07.03 14:05:51 -04'00' **Date:** 7/1/2024

Name: Joseph Merante **Title:** Executive Director

Organization: The Humpty Dumpty Institute

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

Address: 527 Hudson Street #20194

Telephone: 202-494-0942 **Email:** joe.merante@thehdi.org

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.

last updated 7/2023

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's website (ethics.house.gov) provides detailed instructions for filling out the form. The Committee will notify the House invitees directly of its decision and will not notify the trip sponsors.

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. Signatures must comply with section 104(bb) of the Travel Regulations.

1. Sponsor who will be paying for the trip:

   The Humpty Dumpty Institute;

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, services, or in-kind assistance 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:

   Redsea Cultural Foundation, American Global Institute;

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 addendum;

5. Yes ☐ No ☒ Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?
6. Date of Departure: June 16, 2024 Date of Return: June 20, 2024
7. a. City of departure: Washington, DC
   b. Destination(s): Hargeisa and Berbera, Somaliland
   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. _____

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 the statement is true by clicking the 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 attached addendum;

13. ***Answer parts a and b. Answer part c if necessary***:
   a. Mode of travel: Air ☐ Rail ☐ Bus ☐ Car ☐ Other ☐ (specify:_____)
   b. Class of travel: Coach ☐ Business ☐ First ☐ Charter ☐ Other ☐ (specify:_____)
   c. If travel will be first class, or by chartered or private aircraft, explain why such travel is warranted:

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 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): _____
         Hargeisa, Berbera – daily cost per person: breakfast $9; lunch $14; dinner $23.
      2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: _____
         Hargeisa - capital, largest city; Berbera - major seaport, commercial capital;

16. Name, nightly cost, and reasons for selecting each hotel or other lodging facility:

   Hotel Name: Ambassador Hotel City: Hargeisa, Somaliland Cost Per Night: $110
   Reason(s) for Selecting: proximity to airport and meeting locations

   Hotel Name: _____ City: _____ Cost Per Night: _____
   Reason(s) for Selecting: _____

   Hotel Name: _____ City: _____ Cost Per Night: _____
   Reason(s) for Selecting: _____

17. ☒ I represent that all expenses connected to the trip will be for actual costs incurred and not a per diem or lump sum payment. *Signify that the statement is true by checking the box.*

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

☐ Actual Amounts ☒ Good Faith Estimates	Total **Transportation** Expenses per Participant	Total **Lodging** Expenses per Participant	Total **Meal** Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	$2,700	$330	$184
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	$180	taxi to and from the airport in the U.S.
For each Accompanying Family Member		

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: JOSEPH MERANTE Digitally signed by JOSEPH MERANTE Date: 2024.05.15 17:03:44 -04'00' Date: 5/15/2024

Name: Joseph Merante Title: Executive Director

Organization: The Humpty Dumpty Institute

Address: 527 Hudson Street #20194, New York, NY 10014

Email: joe.merante@thehdi.org Telephone: 202 494 0942

If there are questions regarding this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103 or travel.requests@mail.house.gov.

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

ADDITIONAL TRIP SPONSOR FORM

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

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001. Failure to comply with the Committee's Travel Regulations may also lead to the denial of permission to sponsor future trips. Signatures must comply with section 104(bb) of the Travel Regulations.

1. Name of Primary Trip Sponsor for this trip: The Humpty Dumpty Institute
2. Name of your organization: American Global Institute
3. Yes ☒ No ☐ Is your organization designated a § 501(c)(3) charitable organization by the Internal Revenue Service?
4. Yes ☐ No ☒ Does your organization receive funding from any foreign government or multinational organization?
5. ***Check one.*** I certify that my organization:
   a. ☐ Has provided a grant, gift, or donation to the above-named Primary Trip Sponsor and conducts an audit or review of its grant, gift, or donation to ensure that the funds are spent in accordance with the terms of its grant, gift, or donation. **OR**
   b. ☒ Has had a direct role in the organizing, planning, or conducting of a trip to Destination: Somaliland on Date: June 16 - 20, 2024 that is being organized or arranged by the above-named Primary Trip Sponsor. **OR**
   c. ☐ Has provided in-kind support to the above-named Primary Trip Sponsor (*e.g.,* meeting planning assistance, meeting space and set-up, and paying for expenses related to this trip directly to the service provider).
6. ***Check only one:***
   a. ☒ My organization does not employ or retain a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent **OR**
   b. ☐ My organization employs a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent, but their involvement in planning, organizing, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the travel regulations.
7. **I certify by my signature that**
   a. I read and understand the Committee's Travel Regulations;
   b. I am not a registered federal lobbyist or registered foreign agent;
   c. I am an officer of this organization and am duly authorized to sign this form; and
   d. The information on this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: Al Khalafalla Date: 5/14/2024

Name: Dr. Al Khalafalla Title: President

Organization: American Global Institute

Address: 1750 K Street, NW, Suite 1200, Washington DC 20006

Telephone: Email: president@aginow.org

If there are questions regarding this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103 or travel.requests@mail.house.gov.

last updated 7/2023

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

ADDITIONAL TRIP SPONSOR FORM

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

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001. Failure to comply with the Committee's Travel Regulations may also lead to the denial of permission to sponsor future trips. Signatures must comply with section 104(bb) of the Travel Regulations.

1. Name of Primary Trip Sponsor for this trip: The Humpty Dumpty Institute
2. Name of your organization: REDSEA Cultural Foundation
3. Yes ☐ No ☒ Is your organization designated a § 501(c)(3) charitable organization by the Internal Revenue Service?
4. Yes ☐ No ☒ Does your organization receive funding from any foreign government or multinational organization?
5. ***Check one.*** I certify that my organization:
   a. ☐ Has provided a grant, gift, or donation to the above-named Primary Trip Sponsor and conducts an audit or review of its grant, gift, or donation to ensure that the funds are spent in accordance with the terms of its grant, gift, or donation. **OR**
   b. ☒ Has had a direct role in the organizing, planning, or conducting of a trip to Destination: Somaliland on Date: June 16 - 20, 2024 that is being organized or arranged by the above-named Primary Trip Sponsor. **OR**
   c. ☐ Has provided in-kind support to the above-named Primary Trip Sponsor (*e.g.,* meeting planning assistance, meeting space and set-up, and paying for expenses related to this trip directly to the service provider).
6. ***Check only one:***
   a. ☒ My organization does not employ or retain a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent **OR**
   b. ☐ My organization employs a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent, but their involvement in planning, organizing, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the travel regulations.
7. **I certify by my signature that**
   a. I read and understand the Committee's Travel Regulations;
   b. I am not a registered federal lobbyist or registered foreign agent;
   c. I am an officer of this organization and am duly authorized to sign this form; and
   d. The information on this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: Dr Jama Musse Jama Digitally signed by Dr Jama Musse Jama Date: 2024.05.14 22:32:23 +03'00' Date: 5/14/2024

Name: Dr Jama Musse Jama Title: Director

Organization: REDSEA Cultural Foundation

Address: 26th June Street No. 2, Sha'ab Area, Hargeysa, Somaliland

Telephone: 063 4099088 Email: jama@redsea-online.org

If there are questions regarding this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103 or travel.requests@mail.house.gov.

last updated 7/2023

Michael Guest, Mississippi
Chairman
Susan Wild, Pennsylvania
Ranking Member

David P. Joyce, Ohio
John H. Rutherford, Florida
Andrew R. Garbarino, New York
Michelle Fischbach, Minnesota

Veronica Escobar, Texas
Mark DeSaulnier, California
Deborah K. Ross, North Carolina
Glenn F. Ivey, Maryland

ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Thomas A. Rust
Staff Director and Chief Counsel

Keelie Broom
Counsel to the Chairman

David Arrojo
Counsel to the Ranking Member

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

June 12, 2024

Ms. Xiomara Villarreal
Office of the Honorable John Carter
2208 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ms. Villarreal:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your proposed trip to Somalia,[1] scheduled for June 16 to 21, 2024, sponsored by Humpty Dumpty Institute, American Global Institute, and REDSEA Cultural Foundation.

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 $480 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.

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 $480] 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.

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[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.

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

Sincerely,

Michael Guest
Chairman

Susan Wild
Ranking Member

MG/SW:mc

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U.S. Congressional Delegation to the Republic of Somaliland
June 16 – 20, 2024
Tentative Agenda

Mission goals:
The goal of this trip is to get a better understanding of the complexities of the region through meetings with Somalilander government, business, environmental and cultural leaders.

Relevance to official duties:
The United States recognizes the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Federal Republic of Somalia within its 1960 borders. It is important to create people-to-people relations with the people of Somaliland to advance U.S. foreign policy goals. Somaliland with its strategic location in the Horn of Africa is very important to U.S. interests in region in the current geopolitical situation. It is crucial for all Congress Staff to get a better understanding of current dynamics and strategic concerns.

Sunday, June 16, 2024

10:45 AM Departure from Washington DC, Dulles Airport (IAD)
(Flight ET 0501, Ethiopian Airlines)

Monday, June 17, 2024

11:00 AM Arrival at Egal Hargeisa Airport, Somaliland

12:30 PM Check into Ambassador Hotel
Airport Road, Hargeisa
Phone: +252 2 566666

1:00 PM - 3:30 PM Staff time

4:00 PM - 5:30 PM Meeting with Women Civil Society Organizations at the Hotel

Participants will have an opportunity to discuss issues concerning gender equality and women's rights, women's access to education in Somaliland. Participant will meet with representatives of member organizations of NAGAAD Network which advocates for women's empowerment in all aspects of their lives.

6:30 PM - 9:00PM Dinner at the Hotel attended by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Dr. Essa Abdirahman Kayd, Minister of Foreign Affairs & International Cooperation will attend dinner for the delegation participants and guests. Discussion focused on regional issues affecting Somaliland.

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Tuesday, June 18, 2024

8:00 AM Breakfast at the Hotel

9:00 AM - 10:30 AM Meeting with HE Mr. Muse Bihi Abdi, President of Somaliland

Meeting will allow participants to discuss most pressing issues concerning Somaliland and its role in the region. Discussion will focus on current economic and political situation.

11:00 AM - 12:30PM Meeting with Somaliland Security Officials and Minister of Interior
3, Koodbuur-June Road, Guul Alla,Ibrahim Koodbuur

Participants will have the opportunity to discuss security in the region, and specifically in the border areas. They will also discuss the current situation of Internally Displaced Persons fleeing unrest in the Sool Region.

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM Working lunch with staff of Taiwan Representative Office in Somaliland
Sha'ab Area, Rd. No. 1

Discussion will focus on the status of Somalilander-Taiwanese relations and its importance within broader, international context. Opportunity to discuss PRC's influence in the region, and efforts to counter Chinese disinformation.

3:30 PM - 4:30 PM Visit to University of Hargeisa, Campus Tour

5:00 PM – 6:30 PM Staff Time

7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Dinner at the Hargeisa Cultural Center (HCC)
26 June Street No. 2, Sha'ab area
Phone: +252 0 63-3628220

Participants will have the opportunity to learn about HCC's cultural programming in the region, projects promoting freedom of expression, its mission to empower young creative leaders, increase participation of women in cultural and educational programs. Participant will have a chance to explore possibility of cultural exchanges.

Wednesday, June 19, 2024

6:00 AM Breakfast at the Hotel

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7:00 AM Depart for Berbera (ground transportation)
Two- and half-hour drive with one stop along the way.

8:00 AM – 9:00AM Visit to Laas Geel - Somaliland Ancient Rock Painting

Visit to proposed UNESCO site; 20,000 years-old site in need of protection. Opportunity for participants to learn about region-specific political challenges in obtaining world heritage status. Discussion regarding importance of cultural/archeological preservation considering budgetary constraints of developing economies.

9:30 AM - 10:00 AM Visit to the Old City in Berbera

Meeting with city officials, discussing potential for tourism.

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Visit to Berbera Airport

Delegation will visit the longest runway in Africa, used as space shuttle emergency landing site. Discussion of importance in light of U.S defense interests.

12:00 PM - 2:00 PM Visit to Berbera Port

Delegation will tour of the port and meet with port officials and Coast Guard. Discussion will focus on strategic importance of the port to regional and U.S. interests.

2:00 PM - 2:45 PM Working lunch with port officials attended by Mayor of Berbera

3:00 PM - 5:30 PM Return to Hargeisa (ground transportation)

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Staff time at the Hotel

7:15 PM - 9:00 PM Working dinner with leaders of political parties

Delegation will have a chance to meet and engage with local political leaders. Overview of current political situation. Participants will have a chance to meet with representatives of all major political parties in Somaliland: Somaliland National Party, Kulmiye Peace, Unity and Development Party, Justice and Welfare Party.

Thursday, June 20, 2024

9:30 AM – 11:00 AM Working breakfast at the Hotel with Somaliland women minority organizations.

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Delegation will meet women who work to promote political participation of women from minority communities in local councils, parliaments and among government officials. Discussion about grassroots initiatives promoting minorities' rights and their active participation in democracy in Somaliland through mobilization, human rights and civic training sessions, awareness raising campaigns and community empowerment.

1:30 PM	Departure from the hotel for the airport in Hargeisa
5:40 PM	Departure from Hargeisa (ET 0375, Ethiopian Airlines)

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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:

The Humpty Dumpty Institute:

One of the Humpty Dumpty Institute's (HDI) main focuses is to foster dialogue between the U.S. Congress and the United Nations. To date, over 650 Members and Staff have participated in our U.N. programs. Since 2009, HDI has developed overseas programs by which Members of the U.S. Congress and Staff Employees have had the opportunity to meet and discuss issues on an international basis. Most recently, HDI brought Congressional Delegations (incl. Staff) to Malawi, Bahrain, Sudan, Belgium, Ukraine and Somaliland. HDI is organizing a second delegation to Somaliland to give U.S. Congressional Staff an opportunity to meet Somalilander government, civic, business, environmental and cultural leaders to get a better understanding of the complexities of the area. HDI will conduct the program from start to finish, including sending invitations to Congressional Staff, providing logistical arrangements, providing appropriate Ethics Committee forms for reporting, and coordinating with the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of the Treasury to ensure that everything is done appropriately. HDI will also work with the additional sponsors on arranging the meeting schedule in Somaliland. HDI will accompany the participants to all meeting and make sure that the program follows the House Ethics Rules.

Redsea Cultural Foundation

Redsea Cultural Foundation is a Somaliland based organization which promotes the culture of reading and creative writing in Somali speaking society, with particular focus on youth. In addition, RCF supports and promotes Information and Communication Technology for development within the Somaliland society. RCF's goal is to assist the development and availability of literacy and IT in Somaliland as a fundamental objective.

Redsea Cultural Foundation has given HDI a grant to organize and conduct a U.S. Congressional Delegation to Somaliland to interact with the local government officials, cultural, business and community leaders. Redsea Cultural Foundation will also be involved in planning, organizing and conducting of this trip.

The American Global Institute (AGI):

AGI is a 501C3 NGO based in Washington DC who is focused on the trade and use of trade and economic interaction as vehicles to promote political reform and further human rights. AGI is specifically interested in developing relations between the United States and the Arabic speaking world to advance religious tolerance and ethnic reconciliation through economic development in the region.

AGI will serve as an important liaison between HDI and local sponsors and will be involved in all areas of planning and implementation of this program.

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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):

This program is designed to give Congressional Staff an opportunity to learn about the complexities of the area through meetings with government officials, cultural, civic and business leaders, present the importance of the region to strategic U.S interests, explore the potential for cultural and educational exchanges.

Invitations were extended to Congressional Staff of both parties, who have demonstrated interest in the region, its issues and importance to U.S. interests through their legislative work.

Invited Staff:

1. Mr. Hunt VanderToll Legislative Director Congressman Andy Barr

2. Ms. Mary Rosado Chief of Staff Congressman Andy Barr

3. Kleya Dhenin Director of Operations Congresswoman Suzan DelBene

4. Josh Lucas - Director of Operations Congressman Eric Swalwell

5. Shinnola Alexander Legislative Assistant Congresswoman Stacey Plaskett

6. Ms. Angeline Jabbar Chief of Staff Congresswoman Stacey Plaskett

7. Kevin Griffin Legislative Assistant Congressman André Carson

8. Jonas Miller Chief of Staff Congressman Troy Carter

9. Xiomara Villarreal Legislative Assistant Congressman Troy Carter

10. Mr. Patrick Mocete Chief of Staff Congresswoman Young Kim

11. Ms. Smile Lee Legislative Assistant Congresswoman Young Kim

12. Mr. JD Logan Legislative Assistant Congressman Mark Green

13. Ms. Naomie Pierre-Louis Chief of Staff Congresswoman Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick

14. Ms. Angelle Kwemo Deputy Chief of Staff Congresswoman Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick

15. Mr. Chad Obermiller Chief of Staff Congressman Ami Bera

16. Mr. Ben Thomas Chief of Staff Congressman Joaquin Castro

17. Mr. Andrew Ross Chief of Staff Congressman Michael McCaul

18. Mr. Tim Bertocci Chief of Staff Congressman Dean Phillips

19. Ms. Chelsea O'Shea Chief of Staff Congressman Bradley Schneider

20. Ms. Hillary Parkinson Chief of Staff Congressman Keith Self

21. Ms. Mary McDermott Noonan Chief of Staff Congressman Christopher Smith

22. Mr. Ed Hamb Chief of Staff Congressman Jonathan Jackson

23. Mr. Jeff Billman Chief of Staff Congressman Ronny Jackson

24. Mr. Brandon Cokerman Chief of Staff Congressman Jim Baird

25. Mr. Garrett Donovan Chief of Staff Congressman William Keating

26. Ms. Catherine Treadwell Chief of Staff Congressman Cory Mills

27. Mr. Jonathan Day Chief of Staff Congressman Joe Wilson

28. Mr. Micah Ketchel Chief of Staff Congressman Michael Waltz

29. Mr. Phillip Singleton Chief of Staff Congressman Rich McCormick

30. Mr. Josh Bradley Chief of Staff Congressman Nathaniel Moran

31. Mr. Jackson Gross Chief of Staff Congressman John James

32. Ms. Kayla Williams Chief of Staff Congressman Gregory Meeks

33. Mr. Connor White Chief of Staff Congressman Warren Davidson

34. Mr. Charlie Keller Chief of Staff Congresswoman Ann Wagner

35. Ms. Andrea Grace Chief of Staff Congressman Michael Lawler

36. Ms. Brooke Bennett Chief of Staff Congressman French Hill

37. Mr. Stephen Siao Chief of Staff Congressman Mark Green

38. Mr. Jay Gertsema Chief of Staff Congresswoman Dina Titus

39. Mr. Zach Mendelovici Chief of Staff Congressman Ken Buck

40. Ms. Colleen Carlos Chief of Staff Congresswoman Madeleine Dean

41. Ms. Veronica Wong Chief of Staff Congressman Darrell Issa

42. Ms. Rebekah Solem Chief of Staff Congresswoman Sydney Kamlager-Dove

43. Ms. Lale Morrison Chief of Staff Congressman Jared Moskowitz

44. Mr. Michael Grider Chief of Staff Congressman Tim Burchett

45. Ms. Lauren Muglia Chief of Staff Congressman Scott Perry

46. Mr. Thomas Moran Chief of Staff Congresswoman Maria Elvira Salazar

47. Mr. Danielle Stewart Chief of Staff Congressman Thomas Kean Jr.

48. Ms. Nikki Rapanos Chief of Staff Congressman Nick LaLota

49. Mr. Dylan Sorado Chief of Staff Congressman Gabe Amo

50. Ms. Tracee Sutton Chief of Staff Congressman Greg Stanton

51. Ms. Judith Tankel Chief of Staff Congressman Collin Allred

52. Mr. Aaron Schmidt Chief of Staff Congresswoman Suzan DelBene

53. Mr. Robert Edmonson Chief of Staff Congressman Robert Garcia

54. Ms. Michelle Dorothy Chief of Staff Congresswoman Chrissy Houlahan

55. Ms. Alex Ball Chief of Staff Congresswoman Mikie Sherrill

56. Mr. Connor McNutt Chief of Staff Congresswoman Ilhan Omar

57. Mr. Michael Mucchetti Chief of Staff Congressman Lloyd Doggett

58. Mr. Rick Jackious Chief of Staff Congressman Seth Moulton

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U.S. Congressional Delegation to the Republic of Somaliland
June 16 – 21, 2024
Tentative Agenda

Mission goals:
The goal of this trip is to get a better understanding of the complexities of the region through meetings with Somalilander government, business, environmental and cultural leaders.

Relevance to official duties:
The United States recognizes the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Federal Republic of Somalia within its 1960 borders. It is important to create people-to-people relations with the people of Somaliland to advance U.S. foreign policy goals. Somaliland with its strategic location in the Horn of Africa is very important to U.S. interests in region in the current geopolitical situation. It is crucial for all Congress Staff to get a better understanding of current dynamics and strategic concerns.

Sunday, June 16, 2024

10:45 AM Departure from Washington DC, Dulles Airport (IAD)
(Flight ET 0501, Ethiopian Airlines)

Monday, June 17, 2024

11:00 AM Arrival at Egal Hargeisa Airport, Somaliland

12:30 PM Check into Ambassador Hotel
Airport Road, Hargeisa
Phone: +252 2 566666

1:00 PM - 3:30 PM Staff time

4:00 PM - 5:30 PM Meeting with Women Civil Society Organizations at the Hotel

Participants will have an opportunity to discuss issues concerning gender equality and women's rights, women's access to education in Somaliland. Participant will meet with representatives of member organizations of NAGAAD Network which advocates for women's empowerment in all aspects of their lives.

6:30 PM - 9:00PM Dinner at the Hotel attended by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Dr. Essa Abdirahman Kayd, Minister of Foreign Affairs & International Cooperation will attend dinner for the delegation participants and guests. Discussion focused on regional issues affecting Somaliland.

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Tuesday, June 18, 2024

8:00 AM Breakfast at the Hotel

9:00 AM - 10:30 AM Meeting with HE Mr. Muse Bihi Abdi, President of Somaliland

Meeting will allow participants to discuss most pressing issues concerning Somaliland and its role in the region. Discussion will focus on current economic and political situation.

11:00 AM - 12:30PM Meeting with Somaliland Security Officials and Minister of Interior
3, Koodbuur-June Road, Guul Alla,Ibrahim Koodbuur

Participants will have the opportunity to discuss security in the region, and specifically in the border areas. They will also discuss the current situation of Internally Displaced Persons fleeing unrest in the Sool Region.

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM Working lunch with staff of Taiwan Representative Office in Somaliland
Sha'ab Area, Rd. No. 1

Discussion will focus on the status of Somalilander-Taiwanese relations and its importance within broader, international context. Opportunity to discuss PRC's influence in the region, and efforts to counter Chinese disinformation.

3:30 PM - 4:30 PM Visit to University of Hargeisa, Campus Tour

5:00 PM – 6:30 PM Staff Time

7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Dinner at the Hargeisa Cultural Center (HCC)
26 June Street No. 2, Sha'ab area
Phone: +252 0 63-3628220

Participants will have the opportunity to learn about HCC's cultural programming in the region, projects promoting freedom of expression, its mission to empower young creative leaders, increase participation of women in cultural and educational programs. Participant will have a chance to explore possibility of cultural exchanges.

Wednesday, June 19, 2024

6:00 AM Breakfast at the Hotel

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7:00 AM Depart for Berbera (ground transportation)
Two- and half-hour drive with one stop along the way.

8:00 AM – 9:00AM Visit to Laas Geel - Somaliland Ancient Rock Painting

Visit to proposed UNESCO site; 20,000 years-old site in need of protection. Opportunity for participants to learn about region-specific political challenges in obtaining world heritage status. Discussion regarding importance of cultural/archeological preservation considering budgetary constraints of developing economies.

9:30 AM - 10:00 AM Visit to the Old City in Berbera

Meeting with city officials, discussing potential for tourism.

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Visit to Berbera Airport

Delegation will visit the longest runway in Africa, used as space shuttle emergency landing site. Discussion of importance in light of U.S defense interests.

12:00 PM - 2:00 PM Visit to Berbera Port

Delegation will tour of the port and meet with port officials and Coast Guard. Discussion will focus on strategic importance of the port to regional and U.S. interests.

2:00 PM - 2:45 PM Working lunch with port officials attended by Mayor of Berbera

3:00 PM - 5:30 PM Return to Hargeisa (ground transportation)

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Staff time at the Hotel

7:15 PM - 9:00 PM Working dinner with leaders of political parties

Delegation will have a chance to meet and engage with local political leaders. Overview of current political situation. Participants will have a chance to meet with representatives of all major political parties in Somaliland: Somaliland National Party, Kulmiye Peace, Unity and Development Party, Justice and Welfare Party.

Thursday, June 20, 2024

9:30 AM – 11:00 AM Working breakfast at the Hotel with Somaliland women minority organizations.

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Delegation will meet women who work to promote political participation of women from minority communities in local councils, parliaments and among government officials. Discussion about grassroots initiatives promoting minorities' rights and their active participation in democracy in Somaliland through mobilization, human rights and civic training sessions, awareness raising campaigns and community empowerment.

1:30 PM	Departure from the hotel for the airport in Hargeisa
5:55 PM	Departure from Hargeisa (ET 0375, Ethiopian Airlines)
7:15 PM	Arrival in Addis Ababa (transfer)
10:50 PM	Departure from Addis Ababa (ET 500, Ethiopian Airlines)

Friday, June 21, 2024

8:55 AM	Arrival in Washington, DC (Dulles International Airport)

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