

RAC Meeting
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RPOB, RPT
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and Heady asked some questions regarding the validity of the data being collected. Drs. Kelley and Galli said that the field locations did have the laboratories to perform analyses at the sophisticated level proposed, and that the subject matter of this project addressed a very real need in Latin America. They agreed, however, on the need for careful consideration regarding sampling. Zp

Motion: Recommended that the two-year extension be approved with the provisos that (1) the funding level for the first year should be \$200,000 and (2) a progress report and revised budget be presented to the Fall meeting of the RAC; the second year funding level to be determined at that time.

(The vote in favor of the motion was unanimous.)

2. Research on Sterility Method of Tsetse Fly Control --
U.S. Department of Agriculture - (Project Extension)

Dr. Peterson presented the report on this project on behalf of the review subcommittee which also included Drs. Hagen and Langmuir and one consultant; Dr. Kramer. The subcommittee viewed this project as a long range research effort as contrasted with the very successful short-range project on screw-worm control in the United States. They noted the many barriers to finding a solution to the tsetse fly problem including the fact that the area infested by the tsetse fly is 80 times larger than the area cleared of the screw-worm. In spite of the formidable problems which might reduce the prospects of success very substantially, the subcommittee believed the investment to be worth the risks involved. The previous investment by A.I.D. of over one million dollars deserves to be protected and the problems encountered and their solutions will certainly be useful in relation to other insect problems. These procedures, if successful with even one of the species or in certain geographical areas, could help open new areas to settlement and reduce or eliminate a deadly disease to humans. Further, the A.I.D.-sponsored program stimulates tsetse fly research by a number of other research agencies. The subcommittee feels that an ultimate solution to this problem is essential.

The RAC members briefly discussed the work plan and possibilities for success. Dr. Smuckler suggested the addition of institutional development aspects to the project. Dr. Kelley said that attention would be given to institutional development. Also, Dr. Kelley in response to a question by Dr. Anderson, said that informal cooperation and discussion are taking place with the British who have been concerned with these problems for many years.

The RAC members took notice of the fact that this research project will operate primarily in Tanzania.

Motion: Approved as proposed assuming a continuing effective relationship with Tanzania and other interested African countries.

(The motion was approved unanimously.)

3. Employment Generation in West and Central African Agriculture -- Michigan State University - (New Project Proposal)

Dr. Hagen presented the views of the review subcommittee which also consisted of Dr. Tanter and two consultants, Drs. Heady and Whitney. (Note: Dr. Smuckler left the room during the discussion of this project for reasons of possible conflict of interest.) Dr. Hagen described the objectives of the proposed study including provision of information to African policy planners involving the economics of production and processing of major crops; aid in developing a research network linking African and American scholars. The project seeks solutions to the problem of rising unemployment in West and Central Africa, and will examine how trade, wage, fiscal and pricing policies affect the expansion of production and employment in major import and export crops. The subcommittee felt, however, that the project should be more sharply focused and reduced in scope.

In the ensuing discussion Dr. Tanter said that the project objectives appeared to be primarily general technical assistance objectives rather than research goals. Dr. Heady felt that the methodology needed further development, and the geographic coverage should be narrowed, possibly to just one country (Nigeria). Dr. Anderson agreed on the value of Nigeria as a field site as this was where the proposed contractor had background and experience.

Dr. Whitney spoke of the need for research in this field. The RAC members and Dr. Bernstein also discussed the differences and the relationship between the proposed research project and the Michigan State P11(d) institutional grant. They also discussed the status of development of local participation and approval by Michigan State. Dr. Hagen questioned the implication that agriculture was the place where employment should be generated. Mr. Blumgart said that the Africa Bureau regarded this as an important project, and hoped it would not be limited to one country.

Motion: Approval of \$50,000 to make the necessary arrangements in the LDCs to develop a project for submission to the RAC at a later meeting.

(The vote in favor of the motion was unanimous.)