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FINANCE COMMITTEE

Hundred and Seventy-eighth Session

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Budgets of the Desert Locust Commissions for 2019-20

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- There are three Desert Locust Commissions currently operated by FAO:
 - The Commission for Controlling the Desert Locust in South-West Asia (Eastern Region);
 - The Commission for Controlling the Desert Locust in the Central Region;
 - The Commission for Controlling the Desert Locust in the Western Region.
- The budgets submitted in this document are those approved by the three Commissions in June 2018 for the Western Region, in December 2018 for South-West Asia, and in February 2019 for the Central Region.
- According to the treaties establishing the Commission [Article IV, section 4 Administrative Matters (b)] for the South-West Asia Commission and the Central Region Commission, and Article VII, section 4 “Functioning (c) of the Desert Locust Control Commission for the Western Region], and in line with consistent past practice, the Budget of each Commission should be submitted to the Council (delegated to the Finance Committee) for information prior to implementation.

GUIDANCE SOUGHT FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

- The Finance Committee is invited to take note of the three Commission budgets as presented.

Draft Advice

- **The Finance Committee takes note of the budgets of the three Desert Locust Commissions.**

1. There are three Desert Locust Commissions currently operated by FAO: the Commission for Controlling the Desert Locust in South-West Asia (SWAC), the Commission for Controlling the Desert Locust in the Central Region (CRC) and the Commission for Controlling the Desert Locust in the Western Region (CLCPRO – *Commission de lutte contre le Criquet pèlerin dans la région occidentale*).
2. The Commissions play an increasingly important role in the effective sustainable implementation of the preventive control strategy adopted by all locust-affected countries to reduce the frequency, duration and intensity of devastating locust plagues through early warning, early reaction and contingency planning. These pillars are in line with FAO's five strategic objectives.
3. The budgets of the Commissions draw on the funds available in the Trust Fund of each Commission. The source of these funds is the contributions made by the member countries of the Commission. The Budgets are decided upon at each Commission session held every two years and their level is generally agreed according to a standard budget, with additional amounts sometimes included that draw on unspent balances from previous years. Normally the session approves the budget for the two subsequent years.
4. The budgets submitted in this document are the proposed budgets approved by the Commission Sessions held in June 2018 for the CLCPRO, in December 2018 for the SWAC, and in February 2019 for the CRC.
5. The proposed budget represents the standard budget that is generally approved by the individual Commission, reflecting the level of annual contributions. The next session of each Commission will prepare a more precise budget for these years, in which some unused balances may or may not be employed and which may be adjusted.
6. The 9th Session of the CLCPRO, held in June 2018 approved the budget for 2019 and 2020 as presented in Appendix A. The budget supports the five agreed outcomes of the CLCPRO work plan. The key activities under Outcome 1 include the operation of joint surveys of CLCPRO countries, national contingency planning simulation exercises, capacity building, and technical and financial support in case of emergencies. Outcome 2 and 3 activities focus on national and regional training, and support to the national desert locust projects and the regional research projects on locust behaviour and innovations. Activities of Outcome 4 support the integrated and environmentally sound management of the Desert Locust. Outcome 5 is related to supporting the operation of the Commission's Secretariat, communication and advocacy activities and the organization of the statutory meetings of the Commission.
7. The 31st Session of the SWAC, held in December 2018 approved the budget as presented in Appendix B. The primary activity of the Commission is an annual 30-day joint survey on both sides of the Iran-Pakistan border in the spring breeding areas of the Desert Locust. The survey results are used for planning the summer campaign along the Indo-Pakistan border. The remaining activities concentrate on strengthening the national capacities of the countries in early warning and early reaction through contingency planning, training, biopesticides, contingency planning and new technologies. They include maintenance of the eLocust3 system that allows field data to be recorded in situ and transmitted in real time to national locust centres, and an updated custom geographic information system (RAMSESV4.1 GIS) for data management. The national locust information officers of member countries are trained to use the new tools in an annual interregional CRC/SWAC workshop and annual regional workshop, supplemented by expert visits and continual backstopping by the Desert Locust Information Service (DLIS) of the Plant Production and Protection Division (AGP) at headquarters. Improving the skills of field officers continues to be emphasized through national training courses organized by National Master Trainers and translation of training materials into local languages. The procurement of small quantities of equipment to maintain a basic level of preparedness and make use of appropriate technologies also continues.

8. The 31st Session of CRC held on February 2019 approved the budget for 2019 and 2020 as presented in Appendix C. The Commission programmes focused on timely action through improved survey operation, efficient information networking, modern communication, remote sensing and data management technologies. This contributed to increasing intervention capacity to assure more effective and environmentally safer control operations and provided support to applied research in areas of biocontrol, population dynamics, survey methodology and environmental concerns.

9. Twenty-six recommendations were endorsed by member countries in the meeting including:

- a regional contingency plan, which aims to provide technical and financial support for Desert Locust management in member countries, where most of the financial capacity and other resources used for Desert Locust survey, and control operations are exhausted;
- the establishment of a Master of Science programme in Desert Locust management through courses and supplementary research, in cooperation with the Sudan University of Science and Technology. The Programme aims at qualifying specialists in all areas of Desert Locust management; and
- the use of drones to monitor Desert Locusts in the context of the early warning system and the implementation of the preventive control strategy.

Appendix A

FAO COMMISSION FOR CONTROLLING THE DESERT LOCUST IN WESTERN REGION**Work plan and proposed budget for the years 2019 and 2020 by account****TRUST FUND BUDGET**

GCP/GLO/898/MUL

Account	Description	2019	2020
5013	Consultants	100 093	100 093
5014	Contracts	30 000	30 000
5020	Locally Contracted Labour	4 000	4 000
5021	Travel	103 148	103 148
5023	Training/Workshop	5 000	5 000
5024	Expendable Equipment	24 000	24 000
5025	Non-Expendable Equipment	100 000	100 000
5028	General Operating Expenses	140 750	125 750
5029	Support Cost (13%)	65 909	63 959
	TOTAL	572 900	555 950

Appendix B

FAO COMMISSION FOR CONTROLLING THE DESERT LOCUST IN SOUTHWEST ASIA**Work plan and proposed budget for the years 2019 and 2020 by account****TRUST FUND BUDGET**

Account	Description	GCP/GLO/897/MUL	
		2019	2020
5013	Consultants	8 000	8 000
5014	Contracts	10 000	10 000
5020	Locally Contracted Labour	3 500	3 000
5021	Travel	72 109	72 109
5023	Training/Workshop	3 500	3 000
5024	Expendable Equipment	4 343	4 343
5025	Non-Expendable Equipment	2 500	2 500
5028	General Operating Expenses	34 138	34 138
6150	TSS	6 503	6 503
5029	Support Cost (13%)	18 797	18 667
	TOTAL	163 390	162 260

Appendix C

FAO COMMISSION FOR CONTROLLING THE DESERT LOCUST IN CENTRAL REGION**Work plan and proposed budget for the years 2019 and 2020 by account****TRUST FUND BUDGET**

GCP/GLO/896/MUL

Account	Description	2019	2020
5012	Salaries General Service	83 000	84 000
5013	Consultants	20 000	20 000
5014	Contracts	60 000	60 000
5020	Locally Contracted Labour	5 000	5 000
5021	Travel	23 000	55 000
5023	Training	125 000	195 000
5024	Expendable Procurement	40 000	40 000
5025	Non-Expendable Procurement	5 000	5 000
5028	General Operating Expenses	20 000	20 000
5029	Support Cost (13%)	49 530	62 920
	TOTAL	430 530	546 920