# Employee Post-Travel Disclosure of Travel Expenses

Date/Time Stamp:
May 13, 2022
3:05 PM

**Post-Travel Filing Instructions:** Complete this form within **30 days** of returning from travel. Submit all forms to the **Office of Public Records in 232 Hart Building.**

In compliance with Rule 35.2(a) and (c), I make the following disclosures with respect to travel expenses that have been or will be reimbursed/paid for me. I also certify that I have attached:

☒ The **original** *Employee Pre-Travel Authorization* (Form RE-1), **AND**
☒ A **copy** of the *Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form* with all attachments (itinerary, invitee list, etc.)

Private Sponsor(s) (list all): United Nations Foundation

Travel date(s): Saturday, April 9 - Saturday, April 16, 2022

Name of accompanying family member (if any): _____
Relationship to Traveler: ☐ Spouse ☐ Child

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SECRETARY OF THE SENATE
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2022 MAY 13 PM 3 25

IF THE COST OF LODGING **DID NOT INCREASE** DUE TO THE ACCOMPANYING SPOUSE OR DEPENDENT CHILD, ONLY INCLUDE LODGING COSTS IN EMPLOYEE EXPENSES. (Attach additional pages if necessary.)

**Expenses for Employee:**

| | Transportation Expenses | Lodging Expenses | Meal Expenses | Other Expenses (Amount & Description) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| ☐ Good Faith Estimate<br>☒ Actual Amount | $2,169.37 | $728 | $405.89 | $230 (translation services)<br>$59.97 (COVID test) |

**Expenses for Accompanying Spouse or Dependent Child** (if applicable):

| | Transportation Expenses | Lodging Expenses | Meal Expenses | Other Expenses (Amount & Description) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| ☐ Good Faith Estimate<br>☐ Actual Amount | | | | |

Provide a description of all meetings and events attended. *See* Senate Rule 35.2(c)(6). (Attach additional pages if necessary.): (See attachment)

05/13/22 (*Date*) Molly Barlow (*Printed name of traveler*) Molly Barlow (*Signature of traveler*)

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING MEMBER/OFFICER:

I have made a determination that the expenses set out above in connections with travel described in the *Employee Pre-Travel Authorization* form, are necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses as defined in Rule 35.

05/13/22 (*Date*) Robert Menendez (*Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer*)

(Revised 1/3/11)

**Form RE-2**

Provide a description of all meetings and events attended. See Senate Rule 35.2(c)(6). (Attach additional pages if necessary.):

**AGENDA OF MEETINGS**

**Day 1 – Monday, April 11, 2022 (Tashkent)**

- **UN Security Briefing:** Briefing from the UN Department of Safety and Security detailing the current political and security situation in Uzbekistan and guidance on safety protocols.
- **Meeting with UN Country Team:** High-level discussion with the UN Country Team on the work of the 25 agencies, funds, and programs operating in Uzbekistan. Provided general background on the UN's presence in Uzbekistan, including key points of partnership between the U.S. and Uzbekistan.
- **Meeting with First Deputy Chair of the Senate, Sodiq Safaev:** Meeting with First Deputy Chair of the Senate, Sodiq Safaev, to discuss the work of the Parliament of Uzbekistan and to learn more about domestic political priorities and working-level relationship with the UN.
- **Working Lunch with Ashita Mittal, UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Regional Representative for Central Asia and the UNODC Team:** Working lunch with UNODC to discuss the scope of its work, including efforts to counter transnational organized crime/trafficking and prevent terrorism.
- **Tour of Republican Cold Chain Warehouse and Meeting with Ministry of Health Staff:** Tour of the largest vaccine facility in Central Asia which was established with the support of UNICEF and handed over to the Uzbekistan Ministry of Health in November 2021. The tour helped 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.
- **Meeting with First Deputy Minister of Economic Development and Poverty Reduction, N. Norkulov:** Meeting to discuss how the Ministry of Economic Development and Poverty Reduction works with the UN and others on the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework and how the Framework contributes to poverty reduction in Uzbekistan.
- **Working Reception at US Ambassador's Residence:** US Ambassador Dan Rosenblum hosted a welcome reception for congressional staff to allow the delegation to meet with the larger US diplomatic community as well as key foreign interlocutors to discuss domestic and regional developments that impact US-Uzbekistan relations.

**Day 2 – Tuesday, April 12, 2022 (Tashkent)**

- **Meeting with Special Representative of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan for Afghanistan, Ismatulla Irgashev:** Meeting with the Special Representative to discuss regional challenges and responses, including an update on the creation of a humanitarian logistics hub in Termez operated by the UN, and to better understand US-Uzbek efforts to strengthen humanitarian cooperation and support for UN agencies.

- **Meeting with US Modified Country Team, led by U.S. Amb. Daniel Rosenblum:** Meeting with the US Country Team to discuss US-Uzbekistan relations, US-UN cooperation measures, and how the US is supporting an Uzbekistan-led program of reforms aimed at liberalizing the economy, protecting fundamental freedoms, and developing democratic institutions and civil society.
- **Working Lunch with Mikaela Meredith, USAID Mission Director:** Meeting to discuss how USAID is helping diversify the Uzbek economy, increase regional trade, and strengthen private businesses.
- **First Deputy Speaker to the Legislative Chamber, Akmal Saidov:** Meeting with the First Deputy Speaker to discuss the work of the Parliament of Uzbekistan including domestic political priorities and the working-level relationship between Uzbek lawmakers and the UN.
- **Tour of Isgha Marhamat Employment Center and Meeting with Students:** Tour of a skills and training facility that provides professional education courses and vocational training services to local, as well as employment assistance to labor migrants. The tour helped the delegation understand how UNDP, together with national and local authorities, is liberalizing the economy and working towards reducing poverty.
- **Meeting with Uzbek Youth Participating in UNDP Entrepreneurship Programs:** Meeting to learn about the UNDP's entrepreneurship initiative to learn how UNDP is promoting youth employment in Uzbekistan.

**Day 3 – Wednesday, April 13, 2022 (Termez trip cancelled, Tashkent)**

- **Virtual Meeting with UNDP and Termez Center for Education in Afghanistan:** Meeting with Afghan students attending the Termez Center for Education in Afghanistan to understand UNDP's support for Afghans and work in the region.
- **Virtual Meeting with UN Agencies (WFP, UNHCR, UNICEF) at Termez Cargo Center:** Virtual meeting with UN representatives from UNHCR, WFP, and UNICEF who are helping run operations at the Termez Cargo Center on the Uzbekistan-Afghanistan border to deliver humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan. The meeting was for the delegation to learn about how the UN is responding to the Afghan crisis. (The meeting was held virtual due to a security alert for the region issued by the US Embassy in Tashkent).
- **Working Lunch with Mr. Sanjarbek Toshbaev, International Organization for Migration (IOM) Head of Office in Uzbekistan and IOM Staff**: Meeting with IOM to learn about labor mobility and human development, migration and health, prevention of trafficking in persons, environment and climate change, migrant protection assistance, and border management, among other issues covered by IOM's work.
- **UNFPA Project on Gender-Based Violence with the Private Sector:** Meeting with private companies on gender-based violence at the workplace and their work with UNFPA to study this in the private sector.
- **Visit to the Daycare Center for Children and Adolescents living with HIV (UNAIDS/WHO/UNICEF/UNFPA):** This meeting with youth at the center helped the

delegation learn about UN efforts to provide support and care to HIV positive children and adolescents.

Meeting with UNFPA and Private Sector Leaders

**Day 4 – Thursday, April 14, 2022 (Samarkand)**

- **Joint Meetings with Deputy Prime-Minister/Minister of Tourism, Rector of the Samarkand Tourism University, Deputy Governor of Samarkand Region, and Mayor of Samarkand:** Meeting to discuss regional economic developments and the liberalization of the private tourism market in Uzbekistan.
- **Working lunch with Dr. Alexandros Makarigakis, UNESCO Officer-in-Charge:** Meeting with UNESCO Officer-in-Charge to learn about 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.
- **Visit to Gur-e Amir Complex and UNESCO Field Briefing:** Tour of the Gur-e Amir mausoleum which is one of the properties included in the 2001 designation of Samarkand as a UNESCO World Heritage site. The visit and briefing contextualized UNESCO's cultural heritage protection efforts, how these efforts impact the local economy, and provide tangible examples of protection reforms.
- **Visit Registan and UNESCO Field Briefing:** Registan is one of the properties included in the 2001 designation of Samarkand as a UNESCO World Heritage site. The visit and briefing contextualized UNESCO's cultural heritage protection efforts, how these efforts impact the local economy, and provide tangible examples of protection reforms.
- **Visit Bibi-Khanum Mosque and UNESCO Field Briefing:** The Bibi-Khanum Mosque is one of the properties included in the 2001 designation of Samarkand as UNESCO World Heritage site. The visit and briefing contextualized UNESCO's cultural heritage protection efforts, how these efforts impact the local economy, and provide tangible examples of protection reforms.
- **Meeting with USAID and Local Implementing Partners:** Meeting with representatives from USAID's Future Growth Initiative and regional partners working to increase local competitiveness, create new jobs, and improve incomes for Central Asia's growing workforce. The delegation also toured the Konigil Tourist Zone, a USAID site project.

**Day 5 – Friday, April 15, 2022**

- **Meeting with Ministry of Investments and Foreign Trade and Resident Coordinator's Office of the Multi-Partner Human Security Trust Fund for the Aral Sea Region in Uzbekistan:** Meeting to understand what the MPHSTF is doing, in conjunction with various government partners, to ensure environmental, economic, food, social, and health security for communities affected by the drying out of the Aral Sea.
- **Working Lunch with Azizkhou Khankhodjaev, International Labor Organization (ILO) National Coordinator:** Meeting with ILO 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.

- **Visit to Artel Electronics (UN Global Compact):** Artel Electronics is Central Asia's leading producer of household appliances and electronics and 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.
- **Working Dinner Debrief with US Embassy and UN Country Team:** Working dinner to debrief and discuss lessons learned and explore opportunities for continued U.S. engagement and collaboration.

# EMPLOYEE PRE-TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION

Date/Time Stamp:
March 7, 2022
3:05 PM

**Pre-Travel Filing Instructions:** Complete and submit this form at least 30 days prior to the travel departure date to the **Select Committee on Ethics** in **SH-220**. Incomplete and late travel submissions will **not** be considered or approved. This form **must** be typed and is available as a fillable PDF on the Committee's website at ethics.senate.gov. Retain a copy of your entire pre-travel submission for your required post-travel disclosure.

Name of Traveler: Molly Barlow

Employing Office/Committee: Senate Foreign Relations Committee

Private Sponsor(s) (list all): United Nations Foundation

Travel date(s): April 9 - 16, 2022

*Note: If you plan to extend the trip for any reason you **must** notify the Committee.*

Destination(s): Tashkent, Termez, Samarkand, Uzbekistan

Explain how this trip is specifically connected to the traveler's official or representational duties:

To participate in a congressional learning trip to observe the work of the United Nations in Uzbekistan. Participants will meet with UN agencies including WFP, UNICEF, and UNHCR to better understand UN operations in Uzbekistan and US-UN cooperation more broadly. Participans will also meet with USAID Mission Director and local implementing partners to learn about US-Uzbekistan relations and foreign assistance work. This relates to the issues I cover for SFRC including multilateral affairs and humanitarian assistance. We will also observe humanitarian operations on the Afghan border, which is a key issue I cover for the Chairman.

Name of accompanying family member (if any): _____

Relationship to Employee: ☐ Spouse ☐ Child

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

03/07/22
*(Date)*

Molly Barlow
*(Signature of Employee)*

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING SENATOR/OFFICER (President of the Senate, Secretary of the Senate, Sergeant at Arms, Secretary for the Majority, Secretary for the Minority, and Chaplain):

I, Senator Bob Menendez *(Print Senator's/Officer's Name)* hereby authorize Molly Barlow *(Print Traveler's Name)*

an employee under my direct supervision, to accept payment or reimbursement for necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses for travel to the event described above. I have determined that this travel is in connection with his or her duties as a Senate employee or an officeholder, and will not create the appearance that he or she is using public office for private gain.

I have also determined that the attendance of the employee's spouse or child is appropriate to assist in the representation of the Senate. *(signify "yes" by checking box)* ☐

03/09/22
*(Date)*

Robert Menendez
*(Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer)*

(Revised 10/19 15)

**Form RE-1**

# PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM

This form must be completed by any private entity offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to Senate Members, officers, or employees (Senate Rule 35, clause 2). Each sponsor of a fact-finding trip must sign the completed form. The trip sponsor(s) must provide a copy of the completed form to each invited Senate traveler, who will then forward it to the Ethics Committee with any other required materials. The trip sponsor(s) should **NOT** submit the form directly to the Ethics Committee. Please consult the accompanying instructions for more detailed definitions and other key information.

The Senate Member, officer, or employee **MUST** also provide a copy of this form, along with the appropriate travel authorization and reimbursement form, to the Office of Public Records (OPR), Room 232 of the Hart Building, within thirty (30) days after the travel is completed.

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1. Sponsor(s) of the trip (please list all sponsors): United Nations Foundation (UNF)

2. Description of the trip: Please see attached.

3. Dates of travel: Saturday, April 9 - Saturday, April 16, 2022

4. Place of travel: Tashkent, Termez, and Samarkand, Uzbekistan

5. Name and title of Senate invitees: Please see attached.

6. I *certify* that the trip fits one of the following categories:

☒ (A) The sponsor(s) are not registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal **and** do not retain or employ registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal **and** no lobbyist or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *at any point* throughout the trip.

– OR –

☐ (B) The sponsor or sponsors are not registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal, but retain or employ one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal and the trip meets the requirements of Senate Rule 35.2(a)(2)(A)(i) or (ii) *(see question 9)*.

7. ☒ I *certify* that the trip will not be financed in any part by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal.

– AND –

☒ I *certify* that the sponsor or sponsors will not accept funds or in-kind contributions earmarked directly or indirectly for the purpose of financing this specific trip from a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal or from a private entity that retains or employs one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal.

8. I *certify* that:

☒ The trip will not in any part be planned, organized, requested, or arranged by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal except for *de minimis* lobbyist involvement.

– AND –

☒ The traveler will not be accompanied on the trip by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal except as provided for by Committee regulations relating to lobbyist accompaniment (*see question 9*).

9. **USE ONLY IF YOU CHECKED QUESTION 6(B)**
I *certify* that if the sponsor or sponsors retain or employ one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal, one of the following scenarios applies:

☐ (A) The trip is for attendance or participation in a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **one** overnight stay) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *on any segment* of the trip.

– OR –

☐ (B) The trip is for attendance or participation in a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **two** overnight stays) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *on any segment* of the trip (*see questions 6 and 10)*.

– OR –

☐ (C) The trip is being sponsored only by an organization or organizations designated under § 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *at any point* throughout the trip.

10. **USE ONLY IF YOU CHECKED QUESTION 9(B)**
If the trip includes two overnight stays, please explain why the second night is practically required for Senate invitees to participate in the travel:

11. ☒ An itinerary for the trip is attached to this form. I *certify* that the attached itinerary is a detailed (hour-by-hour), complete, and final itinerary for the trip.

12. Briefly describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip:
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.

13. Briefly describe the stated mission of each sponsor and how the purpose of the trip relates to that mission:
UNF works to educate all Americans, including the U.S. Congress, on the importance of a strong U.S.-UN relationship. This learning trip provides an opportunity for policymakers to better understand how the UN System has become an integral partner...(please see attached)

14. Briefly describe each sponsor's prior history of sponsoring congressional trips:
UNF regulalry organizes congressional learning trips to observe the UN's work abroad. In 2021, UNF organized a congressional learning trip to the UN Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus.

15. Briefly describe the educational activities performed by each sponsor (other than sponsoring congressional trips):

UNF regulalry hosts/sponsors Captiol Hill briefings, forums, and related events to educate policymakers, businesses, NGOs, and the general public on the UN's role in advancing American interests abroad.

16. Total Expenses for Each Participant:

| | Transportation Expenses | Lodging Expenses | Meal Expenses | Other Expenses |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| ☒ Good Faith estimate<br>☐ Actual Amounts | $2,300 total<br>$1,653 (roundtrip airfare from Washington, DC to Tashkent)<br>$127 (one-way airfare from Tashkent to Termez)<br>$20 (one-way train from Samarkand to Tashkent)<br>$500 (all local/in-country travel via vans and/or SUVs) | $800 total<br>$560 (Tashkent)<br>$240 (outside Tashkent) | $416 total<br>$294 (Tashkent)<br>$122 (outside Tashkent) | $210 total<br>$50 (Covid test to return to U.S.)<br>$160 (Uzbekistan visa) |

17. State whether a) the trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation **or** b) the trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *specifically with regard* to congressional participation:

This trip involves an event that is arranged specifically with regard to congressional participation.

18. Reason for selecting the location of the event or trip

Please see attached.

19. Name and location of hotel or other lodging facility:

Hyatt Regency Tashkent 1 A Navoi Avenue, Tashkent 100017, Uzbekistan; Hotel Karvon Saroy Boburshokh no: 1, Andijan Uzbekistan

Termez District; Emirhan Hotel 46A Dagbitskaya str, Uzbekistan

20. Reason(s) for selecting hotel or other lodging facility:

Favorable rates and locations.

21. Describe how the daily expenses for lodging, meals, and other expenses provided to trip participants compares to the maximum per diem rates for official Federal Government travel:

Daily expenses for lodging in Tashkent will be less than the State Department's 2022 per diem rate for Tashkent ($140 per participant) and equal to the State Department's 2022 per diem rate for outside Tashkent ($80 per participant). Daily expenses for M&IE will be less than both the State Department's 2022 per diem rate for Tashkent ($98 per participant) and outside Tashkent ($61).

22. Describe the type and class of transportation being provided. Indicate whether coach, business-class or first class transportation will be provided. If first-class fare is being provided, please explain why first-class travel is necessary:

Roundtrip premium economy airfare from Washington, DC to Tashkent, Uzbekistan connecting in Istanbul, Turkey; one way economy airfare from Tashkent to Termez, Uzbekistan; one-way van from Termez to Samarkand, Uzbekistan; one-way economy train from Samarkand to Tashkent. All other local travel via van and/or SUV.

23. ☒ I represent that the travel expenses that will be paid for or reimbursed to Senate invitees do not include expenditures for recreational activities, alcohol, or entertainment (other than entertainment provided to all attendees as an integral part of the event, as permissible under Senate Rule 35).

24. List any entertainment that will be provided to, paid for, or reimbursed to Senate invitees and explain why the entertainment is an integral part of the event:

None

25. I hereby *certify* that the information contained herein is true, complete and correct. (For trips involving more than one sponsor, you *must* include a completed signature page for each additional sponsor):

Signature of Travel Sponsor: [signature]

Name and Title: Peter Yeo, Senior Vice President

Name of Organization: United Nations Foundation

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

Telephone Number: 202-887-9040

Fax Number: 202-887-9021

E-mail Address: pyeo@unfoundation.org

0000000001329 RECEIVED BY: SECRETARY OF THE SENATE Date: May 13, 2022

# UN Foundation Learning Trip to Uzbekistan
# Answers to PSTCF Questions 2, 5, 13, and 18

**2. Description of the trip:**

Over the course 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 government-led 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.

**5. Name and title of Senate invitees:**

Michael Schiffer, Senior Advisor and Counsel
Senate Foreign Relations Committee

Joseph Biegun, Professional Staff Member
Senate Foreign Relations Committee

Craig Abele, Legislative Director
Sen. Lindsey Graham

Alex Moree, Legislative Correspondent
Sen. Marco Rubio

Sara Zaheer, Legislative Assistant
Sen. Patty Murray

Katie Brown, Legislative Director
Sen. Susan Collins

Brandt Anderson, Legislative Assistant
Sen. Todd Young

Kristina Sesek, General Counsel
Sen. Joni Ernst

Tom Brandt, Deputy Chief of Staff
Sen. Jerry Moran

Alexandra Davis, Legislative Assistant
Sen. Chris Coons

Sal Ortega, Legislative Assistant
Sen. John Boozman

Emily Leviner, Chief of Staff
Sen. Deb Fischer

Molly Carpenter, Legislative Director
Sen. Mike Crapo

Lane Bodian, Foreign Policy Advisor
Sen. Chuck Schumer

Daisy Bledsoe-Herring, Legislative Assistant
Sen. Jeanne Shaheen

Jessica Elledge, Foreign Policy Advisor
Sen. Chris Murphy

Blake Souter, Foreign Policy Advisor
Sen. Tammy Baldwin

Molly Barlow, Policy Analyst
Senate Foreign Relations Committee

Anna Dietderich, Legislative Assistant
Sen. Lisa Murkowski

**13. Briefly describe the stated mission of each sponsor and how the purpose of the trip relates to that mission:**

UNF works to educate all Americans, including the U.S. Congress, on the importance of a strong U.S.-UN relationship. This learning trip provides an opportunity for policymakers to better understand how the UN System has become an integral partner across Uzbekistan, helping advance an array of shared economic, humanitarian, health, equality, and development objectives and how, in turn, this partnership has reinforced a number of U.S.-Uzbekistan bilateral objectives.

**18. 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.

0000000001332 RECEIVED BY: SECRETARY OF THE SENATE Date: May 13, 2022

# UNITED NATIONS FOUNDATION

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IN MEMORIAM

Kofi Annan
GHANA

February 22, 2022

Molly Barlow
Senate Foreign Relations Committee
423 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Molly,

On behalf of the United Nations Foundation, I would like to extend an invitation to you to participate in a congressional learning trip to observe the work of the United Nations in Uzbekistan on April 9-16, 2022.

The United Nations in Uzbekistan is a robust presence, comprised of 25 agencies, funds and programmes working together—with U.S. and government partners—to reduce poverty, strengthen health systems, advance gender equality, safeguard cultural heritage, and respond to dire humanitarian needs. These efforts have produced significant results, enhancing Uzbekistan's prosperity and creating mechanisms of multilateral support for national reforms aimed at liberalizing the economy, protecting fundamental human rights, and building responsive, democratic institutions.

Over the course of this trip, 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 UNICEF, UNHCR, WFP, IOM and others to ensure the expeditious delivery of emergency lifesaving humanitarian supplies to the people of Afghanistan.

We would be honored if you would consider joining us for this unique learning opportunity. We kindly note that that you must have received all necessary doses of an authorized COVID-19 vaccine plus a booster (if applicable) to participate in this trip. If you are interested in joining, please let us know as soon as possible, as space is limited.

We hope you will take this opportunity to learn more about the UN's work and look forward to your reply.

Sincerely yours,

Peter Yeo
Senior Vice President

1750 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, Suite 300, Washington, DC 20006 Phone: 202.887.9040 Fax: 202.887.9021 www.unfoundation.org
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UNITED NATIONS FOUNDATION

**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)<br>*Flight time 9h 50m* |

## Sunday, April 10 --- Travel/Arrival

*Attire: Casual.*

| | |
|---|---|
| 4:05pm | Arrive IST<br>*Layover 2h 35m* |
| 6:40pm | Depart IST on Turkish Airlines 370 to Tashkent Vostochny Airport (TAS)<br>*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<br>1 A Navoi Avenue<br>Tashkent 100017, Uzbekistan<br>+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**<br><br>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. Fakhriddin 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 Isgha Marhamat

3:45pm – 4:30pm **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*

4:30 – 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 created 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 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. 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.

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 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.

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**<br><br>*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**<br><br>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.<br><br>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.<br><br>This meeting with 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.<br><br>*Location: Hyatt Regency Tashkent*<br><br>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

Senate and House Attendees for UN Foundation Learning Trip to Uzbekistan

- Emily Leviner, Chief of Staff

Sen. Deb Fischer

- Molly Carpenter, Legislative Director

Sen. Mike Crapo

- Serena Gobbi, Legislative Director

Rep. Norma Torres

- Lane Bodian, National Security Advisor

Sen. Chuck Schumer

- Kristina Sesek, General Counsel

Sen. Joni Ernst

- Katherine Curtis, Professional Staff Member

House Foreign Affairs Committee

- Daisy Bledsoe-Herring, Legislative Assistant

Sen. Jeanne Shaheen

- Mena Hanna, Legislative Assistant

Rep. Jeff Fortenberry

- Anna Dietdrich, Legislative Assistant

Rep. Lisa Murkowski

- Alex Moree, Legislative Correspondent

Sen. Marco Rubio