DLCO-EA COUNCIL AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The 59th Regular Session of the DLCO-EA Council of Ministers was held in Kibo Palace Hotel, Arusha, Tanzania from 25th – 26th September, 2014 under the Chairmanship of Hon. Christopher Chiza Minister, Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Cooperative Tanzania. All DLCO-EA Member Countries were represented except Djibouti, and Somalia.

Review of progress of Organization during last one year, deliberating and approving the proposed programme of work for 2014/2015 and proposed budget. A number of administrative issues that are of paramount importance to smooth running of the Organization were also discussed and adopted. The Council of Ministers of the Organization decided to conduct its next (60th) Session in Uganda in September, 2015.

Prior to the Council Session DLCO-EA Executive Committee also held its meeting at the same venue and deliberated on the progress report for 2013/2014 and the programme of work for 2014/2015, in preparation for the Council Session.

The infrequent invasion by the Desert Locust into East African Countries is certainly not due to the fact that we eradicated them from their breeding areas but due to proactive interventions by DLCO-EA Member States and the Food and Agriculture Orgnaization of the United Nations.

Mr. Chiza was speaking during the just-ended DLCO-EA meeting in Arusha where delegates from the region were addressing issues of armyworm, quelea birds and locusts in the region, with special emphasis on the current locust threat.
REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON COMMUNITY BASED ARMYWORM MONITORING, FORECASTING AND EARLY WARNING (CBAMFEW)

Following the National workshops held in project implementing countries (Ethiopia, Kenya and Tanzania) a regional workshop on Community Based Armyworm Monitoring, Forecasting and Early warning (CBAMFEW) was held in Moshi, Tanzania from 28th - 29th September, 2014. The main objectives of the workshop were to review the implementation of year two Milestones; the challenges faced and plan year three work Milestones.

A total of 11 participants attended the workshop. These were national Armyworm Coordinators (NACs) from Ethiopia, Kenya and Tanzania, DLCO-EA Base Managers from Kenya, Tanzania and Ethiopia, the Assistant Director of Plant Health Service, Ministry of Agriculture Food Security and Cooperatives Tanzania, Director of DLCO-EA, Chief Accountant, Chief Information and Forecasting Officer and Senior Information and Forecasting Officer who is Projects’ Regional Coordinator.
The Community Based Armyworm Monitoring, Forecasting and Early warning is a three year project funded by USAID/OFDA and implemented in Kenya, Tanzania and Ethiopia. Its implementation comes to end in September, 2015.

MIGRATORY PESTS SITUATION
JULY – SEPTEMBER, 2014

DESERT LOCUST:

In July the Desert locust situation was generally calm in central Region. Locust infestations were declined in the spring breeding areas in the interior of Saudi Arabia due to control operations and drying conditions. Nevertheless, some adult groups and small swarms formed and moved southwest towards the Red Sea while others moved to the highlands and interior of Yemen. I Ethiopia remnants of earlier swarms were matured in the northern highlands of and one swarm reached Eritrea where it was treated.

During September, scattered adults were present and breeding in the interior of Sudan and western Eritrea. At the end of the month, an increasing number of adult groups and at least one swarm formed and were treated in eastern Sudan. More groups and small swarms are expected during October, mainly west of the Red Sea Hills, and some of these will move towards the winter breeding areas on the Red Sea coast of Sudan and southeast Egypt. No locusts were seen in Saudi Arabia and the situation remained unclear in Yemen with reports of breeding on the coast and a swarm in the highlands. Local breeding continued in northeast Ethiopia where numerous small hopper bands formed and were treated. A few small swarms could form and move towards northern Somalia.

The situation remained calm in August. Low numbers of adults were present in Sudan and small-scale breeding was underway but difficult to detect. A few swarms continued to lay eggs in small areas on northeast Ethiopia and control teams treated 313 ha of hopper bands. In the absence of surveys, the situation remained unclear in Yemen where there were unconfirmed reports of adults on the Red Sea coast and swarms in the southern highlands.

Extracted from FAO DL Bulletin
GRAIN EATING BIRDS (*Quelea quelea*)

**Ethiopia:**

No Infestation was reported during July-September, 2014.

**Kenya:**

Outbreaks of Quelea birds damaging irrigated Rice and Sorghum crops have been reported in Nyanza and Kisumu Counties in Kenya respectively. Outbreaks of the birds were also reported in Siaya and Nakuru counties.

In August Quelea birds were reported attacking Wheat in Naivasha and Rongai areas of Nakuru County. Control by blasting (firebomb) was carried out by PPSB staff on an estimated 1.5 million birds, which were roosting in Eucalyptus trees in Naivasha County.

In September, Quelea birds were reported feeding on Wheat in Nakuru and Nyandarua Counties while in Busia and Siaya Counties, they were reported attacking Rice. Control by blasting (firebomb) in Nyandarua.

**Tanzania:**

A DLCO-EA aircraft carried out control operations in Dodoma region during July and August.

Between 23rd and 29th of July, an estimated 14 million birds roosting on 584 ha of Reeds and shrubs have been controlled by air using 500 liters of Queletox in Mbarali area in Mbeya Region.

On 6th, 7th and 10th of the August, an estimated 6 million birds roosting on 6.5 ha of Reeds and Sugarcane were been controlled by air using 250 liters of Queletox at Mvomero Coast (Pwani) region.

ARMYWORMS (*Spodoptera exempta*)

During July – September, 2014 the situation in the Member Countries remained calm.

The second year Community Based Armyworm Monitoring Forecasting and Early Warning national workshops, for Kenyan, Ethiopia and Tanzania, Field days in Ethiopia and technical back up and monitoring in Tanzania were implemented in August and September, 2014.

The Community Based Armyworm Monitoring, Forecasting and Early Warning program is a coordinated activity between USAID, DLCO-EA and the implementing countries (**Ethiopia**, **Kenya** and **Tanzania**).
# DLCO-EA AIRCRAFT SITREP AS AT 31ST AUGUST, 2014

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<th>5Y-BCL Beaver</th>
<th>5Y-KRD Beaver</th>
<th>5Y-DLA Caravan</th>
<th>5Y-DLO Baron</th>
<th>5Y-BBB Islander</th>
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<td>UNDER ACCIDENT REPAIR</td>
<td>MWANZA UNHCR</td>
<td>NAIROBI MAINTENANCE</td>
<td>STANDBY NAIROBI</td>
<td>STANDBY ETHIOPIA</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**NB**

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

Checked by:-  CHIEF ENGINEER

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