



DLCO-EA QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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DLCO-EA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEETINGS

The 60th Regular Session of the DLCO-EA Council of Ministers was held at Imperial Resort Beach Hotel in Entebbe, Uganda on 17th - 18th September 2015 under the Chairmanship of Prof. Fred Kiptoon Segor, Principal Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, Kenya. The annual Council Session was attended by all Member States except Somalia.

The main agenda items for the Council Session were to discuss:

1. The activities that were conducted by the respective Departments of the Organization during the fiscal year July, 2014 – June, 2015, and to approve the

Work Program and Budget for the Fiscal Year July, 2015 – June, 2016.

2. Financial performance of the Organization and Proposed Budget for the Fiscal Year July, 2015 to June, 2016.
3. The possibilities of Restructuring of the Organization and modernization of the Air Unit in order to efficiently Monitor and Control Migrant Pests in the region and administrative issues among others.

Consequently, the Council listened to the annual reports of the Information and Forecasting, and the Research Divisions, the Air Unit, the Finance and the Administration Divisions.

By the end of the Session, the Council adopted the minutes of the discussions and proposed the 61st Session of the Council of Ministers to be held in Djibouti during September, 2016. The Council also elected Djibouti to Chair the Fiscal Year July, 2015 to June, 2016.

Prior to the Council Session, the Executive Committee of the DLCO-EA held its' deliberations from 14th - 16th of September in Anderita Resort Beach Hotel in Entebbe, Uganda. The Executive Committee thoroughly discussed the Progress Reports of July, 2014 – June, 2015 of all Divisions of the Organization and the Programme of Work and Proposed Budget for the Fiscal Year July, 2015 – June, 2016, which was submitted to the Council for approval.



Executive Committee in Session



Council of Ministers in Session

REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON COMMUNITY BASED ARMYWORM FORECASTING

The third Regional Workshop on Community Based Armyworm Monitoring, Forecasting and Early warning (CBAMFEW) was held in Nakuru, Kenya on 25th - 26th September 2015.

As the project was coming to an end by 28th of September, 2015, the main discussions of the workshop were therefore focused on reviewing of the implementation of the year three milestones, assessing the challenges

encountered and to find ways and possibilities of making the program sustainable in the future.

The workshop was attended by the National Armyworm Coordinators of Ethiopia, Kenya and Tanzania, DLCO-EA Base Manager of Tanzania, the Operation Coordinator and Chief Information and Forecasting Officer from the DLCO-EA Operations Office Nairobi, the Director of the Organization, Chief Accountant, Chief Research Officer and Senior Information and Forecasting Officer (Regional Project Coordinator)

The Community Based Armyworm Monitoring, Forecasting and Early Warning were a three year project program, which was funded by USAID/OFDA and implemented in **Kenya, Tanzania and Ethiopia.**



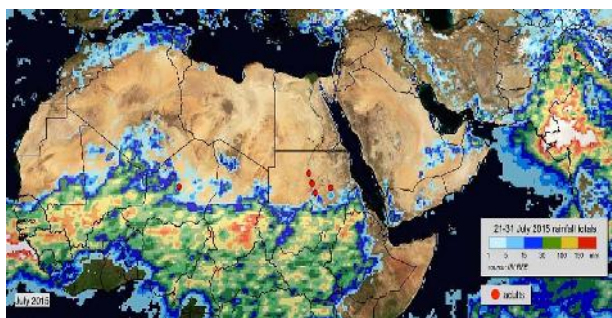
Regional Workshop Participants

**MIGRATORY PESTS SITUATION
JUNE - SEPTEMBER, 2015**

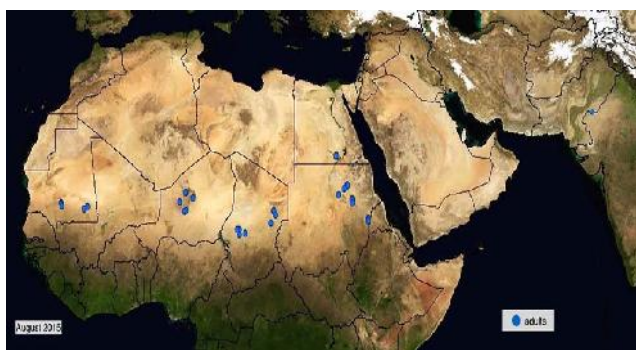
DESERT LOCUST

During June to September, the Desert Locust situation remained calm in all frontline countries except for low numbers of solitarious adults that were reported in irrigated areas in northern Sudan.

By the end of July, good rains fell throughout most of the summer breeding areas in the northern Sahel between Mauritania and Eritrea. However, the average record of the summer rain (June-August) was below the normal rainfall record of the long year in the region.



Areas showing some locust activities and rain fall distribution in July 2015, FAO-DLIS 3/8/2015



Areas showing some locust activities in August 2015, FAO-DLIS 2/9/2013

Forecast:

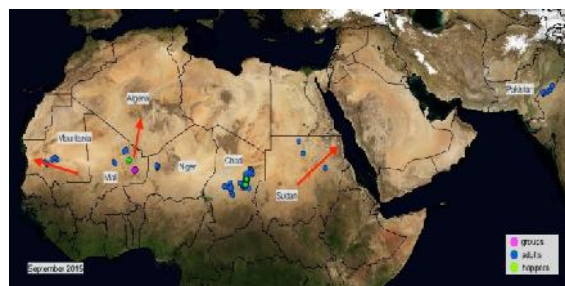
On the onset of the winter rains (October – December) along the Red Sea coastal areas, it is expected that these small groups may breed and develop further, and could spread to wider areas along the coast of Eritrea and Sudan.

GRAIN EATING BIRDS (*Quelea quelea*):

During June to September, *Quelea* outbreaks were reported in different locations in Ethiopia and Kenya. Consequently, DLCO-EA deployed spray Aircraft in both countries and managed to control the infestations in collaboration with the National Plant Protection Divisions before they cause damage to crops.

AFRICAN ARMYWORM (*Spodoptera exempta*):

No infestations were reported in the region during June to September, 2015. However, late reports indicated that minor outbreaks occurred in the southeastern parts of Ethiopia during July.



Areas showing some locust activities in September 2015, FAO-DLIS 2/10/2013

ACTIVITIES ON COMMUNITY BASED ARMYWORM MONITORING, FORECASTING AND EARLY WARNING:

Baseline Survey:

During the third year (2014/2015) of the Community Based Armyworm Monitoring Forecasting and Early Warning (CBAMFEW) project implementation period, two districts each from the three countries (Ethiopia, Kenya and Tanzania) were brought on board for the survey.

The purpose of this baseline survey was to collect information on the current status of Armyworm forecasting at the village and farmer levels and to find out if there are farmers in the village that have received any training on Armyworm biology, survey, monitoring, forecasting and/or other related activities.

Field days:

During August, 2015 field days were conducted in ten districts of each of the three project implementing countries.

The aim of the field days was to explain how and the way forecasting is conducted, and also forecasters themselves to explain to the villagers the importance of Armyworm monitoring and forecasting systems in the community. During the field days, the community members were also sensitized for their understanding of the program and were told that the program is for their own benefits therefore, they should acquire its ownership.

All field days were opened by official guests of honour from the Districts and during their opening speeches they thanked USAID and DLCO-EA for the introduction of the project in their community. They also appreciated the usefulness of the initiative and hoped that it would improve food security in the community by combating the Armyworm threat.

In addition, the guests of honour stressed on the responsibilities of the communities' in maintaining the safety of the traps and rain-gauges in order to use them effectively in monitoring the Armyworm developments.

National Workshop:

Two days of National workshop was conducted in Ethiopia, Kenya and Tanzania respectively during September, 2015.

Participants of the national workshops were head of District Agricultural Department, District Crop/Plant Protection Officers, Ministry of Agriculture and DLCO-EA staff.

The objectives of these workshops were:

- i. To discuss on the outcomes of year three implementations
- ii. To discuss on major challenges faced during year three implementation period
- iii. To discuss on the outcomes and major challenges encountered during the three years project implementation period.
- iv. To discuss and suggest on how to make the program sustainable in the future.

Introduction of Cell-Phone Technology for Monitoring Armyworm:

The SMS Mobile application was initiated to relay Armyworm infestation reports instantly by Armyworm forecasters. This will enable the national plant protection departments in knowing the occurrences of Armyworm migration and outbreaks early enough so that they can deploy the resources required for control operations on time.

This new SMS Mobile application is introduced in Tanzania and Kenya and the system is also scaled up in Ethiopia, which is also extended to more project participating villages.



DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT:



Captain Abdullahi Said Arraleh, Ex-DLCO-EA Staff passed away on Saturday, 10th October 2015 in the United Kingdom.

Captain Arraleh served the Organization from 1965 to 2012 as a Pilot rising to the rank of Chief Pilot by the time he retired.

Captain Arraleh was very loyal, dedicated and hard working Pilot who will not be forgotten by his colleagues, friends and DLCO-EA fraternity in the Entire Region.

May the Almighty God Rest his soul in Eternal Peace

DLCO-EA AIRCRAFT SITREP AS AT 30TH SEPTEMBER 2015

A/C REG.	5Y-BCJ Beaver	5Y-BCK Beaver	5Y-BCL Beaver	5Y-KRD Beaver	5Y-DLA Caravan	5Y-DLO Baron	5Y-BBB Islander	5Y-DLD Turbo Beaver
C OF A DUE DATE	23/4/2016	IN PROGRESS	24/9/2016	IN PROGRESS	19/2/2016	AWAITING TEST FLIGHT	DUE	13/8/2016
CHECK III	05/4/2017	IN PROGRESS	01/7/2018	IN PROGRESS	N/A	01/07/2018	DUE	02/03/2017
PROP. 5 YR OVERHAUL	28/7/2016	29/7/2016	10/2/2018	IN PROGRESS	28/5/2018	01/07/2020	DUE	21/07/2017
A/F HOURS	226:00	624:20	07:35	00:00	3650.4	00:00	00:00	68:00
ENGINE (S) HRS	380:55	227:50	890:00	00:00	Loaner Engine 57.0	PORT: 00:00 STBD: 00:00	PORT: 1556:10 STBD: 1556:10	403:35
PROP. HRS	225:35	344:15	307:45	00:00	1316.6	PORT: 1346:25 STBD: 1278:05	PORT:216:00 STBD:216:00	286:25
LOCATION	LOCUST SUDAN	NAIROBI MAINTENANCE	QUELEA ETHIOPIA	UNDER ACCIDENT REPAIR	MWANZA UNHCR	MAINTENANCE NAIROBI	MAINTENANCE NAIROBI	NAIROBI STANDBY

NB

 **IMMEDIATE ATTENTION**
 **TO BE NOTED**

Copy: Director, CA, OC & CP
 Technical Records, Aircraft Stores, Mwanza Field Office

Checked by:- ACTING CHIEF ENGINEER

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