

*Administration of Joseph R. Biden, Jr., 2024*

**Remarks on Welcoming President William Ruto of Kenya to the White House and an Exchange With Reporters**

*May 22, 2024*

*The President's Travel Plans*

*Q.* Mr. President, when are you going to Africa, sir?

*President Biden.* When do you want to go?

*Q.* "When you want to go"?

*President Biden.* When do you want to go?

*Q.* When do I want to go? I'll go with you, sir.

[*At this point, President Ruto arrived at the White House.*]

*President Biden.* Welcome.

*President Ruto.* Thank you very much, Mr. President.

*President Biden.* [*Inaudible*]

*President Ruto.* Thank you very much. Thank you for having us.

*President Biden.* We're going to watch your car go by, and we're going to say—say hello to the press.

*President Ruto.* Okay.

*President Biden.* We're heading today to Africa.

*Q.* You said what, sir?

*President Biden.* I'm joking. [*Inaudible*] [*Laughter*] Anyway——

*The President's Travel Plans*

*Q.* Do you think you'll get there before January?

*President Biden.* My—I plan on going in February after I'm reelected.

*President Ruto.* You're welcome, Mr. President.

*President Biden.* I was asked—are these questions relevant? [*Laughter*]

*Q.* Mr. President, are you disappointed in the allies backing Palestinian statehood, Mr. President?

NOTE: The President spoke at 4:03 p.m. on the South Portico at the White House.

*Categories:* Interviews With the News Media : Exchanges with reporters, White House; Meetings With Foreign Leaders and International Officials : Kenya, President Ruto.

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