



UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC
AND
SOCIAL COUNCIL



LIMITED*

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UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND

Executive Board

RECOMMENDATION OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
FOR AN APPORTIONMENT TO AFGHANISTAN
FOR THE CONTINUATION AND EXPANSION
OF A MALARIA CONTROL CAMPAIGN

1. In this paper the Administration recommends, subject to the availability of funds, an apportionment to Afghanistan of \$22,000 from the Asia area allocation for DDT, transport, and spares, stirrup pumps, etc., to expand during 1955 the present malaria control operations. This recommendation is for an extension of a programme already in operation, for which apportionments totaling \$124,000 were made by the UNICEF Board in November 1951, October 1952, and March 1953. Plans of operation have been concluded covering aid previously approved.

Incidence of Malaria in Afghanistan

2. As reported to this Board in document E/ICEF/R.403 of February 1953, the population living in malarious areas in Afghanistan is estimated at 2,000,000, and spleen surveys conducted in 1952 in areas marked for expansion of the programme showed rates varying from 24.5 per cent to 62 per cent. A recent survey in areas marked for expansion in 1954 gave spleen rates varying from 20 per cent to 62 per cent, and highly malarious areas were found on both sides of the Hasi Rud River, where there is extensive rice cultivation. Four districts alone are estimated to have a malarious population of 250,000 to be protected in 1954.

The Campaign against Malaria

3. The following figures show the steady development of malaria control operations in Afghanistan during the past few years:

* The numbering of documents in the E/ICEF/L. series continues that of documents E/ICEF/R.1 to R. 520, which have been re-classified from the RESTRICTED to the LIMITED category by document E/ICEF/INF.1, 27 January 1954.

Proposed Plan of Operations

6. Information now available has enabled the Government to be more realistic about its targets for the future. It is estimated that the additional population available for control in 1955 will not exceed 250,000, and the request to UNICEF is based on this estimate. This increase would result in a total of 1,530,000 persons being protected in 1955, of which total Government DDT would cover 675,000 (the level achieved in 1952) and UNICEF the remaining 855,000.

7. It is estimated that the savings of DDT from the 1953 and 1954 campaigns will approximate 50 short tons technical DDT equivalent. The total requirement of DDT to protect the 855,000 persons for whom UNICEF supplies are requested is 70 short tons technical DDT equivalent; therefore the net need is for 18 short tons (24 short tons in terms of 75 per cent wettable powder). Additional transport becomes a most pressing need now that operations are being extended to the Western and North-western provinces, at distances up to 1,500 miles from Kabul, the only point of entry into the country for UNICEF supplies. It is emphasized that all supplies have to be moved by road in the complete absence of railroads. More transport is required for expansion of the malarimetric survey work, which is a prerequisite for proper planning of the extended programme. Effective use of UNICEF vehicles is made throughout the year in the typhus control programme and other programmes during the malaria off-season.

UNICEF Commitments

8. UNICEF is requested to provide:

(a) 24 short tons of 75% wettable DDT	24¢ per lb.	\$11,500
(b) Transport:		
1 3-ton truck	\$1,600	
1 4-wheel drive vehicle	1,600	
1 Carryall	<u>2,000</u>	5,200
(c) Vehicle spares for above and for vehicles already in use		1,000
(d) -250 stirrup pumps	\$10 each	2,500
(e) Spares for sprayers and stirrup pumps		1,000
(f) Contingencies		<u>800</u>
		\$22,000

Recommendation

14. The Administration recommends, subject to the availability of funds:
- (a) the apportionment to Afghanistan of \$22,000 from the Asia area allocation for DDT, transport, and other equipment for the continuation and expansion of malaria control operations during 1955;
 - (b) that the Administration be authorized to approve an extension of the existing plan of operations as outlined above.