

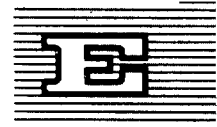
UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC
AND
SOCIAL COUNCIL



DISTR.
GENERAL

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UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND
Programme Committee

Recommendation of the Executive Director for an Allocation

IRAQ

Malaria Eradication

1. The Executive Director recommends an allocation of \$29,000 for the year 1958 for the provision of Dieldrin to continue the malaria eradication programme in the southern part of Iraq where spraying operations will cover an area with about 1,000,000 inhabitants and where the vector, A.stephensi has developed resistance to DDT as reported by the WHO malaria expert in October and November 1957. In September 1956, the Board gave its approval in principle to the entire five-year eradication project. (E/ICEF/L.975)
2. Because of the development of resistance of A.stephensi to DDT the Government has prepared a new plan for the spraying operations in 1958. UNICEF is requested to provide ten per cent of the total requirements of Dieldrin for 1958. The DDT required for 1958, also the transport, sprayers and laboratory equipment have already been provided under allocations approved by the Board in September 1956.
3. The Government's budget for this programme for the entire five-year period (1957-1961) will be approximately Dinars 3,933,000 (equivalent to US\$3,382,000).

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Problem of malaria in Iraq

4. The problem of malaria in Iraq was explained to the Board in March 1952 (E/ICEF/R.321), in September 1954 (E/ICEF/L.640), and September 1956 (E/ICEF/L.975). In 1957, the first year of the eradication programme, the whole country, divided into fourteen liwas or provinces, was covered by DDT spraying operations protecting 746,363 houses and a population of 3,843,000 in 14,296 localities. From September to December 1957, a WHO advisory team visited Iraq and recommended that DDT spraying operations should continue in the northern and central liwas and that Dieldrin should be utilized during the transmission period in 1958 in the area of the southern liwas where A.stephensi is the vector.
5. The new Endemic Diseases Institute has been established in Baghdad and was opened in October 1957. The Director of the Institute has overall authority for the development and implementation of the malaria eradication campaign.
6. A tripartite plan of operations between the Government, UNICEF and WHO was signed in March 1957 to cover the five-year period of operations.

Plan of action

7. During 1958, the second year of the eradication programme, protection will be afforded to 3,438,600 persons living in malarious areas. About 2,433,600 persons in northern and central liwas will be protected by DDT and about one million in the southern liwas where A.stephensi has developed resistance to DDT will be protected with Dieldrin. The requirements of insecticides for 1958 will be as follows:

	<u>Population to be Protected</u>	<u>Insecticides Required (kilogrammes)</u>
DDT 75 per cent	2,438,600	488,340
Dieldrin 50 per cent	<u>1,000,000</u>	135,000
Total population to be protected	3,438,600	

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8. DDT spraying operations will continue on the basis of 75 square metres per person to be protected and 2 grammes of DDT technical per square metre. Two sprayings are contemplated with Dieldrin on the basis of 75 square metres per person and a total dosage of 0.9 grammes technical per square metre, for the two spraying operations. It is possible, however, that, as a result of investigations carried out in the region, the second spraying will not be considered necessary. In that case, the remaining Dieldrin will be carried over for use in the 1959 season. The two spraying operations with DDT which proved necessary in zones inhabited by A. sacharovi will probably use up an important part of the DDT which could have been saved through the substitution of Dieldrin in the zones infested with A. stephensi.

9. During 1958 surveillance will be organized in seventeen nahiyas or sub-districts where spraying operations are to be discontinued. (There are a total of 169 nahiyas in Iraq). Approximately 2,273 villages will come under surveillance in 1958 with a total population of 411,396 as follows:

<u>Liwa</u>	<u>No. of villages</u>	<u>Population</u>
Mosul (7 nahiyas)	1169	190,745
Erbil (5 nahiyas)	495	106,475
Kirkuk (5 nahiyas)	609	114,176
Totals	2,273	411,396

Organization of the programme

10. The Government established in 1957 a Malaria Eradication Board which is presided over by the Minister of Health and composed of the representatives of the Ministries of Development, Finance and Agriculture. As indicated above, the malaria eradication campaign is under the authority of the Director-General of the Endemic Diseases Institute. The fourteen liwas are divided into three regions: North, Centre and South. The three regional malaria officers are assisted by a regional sanitarian and a regional entomologist. In each liwa a

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malaria branch has been established to supervise the spraying and surveillance operations. Further decentralization will be effected in 1958 at the nahiya level in order to increase the entomological and parasitological surveys in the villages placed under permanent surveillance after discontinuation of the spraying operations.

11. The training of personnel is continuing at the Malaria Eradication Department in Baghdad, in the three regional malaria headquarters and at the liwa malaria centres. The surveillance personnel for the four northern liwas have already been trained and the necessary personnel for the central and southern liwas will be ready by March 1958. In addition, the chief medical officers of the liwas, who have been working in the malaria eradication programme during 1957, will continue to assist this programme during the next four years, particularly regarding the spleen-index surveys in their respective areas.

Legislation

12. The preparation of a Malaria Eradication Law is still under discussion at the Ministry of Justice. It is expected that the new law will be presented to the Council of Ministers early in 1958 before presentation to the Parliament for ratification.

UNICEF commitments

13. UNICEF would provide the following for 1958 operations:

	<u>US\$</u>
a) <u>Dieldrin</u> , 50 per cent 13.5 metric tons	26,200
b) <u>Freight</u>	2,800
Total recommended allocation	<u>29,000</u>

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WHO approval and participation

14. This proposal has the technical approval of WHO. WHO has provided the services of a senior malaria adviser and a sanitarian for this campaign since 1954. A special WHO malaria advisory team visited Iraq from September to December 1957. In 1958 the organization will send a team to study problems connected with Dieldrin spraying, especially in order to determine the need for a second spraying; this study will be related to a similar study in Iran. (See E/ICEF/L.1215 before the present session of the Board.)

Government commitments

15. As confirmed in the plan of operations, the Government will provide all requirements of the campaign except those undertaken by UNICEF and WHO. The total estimated cost to the Government for 1958 is Dinars 500,000, equivalent to approximately US\$1,400,000. These commitments include the provision of 121½ metric tons of Dieldrin 50 per cent which is to be procured by UNICEF on behalf of the Government.

16. The extension and intensification of surveillance operations in 1958 will necessitate an increase in means of transportation put at the disposal of the surveillance staff; however, the Government has decided to provide the vehicles (motor scooters) without requesting UNICEF assistance.

Target time schedule

17. The proposed time schedule for this campaign is as follows:

- During 1958 - recruitment and training of necessary additional personnel;
- End January 1958 - detailed plan of action prepared for each liwa;
- 1 March 1958 - first spraying with Dieldrin begins in A.stephensi area;
- April - May 1958 - DDT spraying operations to be completed in all areas except those with an autumnal transmission season or where repeated spraying is required;
- 1 July 1958 - second spraying with Dieldrin begins (if required).

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18. Surveillance operations will also continue in 1958 in the seventeen nahiyas where discontinuation of spraying was decided upon in 1957. At the same time surveillance will be organized in those nahiyas for which discontinuation is to be decided upon in 1958.