

APPENDIX II

REPORT OF THE
SEVENTH SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF THE
COMMISSION FOR CONTROLLING THE DESERT LOCUST
IN THE NEAR EAST

held in Doha, Qatar,
6 - 8 December, 1977

INTRODUCTION

The Seventh Session of the Executive Committee of the Commission for Controlling the Desert Locust in the Near East was held from 6 to 8 December 1977 in Doha, Qatar. Mr. Sultan Rashid Al-Kuwari, Director of Agricultural Affairs, welcomed the members of the Executive Committee and other participants, and declared the Session open. The Chairman, Mr. Salem Hadramy of Saudi Arabia, welcomed the participants and thanked the Government of Qatar for its kind invitation to convene the Session in Doha. He referred to the functions of the Committee, which included making proposals to the Commission on policy and programme activities, submitting draft Programme of Work and Budget, reporting on annual activities and ensuring of implementation of the approved programme. He stated that the Committee had, thus, before it a very important business to transact in preparing recommendations on both technical and financial matters. He looked forward, as usual, to meaningful and constructive discussions on various subjects with the cooperation of the members of the Committee.

Officers of the Session

Chairman: Salem Bamefleh Hadramy (Saudi Arabia)

Vice Chairman: M.M. El Geddawi (Egypt)

Drafting Committee

The FAO Secretariat was entrusted with the work of drafting the report of the Committee. Dr. J. S. Gill and A. K. Khasawneh, staff members of FAO, acted as Technical Secretaries and Mr. Gurdas Singh acted as Consultant.

PARTICIPATION IN THE SESSION

Members of the Executive Committee

Arab Republic of Egypt

M.M. El Geddawi
Director General
Desert Locust Affairs and Agro Aviation
Ministry of Agriculture
Dokki, Cairo

Jordan

Jawad Dajani
Director
Department of Plant Production and Protection
Ministry of Agriculture
Amman

Qatar

Sultan Rashid Al-Kuwari
Director of Agricultural Affairs
Ministry of Industry & Agriculture
Doha

Mohamed Fouad Thabet
Head of Plant Protection Section
Ministry of Industry & Agriculture
Doha

Saudi Arabia

Salem B. Hadramy
Director, Agricultural Research Centre
Western Area, Jeddah

Sudan

Farouk Ahmed Al-Shaffar
Senior Entomologist
Department of Plant Protection
P.O. Box No. 14
Khartoum North

Observer

Selim Rehim Al-Mihanna
Director of Plant Pest Control Department
Directorate General of Plant Protection
Ministry of Agriculture
Baghdad, Iraq

FAO Staff

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Agricultural Officer (Locust Control)
Locust Control and Emergency Operations
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P.O. Box 3626
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Gurdas Singh
Consultant
V + P.O. Wadala (Garden Colony)
Via Jullundur
Punjab, India

Interpreters

M. Saleh
S. Abdel Sayed (Mrs)
M. Doss (Mrs)
A. Nafzawy (Mrs)
F. Hashish (Miss)

Technician - Interpreting Equipment

C. Iacommetti

AGENDA

1. Opening of the Session
2. Adoption of the Agenda
3. Election of the Drafting Committee
4. Programme of Work and Budget for 1978 and Accounts for 1976
5. Coordination of Desert Locust Research in the Region
6. Training and Fellowships
7. Satellite Application to Desert Locust Survey and Control
8. Election of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Executive Committee for 1977/78
9. Any Other Business
10. Date and Place of Next Session
11. Adoption of the Report

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

Programme of Work and Budget for 1978

1. The Committee considered the budget for 1978 (Annex I) and recommended it for adoption by the Commission: while making this recommendation the Committee took into account the present locust situation, which remained relatively stable thanks to the policy of regular survey and control by the Member Countries. However, the Committee stipulated that the budget would be reviewed at the annual Sessions of the Commission and savings under any of the expenditure headings could be utilized to meet shortfalls under any other heading. Similarly, unspent surpluses at the end of any one calendar year would be available to supplement allocations under the same headings or any other headings as might be required. The Committee also recommended that the unallocated balance at the end of each year should be accumulated, to a minimum of \$100,000, for the purchase of insecticides and other essential supplies to be used in an emergency.
2. The Committee took note that the Programme of Work and Budget for the period 1978 to 1982, as approved at the Seventh Session of the Commission, was submitted to the FAO Finance Committee at its 39th Session, as required under the Agreement establishing the Commission.
3. The Committee further took note of the FAO Finance Committee's remarks on the need to reduce, as far as possible, expenses relating to travel and printing. However, the Committee re-emphasized the importance of surveys and dissemination of information on locust control to which these two categories of expenditure were related directly. The Committee, therefore, recommended that the reduction in expenditure should not be done at the expense of effective surveillance and provision of information.

Accounts for the Year Ended 31 December 1976

4. The Committee reviewed the Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31 December 1976, and the Provisional Expenditure for the year 1977. The Committee also noted the consolidated Statement of Accounts for the years 1973, 1974 and 1975 as approved at the earlier Sessions of the Commission.
5. The Committee recommended the Statement of Accounts (Annex II) for approval by the Commission.

Expenditure Against the Approved Budget

6. The Committee considered the statement of the breakdown of 1976 expenditure (Annex III) and noted that the main items of expenditure included Personal Services and Equipment (\$53,801) (\$42,106). Part of the expenditure under Personal Services related to the payment of salaries of the Commission's secretariat at Jeddah, which has, since 1977, been taken on the FAO Regular Programme budget.
7. Against the Approved Budget, the expenditure exceeded under Personal Services (code 10), Travel (code 20), Equipment (code 60) and only nominally under General Operating Expenses (code 40) and Project Servicing Costs (code 90). There were savings under Supplies and Materials (code 50), Fellowships and Grants (code 80). The total expenditure was \$150,626 as against the approved budget of \$150,000, balancing the budget on the whole. The overall end-of-year position, however, showed a deficit of \$42,426, mainly due to the non-payment of contributions by some Member Governments. It was anticipated that during 1977 the financial situation would improve with the receipt of arrears of contributions.

Contributions

8. The Committee considered the statement of contributions by Member Governments (Annex IV) and noted that the Government of Lebanon had not paid its contribution since 1969, and contributions from the Governments of Yemen Arab Republic were due for the years 1969-73, 1973-74 and 1974-75, and Oman was in arrears for the years 1974-75 and 1975-76. The Committee re-emphasized the importance of timely payment of contributions by Member Governments in order to implement the Commission's approved programme and requested FAO to make more vigorous efforts to recover the dues. The services of the Regional Locust Staff should be used to make contacts at a personal level with the concerned authorities.

9. The Committee appreciated the cooperation of Member Governments who made prompt payments of their contributions.

Coordination of Desert Locust Research in the Region

10. The Committee reviewed the progress of the Desert Locust research in the region and noted that useful work had been done at the Jeddah station on the testing of substitute chemicals for dieldrin and BHC, persistence of residues of chemicals and the behaviour of hoppers under different field situations, as follows:

Comparative toxicity studies: Three insecticides - Furidan (Carbofuran), Eolithion (Sumithion), Dimilin (Diflubenzuron) - were tested against dieldrin as a standard. The efficacy in the descending order was:- dieldrin, Furidan, Eolithion and Dimilin.

Persistence of spray deposits: Persistence of ULV and HV deposits of dieldrin and Sumithion applied from air and ground was studied under field situations. It was found that ULV deposits were more persistent than HV deposits, and dieldrin persisted much longer than Sumithion.

Ecological studies: These were conducted on the behaviour of Desert Locust hoppers in the Red Sea coastal areas.

11. The Committee was informed that work on various items of the research programme approved by the Seventh Session of the Commission (Report, paragraph 41) was in progress at Dokki (although no reports were received by the secretariat in Jeddah). It was also learnt that limited research work, particularly on field ecology, was being carried out at Khartoum.

12. The Committee recommended that, for effective coordination of the research work of the three stations, their Directors should meet, preferably in Cairo, to evolve a joint programme of work on different items of research. The Committee felt that such a joint review would eliminate repetition, stimulate further interest, improve contacts amongst the staff and improve the quality of results.

13. The Committee was informed of the salient features of the research work being carried out under the FAO/SIDA Project in Addis Ababa and the FAO/DANIDA Project in Teheran. Whilst appreciating the achievements of these two Projects, the Committee suggested that the research stations at Jeddah, Dokki and Khartoum could be involved, as far as possible, in supplementing the work of these Projects. Mr. MacCuaig, Chemist-in-Charge of the SIDA Project, could participate in the proposed joint discussions in Cairo (paragraph 12) to work out the feasibility of the suggestion further, and also to help in outlining a programme for the field testing of some of the promising new chemicals for locust control.

Training and Fellowships

14. The Committee received a final statement from FAO on the FAO/UNDP Training Project and noted that the Commission had contributed a total sum of \$310,000 to the Trust Fund 9462 of the Training Project, which terminated on 31 July 1976. The Member Countries derived a direct financial benefit of \$363,979 from the Project under various chapters of training, as follows:

<u>Training Chapter</u>	<u>No. of Trainees</u>	<u>No. of Countries</u>	<u>Costs</u>
1. General Pest Control			
Jeddah, 1975	35	11	31,564
Riyadh, 1976	22	10	24,935
Oman, 1977	23	4	16,582
2. Aerial Survey and Spraying Techniques			
Nairobi, 1975	6	4	41,123
Karachi, 1976	9	5	66,456
3. Radio Maintenance and Operations			
Beirut, 1974	9	7	16,218
Cairo, 1976	14	8	32,916
4. Individual Fellowships	12	7	121,585
5. Group Study Tour, 1974	3	3	6,751
6. Exchange Visits	2	2	5,849
	135		363,979

15. The Committee further noted that the net balance of Trust Fund 9462 at the end of 1976 was \$281,364, out of which \$216,498 was already committed, mainly for on-going long term fellowships, and the actual balance available for further use was only \$64,866. Details of the committed and proposed expenditure during 1977 and 1978 are given below:

	<u>Funds Avail- able 31.12.77</u>	<u>Expenditure as at 1.8.77</u>	<u>Commitments as at 1.8.77</u>	<u>Proposed Expenditure Remaining Funds Until End 1978</u>
Personal Services (Training Consultants)	29,684	10,374	1,110	18,200
Travel (Training Consultants)	24,587	5,623	3,664	15,300
Contracts (Printing)	3,000	-	-	3,000
Operating Expenses	1,597	99	698	800
Supplies and Equipment	4,056	86	170	3,800
Training Fellowship	167,329	20,652	134,177	12,500
Courses	16,545	13,245	-	3,300
Total	246,798	50,079	139,819	56,900
Project Servicing Costs (14%)	34,566	7,025	19,575	7,966
Grand Total	\$ 281,364	\$ 57,104	\$ 159,394	\$ 64,866

16. The Committee was informed that most of the training fellowships as reported to the Seventh Session of the Commission (Report, paragraph 34) had been completed successfully. The following two remaining cases would be funded from the committed expenditure of the previous Training Project:

1. Ibrahim, S.I. - Egypt
2. Arif, J.M.A. - Sudan

17. The Committee was pleased to learn that a Group Training Course in Plant Protection and Locust Control was held in Muscat from 9 to 29 April 1977, and the Agricultural Station in Rumis. In all, 23 trainees participated in the course as follows:

Bahrain	2	United Arab Emirates	5
Qatar	2	Sultanate of Oman	14

A comprehensive course of lectures on locust control, general pest control and radio maintenance was organized with an emphasis on practical work by the Regional Locust Officer, Jeddah. FAO also provided two consultants in locust control and radio maintenance. The local facilities were made available by the Government of Oman and the travel cost of the trainees was met by their respective governments, FAO paying only a subsistence allowance.

Training Requirements

18. The Committee agreed that for planning a meaningful training programme, it was essential to have information on the requirements of training under different programme elements, and recommended that the following information received for the period 1976-82, in response to a questionnaire sent by FAO to Member Governments at the closure of the Training Project, should be up-dated by the provision of information by the remaining Member Governments.

	<u>Egypt</u>	<u>Iraq</u>	<u>Jordan</u>	<u>PDR Yemen</u>	<u>Sudan</u>	<u>Syria</u>	<u>U.A.E.</u>
Group Training	-	-	10	26	-	21	20
Individual Fellowships							
Short Term	16	19	7	26	4	7	30
Long Term	8	-	-	14	2	7	5
Radio Maintenance	2	-	-	11	4	-	-
Aerial Application	1	-	-	-	4	-	-
Total	<u>27</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>77</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>55</u>

Future Plans

19. The Committee noted that the training activities, so far, were carried out under the following main components:

1. Locust and general pest control - group courses.
2. Aerial survey and spraying techniques - group courses.
3. Radio operation and maintenance.
4. Group study tours.
5. Individual fellowships, including exchange visits.

Whilst appreciating the need for different types of training for different categories of staff, the Committee recommended that in future more attention should be given to practical field training. The emphasis should be on the training of younger cadres and newly recruited staff.

20. The Committee further decided that in future the FAO Secretariat should prepare proposals for a training programme based on the requests received from the Member Countries of the Commission and submit them to the Committee for its consideration and approval prior to implementation. Such a programme should include names recommended for individual fellowships, exchange visits and practical field training indicating budgetary implications.

Satellite Application

21. The Committee noted the interesting results obtained during the Pilot Project on the Application of Remote Sensing Techniques to Desert Locust Survey and Control carried out in Algeria during 1976 and 1977. It also took note that an extended project to be based in Teheran, Iran, was proposed by FAO for donor support, to test the findings of the Pilot Project on a field scale.

22. The Committee, whilst recognizing the importance of such techniques for Desert Locust survey and control, suggested that, from a technical point of view, FAO should provide detailed information on the work so far carried out to the Member Governments who had not as yet received such documents, so that these could be studied in detail. Furthermore, the Committee was of the opinion that it would be desirable for the Member Countries of the Near East Commission to await the results of the Teheran project before participating in these highly sophisticated studies. In any case, the final decision in the matter should be left to individual Governments.

Election of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Executive Committee

23. The Committee unanimously decided that Qatar and Sudan should be Chairman and Vice-Chairman, respectively, of the Executive Committee for the year 1977/78 (until the next Session of the Commission).

Session Documents

24. The Committee expressed the wish that the Session Documents should be forwarded to the Member Governments well in time for perusal by the Delegates in order to ensure meaningful and constructive discussions, and obtain policy guidelines, if necessary.

Aerial Application

25. The Committee highly appreciated the offer made by the Representative of Iraq that his Government would make available spray aircraft for controlling the Desert Locust, free of charge, as and when requested by the Member Countries of the Commission.

DATE AND PLACE OF THE NEXT SESSION

26. The Eighth Session of the Executive Committee should be held in conjunction with the Ninth Session of the Commission on a date and place to be decided by the Commission.

COMMISSION FOR CONTROLLING THE DESERT LOCUST

IN THE NEAR EAST

Annual Budget for the Period 1978-1982 expressed according to FAO Expenditure Codes as adopted by the Commission at its 7th Session 1976 and approved by the Finance Committee at its 39th Session 1977.

<u>Code</u>	<u>Annual Budget for 1978-1982</u>
10 <u>Personal Services</u> Short-term experts, local assistance	35,000
20 <u>Travel</u> Delegates, teams, consultants	15,000
30 <u>Contractual Services</u> Printing, processing reports	5,000
40 <u>General Operating Expenses</u> Miscellaneous, survey	15,000
55 <u>Supplies and Materials</u> For field surveys, POL, vehicle maintenance	20,000
67 <u>Equipment</u> For field projects	60,000
80 <u>Fellowships and Grants</u> Individual fellowships, exchange visits and field	20,000
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	170,000
91 <u>Project Servicing Cost*</u>	16,600
	186,600
Unallocated	13,400
	<hr/>
	200,000

* 5% on Codes 55 - 67, 14% on other components.

Subject to the total commitments at any given time not exceeding the total contribution pledged and received at that time, the Director-General shall have discretionary powers to vary the allocations between one expenditure heading and another as may be necessary to meet the changing locust situation. All such variations shall be reported and justified when submitting annual accounts to the Commission.

ANNEX II

COMMISSION FOR CONTROLLING THE DESERT LOCUST IN THE NEAR EAST

TRUST FUND No. 9409

Statement of Account (expressed in US dollar equivalents)

<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Approved Budget 1973-77</u>	<u>1973</u>	<u>1974</u>	<u>1975</u>	<u>1976</u>	<u>Estimate 1977</u>
Balance brought forward from previous year		306,400	312,104	175,523	93,861	(42,426)
Contributions (including funds due 7-12/77)	139,060	103,805	145,674	205,004	74,863	325,465
Transfers to TF 9.462.00 (Training Project)	-	-	(125,000)	(125,000)	(60,000)	-
Interest	-	9,523	5,283	3,815	(523)	-
	<u>139,060</u>	<u>419,728</u>	<u>338,061</u>	<u>259,342</u>	<u>108,201</u>	<u>283,039</u>
<u>Cash Expenditure</u>						
10 <u>Personal Services</u> Short term experts, local assistance	25,000	24,260	49,888	40,570	53,801	33,000
20 <u>Travel</u> Delegates, teams, consultants	10,000	9,847	30,242	10,793	20,924	20,000
30 <u>Contractual Services</u> Printing reports	5,000	2,351	1,656	1,622	5,129	8,000
55 <u>Supplies and materials</u> for field surveys, POI, vehicle maintenance	30,000	7,323	23,075	27,513	4,358	15,000
67 <u>Equipment</u> for field projects	20,000	29,683	8,501	41,589	42,107	43,000
81 <u>Fellowships and Grants</u> Individual and Group training	25,000	19,165	22,581	11,343	1,428	-
40 <u>General Operating Expenses</u> Misc., rent, communications	10,000	4,699	9,127	17,184	8,050	13,000
	<u>125,000</u>	<u>97,328</u>	<u>145,070</u>	<u>150,614</u>	<u>135,797</u>	<u>132,000</u>
<u>Project Servicing Costs</u> (5% on Supplies and Equipment 14% on remaining items)	13,000	10,292	17,468	14,867	14,829	13,260
	<u>138,000</u>	<u>107,620</u>	<u>162,538</u>	<u>165,481</u>	<u>150,626</u>	<u>145,260</u>
Unallocated balance	1,060	312,108	175,523	93,861	(42,425)	137,779

BREAKDOWN OF 1976 EXPENDITURE

10.	<u>Personal Services</u>	
	Salaries Near East Secretariat *	28,197
	Temporary Staff, Session of Commission	9,710
	Local costs, PDR Yemen	15,894
		53,801
20.	<u>Travel</u>	
	Session of Commission, Delegates	2,721
	Staff Travel, Regional Officer and Staff	11,016
	Consultant to Oman	6,510
	Exchange Visit, Kuwait Locust Officer	677
		20,924
30.	<u>Contractual Services</u>	
	Printing, reports	5,129
50.	<u>Supplies and Materials</u>	
	Near East Secretariat Supplies	371
	PDR Yemen, spares for Bedford Truck	133
	YAR Radio spares	556
	Egypt Radio spares, laboratory supplies	1,504
	Sudan, Bedford spares, laboratory supplies	920
	Saudi Arabia, Land Rover spares	875
		4,359
60.	<u>Equipment</u>	
	PDR Yemen, Bedford Truck	15,466
	PDR Yemen, Radio instruments	1,917
	Saudi Arabia, Land Rover	7,132
	Oman, radios	11,276
	Egypt, lab. equipment & calculator	745
	Sudan "	726
	Insurance, etc.	4,844
		42,106
80.	<u>Fellowships & Grants</u>	
	Hamman (Egypt)	955
	Karrar (Sudan)	472
		1,428

*Salaries of support staff at Jeddah were borne as an emergency bridging expedient by the Trust Fund, pending inclusion in FAO's Regular Programme as from 1.1.1977.

(ANNEX III Cont.)

40. General Operating Expenses

Near East Secretariat, Jeddah
PDR Yemen

3,405

4,645

8,050

90. Project Servicing Costs

14,830

Total

150,627

TRUST FUND No. 9.409 - INTERNATIONAL DESERT LOCUST COMMISSION FOR
CONTROLLING THE DESERT LOCUST - NEAR EAST

Pledge Position as at 31 September 1977

	Outstanding Contribs. 1969-73	Outstanding Contribs. 1973-74	Outstanding Contribs. 1974-75	Outstanding Contribs. 1975-76	Outstanding Contribs. 1976-77	Outstanding Contribs. 1977-78	Total due at 31.9.77	Annual Scale of Contribs.
Bahrain	-	-	-	-	-	7,000.00	7,000.00	7,000.00
Egypt	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	26,032.00
Iraq	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23,000.00
Jordan	-	-	-	-	11,486.00	11,486.00	22,972.00	11,486.00
Kuwait	-	-	-	-	-	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00
Lebanon	2,372.39	8,970.00	838.00	8,970.00	8,970.00	8,970.00	39,090.39	8,970.00
Oman	-	-	5,506.00	5,506.00	8,000.00	8,000.00	27,012.00	8,000.00
Qatar	-	-	-	-	-	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
Saudi Arabia	-	-	-	-	-	35,228.00	35,228.00	35,228.00
Sudan	-	-	-	-	-	14,934.00	14,934.00	14,934.00
Syria	-	-	-	-	13,350.00	13,350.00	26,700.00	13,350.00
United Arab Emirates	-	-	-	-	21,000.00	21,000.00	42,000.00	21,000.00
Yemen Arab Republic	13,639.60	4,224.00	4,224.00	-	640.00	640.00	23,367.60	640.00
Yemen, People's Dem. Rep.	-	-	-	-	360.00	360.00	720.00	360.00
Total	16,011.99	13,194.00	10,568.00	14,476.00	99,024.00	150,968.00	269,023.99	200,000.00

N.B. The delegate of Jordan informed that their Contribution for 1976/77 was paid in September 1977. The delegate of Qatar assured that his Government's contribution for 1977/78 will be paid in January 1978.

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