Desert Locust Control Organization for Eastern Africa (DLCO-EA)

COMMUNIQUE FROM THE 68TH DLCO-EA REGULAR COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEETING HELD AT RAMADA RESORT BY WYNDHAM DAR-ES-SALAAM, TANZANIA ON 4TH SEPTEMBER, 2023

THE ORGANIZATION

The Desert Locust Control Organization for Eastern Africa (DLCO-EA) is a regional pest and vector management Organization established in 1962 with its Headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and Control Reserve Bases (CRBs) in the Member Countries which are; Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda.

MANDATE

The Organization is mandated to enhance Food Security in the Eastern Africa Region by conducting research, monitoring and forecasting, implementing control operations against mandated migratory pest occurrences viz: Desert Locusts, African Armyworms, Grain eating Quelea birds and Tsetse flies.

THE 68TH DLCO-EA GOVERNING COUNCIL OF MINISTERS SESSION

The Governing Council made up of the Cabinet Ministers for Agriculture in the respective Member Countries convened in Dar-es-Salaam on 4th September, 2023 to address food security challenges by taking up measures to control the migratory pests.

The Council received, discussed and approved the organization reports for the FY 2022/23 and the work plan and budget for the FY 2023/24.

RESOLUTIONS

The Council

1) APPRECIATED the hospitality and cordial reception accorded by the Host Country under the able leadership of H.E. Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, the President of the United Republic of Tanzania.
2) **NOTED** that Agriculture is the backbone of the economies of the Member Countries and that **food security** is of major concern to all the respective Member Countries.

3) **REITERATED** the importance of ensuring food and nutrition security as a basis for healthy populations and appreciated the contribution of Agriculture towards **poverty alleviation**.

4) **RECOGNIZED** the DLCO-EA’s critical role in controlling the transboundary pests that threaten food security.

5) **REITERATED** the need to transform and modernize the operations of the Organization.

6) **RECOGNIZED** the seriousness of other emerging migratory pests in the region.

7) **RECOGNIZED** the need to review and update that DLCO-EA Convention in order to be able to address the current and emerging challenges of migratory pests in the region.

8) **AUTHORIZED** the Director to critically evaluate and assess the internal human resource capacity to inform the recruitment decisions of new staff, considering the current organization’s financial situation.

9) **RECOGNIZED** the **financial challenges** facing the Organization and urged Member Countries to honour the Annual contributions and payment of Arrears to enable DLCO-EA offer better services to the Member Countries.

10) **URGED** DLCO-EA to leverage the local infrastructure and resources in member countries for control of migratory pests.

11) **ADvised** Management to explore technical and financial support from Development Partners for the sustainability of the Organization.

12) **AGREED** to hold its next (69th) DLCO-EA Executive and Council Regular Sessions in Kenya in September, 2024 under the Chairmanship of Tanzania.

Signed on the 4th day of September, 2023 at Ramada Resort by Wyndham, Dar-Es-Salaam, Tanzania