

# 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](mailto:gifttravelreports@mail.house.gov), within 15 days after travel is completed.** Please **do not** file this form with the Committee on Ethics.

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


- Name of Traveler: Claire Dufault
- a. Name of Accompanying Relative: \_\_\_\_\_ **OR**  None  
b. Relationship to Traveler:  Spouse  Child  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
- a. Dates: Departure: September 21st 2025 Return: September 27th 2025  
b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: \_\_\_\_\_ **OR**  None
- Departure City: Washington D.C. Destination: Nairobi Return City: Washington DC
- Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: Apsen Institute Congressional Program
- Describe Meetings and Events Attended: \_\_\_\_\_
- Attached to this form are **each** of the following, *signify that each item is attached by checking the corresponding box*:
  - a completed *Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form*;
  - the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* completed by the trip sponsor **prior** to the trip, **including all** attachments **and** the *Additional Sponsor Form(s)*;
  - page 2 of the completed *Traveler Form* submitted by the employee; **and**
  - the letter from the Committee on Ethics approving my participation on this trip.
- 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: Claire Dufault Date: 10/9/2025

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: Gregory W. Meeks Date: 10/9/2025

Signature of Supervising Member: 

# 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: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Travel Destination(s): \_\_\_\_\_

3. Date of Departure: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Return: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Name(s) of Traveler(s): \_\_\_\_\_

*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				
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: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

*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.

# 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 submitted at 1015 Longworth House Office Building or [travel.requests@mail.house.gov](mailto:travel.requests@mail.house.gov).

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

Name of Traveler: Claire Dufault

**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: *Claire Dufault*

Name of Signatory (if other than traveler): \_\_\_\_\_

For Staff (name of employing Member or Committee): House Foreign Affairs Committee

Office Address: 2471 Rayburn House Office Building

Telephone Number: 202-225-5021

Email Address of Contact Person: claire.dufault@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 email: [travel.requests@mail.house.gov](mailto:travel.requests@mail.house.gov).

# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

## TRAVELER FORM

1. Name of Traveler: Claire Dufault
2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying or providing in-kind support for the trip: Aspen Institute Congressional Program
3. City and State **OR** Foreign Country of Travel: Kenya
4. a. Date of Departure: September 21, 2025 Date of Return: September 27, 2025  
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, invitation, 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 the Director of Operations, this trip and conference will allow me to support the work of the Committee by attending and learning about the challenges facing Africa. Through a mix of field visits to health, agriculture, and other program sites, as well as expert-led fireside chats and roundtable discussions, participants will delve into the security, economic, and development.

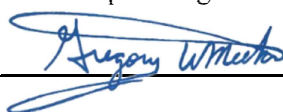
9. **Yes  No  Is the traveler aware of any registered federal lobbyists or foreign agents involved in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip?**

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

### ADVANCED AUTHORIZATION OF EMPLOYEE TRAVEL

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

Signature of Employing Member: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: 8-22-2025

# 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 Aspen Institute, Inc. (Congressional Program)

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: The Eleanor Crook Foundation

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 appendix

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

6. Date of Departure: September 21, 2025 Date of Return: September 27, 2025

7. a. City of departure: Washington, D.C. (Dulles IAD airport)

b. Destination(s): Nairobi, Kenya

c. City of return: Washington, D.C. (Dulles IAD airport)

8. **Check only one.** I represent that

- a.  The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965; **OR**
- b.  The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent; **OR**
- c.  The sponsor employs or retains a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent, but the trip is for attendance at a one-day event *and* lobbyist / foreign agent involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the Committee's travel regulations.

9. **Check only one of the following.**
- a.  I checked 8(a) or (b) above; **OR**
  - b.  I checked 8(c) above but am not offering any lodging; **OR**
  - c.  I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for one night; **OR**
  - d.  I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for two nights. If you checked this box, explain why the second night of lodging is warranted. \_\_\_\_\_

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 appendix

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:  
Please see appendix for charter explanation.

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): \_\_\_\_\_  
\$70
    - 2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: \_\_\_\_\_  
please see appendix

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

Hotel Name: Emara Ole Sereni City: Nairobi, Kenya Cost Per Night: \$250  
 Reason(s) for Selecting: location close to site visits

Hotel Name: Porini Lion Camp City: Masai Mara Cost Per Night: \$489  
 Reason(s) for Selecting: Includes full board, transportation and conservation tour +fees

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:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amounts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Faith Estimates	Total <b>Transportation</b> Expenses per Participant	Total <b>Lodging</b> Expenses per Participant	Total <b>Meal</b> Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	\$9,117.93	\$1,239	\$185
For each Accompanying Family Member			


	<b>Other</b> Expenses (dollar amount per item)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	\$1,173	Security
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:  Date: August 21, 2025  
 Name: Charles Dent Title: Vice President-The Aspen Institute  
 Organization: The Aspen Institute, Inc. (Congressional Program)  
 Address: 2300 N Street, NW, Washington, DC 20037  
 Email: lisa.jones@aspeninstitute.org Telephone: 202-736-5859

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

**HOUSE APPENDIX**  
**Aspen Institute Congressional Program**  
**U.S.-Africa Policy: Security, Development, and International Engagement**  
**September 21-27, 2025**

**Question 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.**

These members are invited due to their subject matter interest and expertise in the geopolitical issues to be discussed at the conference.

1. Bender, Caroline: Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of Rep. Juan Ciscomani; House Committee on Appropriations
2. Dufault, Claire: Director of Operations, House Foreign Affairs Committee
3. Hutson, Matt: Chief of Staff, Office of Rep. Andy Harris; House Committee on Appropriations
4. Mocete, Patrick: Chief of Staff, Office of Rep. Young Kim; House Committee on Financial Services; House Committee on Foreign Affairs; House Select Committee on the Strategic Competition Between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party
5. Paris-Behr, Caroline: Chief of Staff, Office of Rep. Lauren Underwood; House Committee on Appropriations
6. Smith, Chandler: Legislative Director, Office of Rep. Guy Reschenthaler; House Committee on Appropriations
7. Hartl, Kellie: Legislative Director, Office of Rep. David Valadao; House Committee on Appropriations
  
8. Alpert, Matt: Chief of Staff, Office of Rep. Norma Torres; House Committee on Appropriations
9. Dinegar, Tom: Legislative Director, Office of Rep. Grace Meng; House Committee on Appropriations
10. Hamb, Ed: Chief of Staff, Office of Rep. Jonathan Jackson; House Committee on Foreign Affairs; House Committee on Agriculture
11. Kaguyutan, Janice: Chief Counsel, House Foreign Affairs Committee
12. Nelson, Tim: Chief of Staff, Office of Rep. Ed Case; House Committee on Appropriations
13. Pierre-Louis, Naomie: Chief of Staff, Office of Rep. Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick; House Committee on Foreign Affairs
14. Russell, Robyn: Chief of Staff, Office of Rep. Mike Quigley; House Committee on Appropriations
15. Tsafoulis, Christina: Senior Professional Staff Member, House Foreign Affairs Committee
16. Watkins, Yebbie: Chief of Staff, Office of Rep. Jim Clyburn, House Committee on Appropriations

**Question 12:**

With Africa facing complex security, economic, and development challenges amid growing geopolitical competition, this convening continues AICP's mission of helping lawmakers and their staff engage thoughtfully with the most pressing issues of our time. AICP organized and

conducted the conference and selected and invited the attendees. The foundation listed in 3C, The Eleanor Crook Foundation, did not play a role in organizing or conducting the conference. The foundation provided grant funding for the program.

***Question 13 (c) (continued):***

We are utilizing a charter flight for our trip to the Mara since the location we are going to is hard to reach (a specific airstrip). Commercial flights are at 10 AM and 3 PM usually, so it would be difficult to maximize programming for the delegation in the capital and in the Mara, being locked into this timing.

Additionally, on scheduled air, stops are often added so expected departure and arrival times are changed, which affects programming and making flights. Finally, sometimes on scheduled flights to the Mara, the type of aircraft changes depending on bookings so the delegation may be split.

***Question 15 (b) (continued):***

Nairobi, Kenya specifically was chosen as this educational conference will examine a range of pressing issues with significant policy implications for both the United States and Africa. Through a mix of field visits to health, agriculture, and other program sites, as well as expert-led fireside chats and roundtable discussions, participants will delve into the security, economic, and development challenges facing Africa—and the ways in which the United States is engaging in response. Discussions will highlight threats to U.S. national security across the continent, alongside the growing influence of China and Russia. The agenda will also cover key development areas such as public health, food security and malnutrition, and the issues of wildlife trafficking and conservation. Attendees will have the chance to interact with local Kenyans and reflect on the evolving future of U.S.-Africa relations.

***Question 16 (continued):***

The facility has required technology, meeting space, and is able to provide food with Western standard food handling and preparation practices. Security is a key factor as well.



**CONGRESSIONAL  
PROGRAM**  
aspen institute

## **U.S. Foreign Policy in Africa: Interests, Opportunities, and Challenges**

September 21-27, 2025 | Nairobi, Kenya and Masai Mara, Kenya

### **AGENDA**

#### **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21:**

**10:55 AM** Participants depart the U.S. from IAD airport, Dulles, VA

#### **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22:**

**1:10 PM:** U.S. participants arrive in Nairobi, Kenya

**2:00- 2:30 PM:** U.S. participants travel to Emara Ole hotel

**2:30 PM:** U.S. participants check into hotel and get settled

**3:00 - 6:30 PM:** Executive Time (rest and prepare for dinner)

**7 – 9 PM:** Working Dinner with Khalda Mohammed, Kenya Red Cross  
Discussion with a representative from the Kenya Red Cross Society with a focus on refugees living in Kenya.

**Overnight in Nairobi**

#### **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23:**

**6:30 – 8:30 AM:** Breakfast

**9:00 - 10:30 AM:** Travel from Nairobi to Naivasha

**10:30 – 12 PM:** Educational Site Visit with Dave Payne, Chief Revenue Officer, Kentegra

#### **Kentegra Biotechnology Pyrethrum Processing Facility, Naivasha**

Once Kenya's third largest export, pyrethrum is a naturally occurring mixture of chemicals found in chrysanthemums that are extracted and refined into pale refined

extract (PRE), an active ingredient used to formulate organic insecticides and pesticides. Kenya contributed more than 80 percent of the global supply and was a major supplier to the U.S. until the late 1990s, with over 300,000 farmers growing chrysanthemums.

Kentegra Biotechnology, a U.S. firm based in Kenya, is at the forefront of the pyrethrum revival. The company has contracted with more than 20,000 farmers, 46 percent of whom are women, and has invested over \$4.5 million to build a factory in Athi River. The organization operates two nurseries in Nakuru County. Kentegra partners with the U.S. Development Finance Corporation.

**12 – 1 PM: Working Lunch with Dave Payne, Chief Revenue Officer, Kentegra**

Mr. Payne will provide an overview of Kentegra biotechnology including its business platform and partnership with the U.S. Development Finance Corporation.

**2:30 – 4 PM: Educational Site Visit**

**International Livestock Research Institute, Nairobi**

**Shirley Tarawali, Director, International Livestock Research Institute, will be our tour guide and moderate the discussion.**

Food insecurity continues to be a major issue facing millions of people throughout Kenya. On this day, the delegation will hear from researchers and scientists on ways that the government of Kenya is working to provide a more resilient food safety system for farmers and the most vulnerable populations. The delegation will spend 2 hours touring the main research center and have a roundtable discussion with front line food security specialists.

**6:15 – 7 PM: Pre-Dinner Remarks:  
*Opportunities for American Businesses in Africa***

**Speaker:**

**Maxwell Okello, CEO, American Chamber of Commerce, Kenya**

**7 – 9 PM: Working Dinner with NGO Representatives**

Hajir Maalim, Regional Director Middle East, Eastern and Southern Africa, Plan International

Hanna Dagnachew, Deputy Regional Director for Programming Quality, Southern Africa Region, Catholic Relief Services

Dr. Edward Kariithi, Director of Programs, Kenya, PATH

Annie Wakanyi, Director, Global Government Partnerships, One Acre Fund

**Discussions to focus on aid work in Kenya**

## **Overnight in Nairobi**

### **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24:**

**6 – 6:45 AM: Breakfast**

**6:45 – 7 AM: Transit to airport**

**8 – 9:30 AM: Board flight and travel to Dadaab Refugee Camp**

**9:30 AM – 3:30 PM: Educational Site Visit**

#### **Dadaab Refugee Camp**

Dadaab Refugee Camp, located in eastern Kenya near the border with Somalia, was established in 1992 as a temporary location for Somalis fleeing from civil war. Over the years, famine and drought have forced growing numbers of Somalis to seek housing in Dadaab. Today, the camp is the world's largest, housing over 432,000 refugees and asylum seekers, supporting children and families from primarily Somalia.

The camp is managed by the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) with food support provided through the U.N.'s World Food Programme (WFP), water and sanitation by CARE, and health care by the Kenya Red Cross Society. The United States, in the past, has been a major contributor to UNHCR and WFP, providing over \$800 million in assistance to refugees in Kenya, including Dadaab. More recently, however, American commitments to both organizations have declined significantly.

**Khalda Mohammed, Kenya Red Cross, will guide our tour and visit**

**3:30 – 5 PM Board plane and travel from Dadaab Refugee Camp back to Nairobi with Khalda Mohammed**

**7 – 9 PM: Working Dinner**

Discussions to focus on learnings from the site visit to the Dadaab Refugee Camp

## **Overnight in Nairobi**

### **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25:**

**6:30 – 8 AM: Breakfast**

**8:15 – 10 AM: Educational Site Visit**

#### **Global Fund School Visit:**

HIV/AIDS continues to be a great educational problem in Kenya. Educating school age students is the front line of fighting against this disease. On this day, the delegation will

visit a secondary school in Nairobi and hear directly from students about the challenges facing them every day and what they are learning about HIV/AIDS and prevention. The students will share what they have learned from peer education & empowerment programs targeting HIV/AIDS that are paid for directly by the Global Fund. We will spend time with the students in a roundtable, Q&A format, at the Oshwal Primary School. **Discussion to be led and moderated by Khalda Mohammed, Kenya Red Cross.**

**10:15 AM – 10:30 AM Transit to Airport**

**11:30 AM – 1 PM: Flight to Masai Mara National Reserve**

**1:15 PM - 1:30 PM Drive to the Conservancy**

**1:30 PM - 2:00 PM Working Lunch**

The Masai Mara National Reserve scientists will talk about the process of conservation, its impact on global wildlife, the local economy, and political stability.

**2 – 3:30 PM: Educational Site Visit  
Maa Trust and Maa Beadwork Project**

**Meeting with and tour led by Daniel Sophia, CEO of the Maasai Mara Wildlife Conservancies Association**

The Maa Trust is a non-profit organisation working with community-owned conservancies in the Masai Mara, Kenya. Its mission is to increase the benefits of wildlife and conservation to Masai families so that they value and contribute to the protection of wild animals on their land. The Maa Trust empowers local people by promoting small business startups & micro finance schemes, enabling them to make their own money and to invest in their family's development. Their members identify their needs and wish lists of items, and The Maa Trust helps them to save up for and attain these. Despite a severe lack of education for girl children in previous years, the female beadwork and honey projects are now providing a way for these women to invest in clean drinking water for their homes, a solar power alternative firewood, and the ability to send more of their children to school.

Maa Beadwork is a social enterprise established by The Maa Trust as a sustainable alternative livelihood to generate income for Masai women and their families. Beading is a tribal art and talent of Masai women, who have been famed for their adornment for centuries.

**3:30 PM- 4:00 PM: Transit to Porini Lion Camp**

**4:00 PM: Check in at Camp**

**4:30 - 7:00 PM: Afternoon field Drive briefing with Daniel Sophia, CEO of the Masai Mara Wildlife Conservancies Association (MMWCA)**

Daniel Sophia will brief the delegation on the community conservancy model in the Masai Mara, including its history, unique ownership and land-use rights, and the direct support they have received from the US government. This discussion will further

illustrate how the conservancy model generates sustainable incomes for individual landowners. The Masai Mara Wildlife Conservancies Association is a membership organization of the Mara Conservancies established in 2013. They have a mandate from landowners and tourism parties to play an overarching coordination role for Greater Mara Ecosystem stakeholders. Currently, there are 24 conservancies at different stages of development, covering about 450,000 acres. The member conservancies bring together over 15,000 landowners who annually receive approximately 7.5 million paid as lease fees.

### **7:30 - 8:00 PM: Return to Camp**

### **8:00 – 9:30 PM: Working Dinner with Dr Mohanjeet Brar (PhD) Managing Director - *Gamewatchers & Porini Camps***

Dr. Brar will brief the delegation on the role of sustainable tourism in supporting conservation. The delegation will gain a better understanding of the ecotourism models in Kenya and the economic opportunities presented for local communities.

Mohanjeet started his career as the Managing Director of Gamewatchers Safaris & Porini Camps in 2005. In 2019, he became a Trustee of the Wildlife Habitat Trust and a Board Member of the Kenya Tourism Board. Mohanjeet also served as a Board Member of the Masai Mara Wildlife Conservancies Association from 2013 to 2021.

### **Overnight in Masai Mara**

### **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26:**

### **6:30 - 9:00 AM: Field drive briefing to observe predator activity and discuss human-wildlife conflict**

Conservancy representatives will guide participants to track lion pride movements, discussing, en route, the important role lions and other predators play in the ecosystem as well as the Masai's historical relationship with lions and present threats of human-wildlife conflict. This discussion will provide participants with key background information and observations on how predators, in particular, support the overall health of the ecosystem, human-wildlife conflict, traditional practices of indigenous groups, and the challenges these create for local buy-in to ecotourism as a development solution.

### **9:00 – 9:45 AM: Breakfast with Niels Mogensen, Senior Program Scientist at the Mara Predator Hub**

The Mara Predator Hub leads research on the Mara's top predators to help community members and landowners understand and appreciate the role of predators in the ecosystem, ensure that key stakeholders in the Greater Mara Ecosystem consistently utilise sound scientific information to inform conservation strategies, and support

stable, healthy predator populations in the Greater Mara Ecosystem by providing scientific evidence for conservation action.

**10:30 AM: Return to Camp to pack**

**12 – 1:30 PM: Working Lunch with Dr. John Sankok, CEO of Community Health Partners (CHP)**

Dr. Sankok will brief the delegation on CHP's health and community development programs. The delegation will learn how these programs work in tandem with the conservancy model to support human development in the communities. Community Health Partners has been on the forefront of healthcare since 1980, and played an especially big role during the COVID-19 pandemic. They work on two fronts: primary health care services and community development initiatives. Their overall strategic plan is to contribute to the delivery of quality, accessible, and affordable health services.

**1:30 – 2:00 PM: Transit to landing strip**

**2:00 – 4:00 PM: Board flight and travel to Nairobi International Airport**

**6:00 PM: Participants depart to return to the United States**

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27:**

**8:55 AM: Participants arrive in the U.S. at IAD, Dulles, VA**

# 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: Aspen Institute Congressional Program
2. Name of your organization: The Eleanor Crook 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: \_\_\_\_\_ on Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
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:  Date: 08/19/2025

Name: Mariana Becerra Title: Director of North American

Organization: Eleanor Crook Foundation

Address: 1049 30th St NW, Washington DC 20007, United States

Telephone: +1 (202) 766-0197 Email: Mbecerra@eleanorcrookfoundt

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

Michael Guest, Mississippi  
*Chairman*  
Mark DeSaulnier, California  
*Ranking Member*

John H. Rutherford, Florida  
Andrew R. Garbarino, New York  
Ashley Hinson, Iowa  
Nathaniel Moran, Texas

Deborah K. Ross, North Carolina  
Glenn F. Ivey, Maryland  
Sylvia R. Garcia, Texas  
Suhas Subramanyam, Virginia



ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH CONGRESS

**U.S. House of Representatives**

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Thomas A. Rust  
*Staff Director and Chief Counsel*

Jordan Downs  
*Chief of Staff to the Chairman*

David Arrojo  
*Counsel to the Ranking Member*

1015 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515-6328  
Telephone: (202) 225-7103  
<https://ethics.house.gov>

September 17, 2025

Ms. Claire Dufault  
Committee on Foreign Affairs  
2471 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ms. Dufault:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your proposed trip to Kenya,<sup>1</sup> scheduled for September 21 to 27, 2025, sponsored by Aspen Institute, Inc. and Eleanor Crook 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.

---

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

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

Sincerely,



Michael Guest  
Chairman



Mark DeSaulnier  
Ranking Member

MG/MD:tn



**CONGRESSIONAL  
PROGRAM**  
aspen institute

**Claire Dufault**

**Director of Operations  
House Foreign Affairs Committee**

Dear Claire,

I would like to invite you to our bipartisan, bicameral congressional senior staff conference on ***U.S.-Africa Policy: Security, Development, and International Engagement*** in **Nairobi, Kenya from September 21-27, 2025**, including travel dates. Please get back to us with your interest to attend the conference **by COB Thursday, August 21, 2025**. These conference spots fill up quickly, so please RSVP as soon as possible. This invitation does not guarantee your participation in the conference.

This educational conference will examine a range of pressing issues with significant policy implications for both the United States and Africa. Through a mix of field visits to health, agriculture, and other program sites, as well as expert-led fireside chats and roundtable discussions, participants will delve into the security, economic, and development challenges facing Africa—and the ways in which the United States is engaging in response. Discussions will highlight threats to U.S. national security across the continent, alongside the growing influence of China and Russia. The agenda will also cover key development areas such as public health, food security and malnutrition, and the issues of wildlife trafficking and conservation. Attendees will have the chance to interact with local Kenyans and reflect on the evolving future of U.S.-Africa relations.

Conference attendance is by invitation only. No outside observers, no lobbyists, and no media are allowed to participate. All conference sessions and site visits are off-the-record. No foreign governments are accepted to fund the Aspen Institute Congressional Program. As required by the Senate and House ethics rules, we will provide congressional participants with ethics private sponsor forms completed and signed.

Travel expenses, including airfare, meals, and lodging will be paid for by the Aspen Institute; no expenses for entertainment or recreation are paid for in compliance with ethics rules.

The Congressional Program is part of the Aspen Institute, Inc. a nonprofit organization founded in 1949. The Congressional Program was created to promote leadership on public policy by bringing legislators and their staff together from both political parties with internationally renowned scholars for high level discussions and analysis. Since our program's inception, more than 598 members of Congress have participated in our 160 domestic and international conferences.

We hope you can join us for this important conference.

Sincerely,

**Charlie Dent**

Charles W. Dent  
Former Member, U.S. Congress (PA-15th, 2005-2018)  
Vice President and Executive Director  
Aspen Institute Congressional Program  
2300 N Street NW, Suite 700, Washington, DC 20037  
Mobile: (484) 553-1837