

Comment Info: =====

General Comment: The proposed changes of 1) restricting PSCs homeleave to 30 days whereas direct hires can receive up to 45 days and 2) not permitting PSCs to transfer leave from one contract to another will likely have an adverse affect on USAID's ability to hire competitive people, as well as negatively affect the morale of PSCs currently serving out a USAID contract. These benefits do not cost the agency much yet they are extremely important to PSCs. Even if the Agency as a whole is making a change to employ more direct hires, it will still depend in great part on PSCs for some key positions. It does not seem in the Agency's interest to sacrifice basic benefits for key personnel. I strongly encourage the Agency to reconsider these changes.