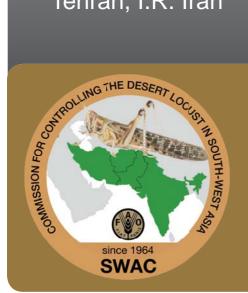




# Twenty-ninth Session Fiftieth Anniversary

15-18 December 2014 Tehran, I.R. Iran



FAO Commission for Controlling the Desert Locust in South-West Asia

# Report of the FAO Commission for Controlling the Desert Locust in South-West Asia

Twenty-ninth Session Fiftieth Anniversary

Tehran, I.R. Iran 15-18 December 2014 The designations employed and the presentation of material in this information product do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) concerning the legal or development status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The mention of specific companies or products of manufacturers, whether or not these have been patented, does not imply that these have been endorsed or recommended by FAO in preference to others of a similar nature that are not mentioned.

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Participants of the 29<sup>th</sup> Session of the FAO Commission for Controlling the Desert Locust in South-West Asia (left to right): J.N. Thakur (India), Mamoon Al-Alawi (FAO/CRC), Mirjan Hemat (Afghanistan), Mohammad Ali Baghestani (I.R. Iran), Keith Cressman (FAO/SWAC), Azam Khan (Pakistan), Annie Monard (FAO)

#### Summary of recommendations

The 38 recommendations from the 29<sup>th</sup> Session are grouped in order to facilitate their implementation.

#### **Afghanistan**

- 1. One locust officer from India Afghanistan should participate in the portion of the I.R. Iran joint survey between Chabahar and Bandar Abbas in 2016. (Recommendation 6)
- 2. The individual who is responsible for national locust activities and for related contingency planning in each member country and the Executive Secretary should participate in a CRC Contingency Planning Workshop in Egypt (February 2015). (Recommendation 14)
- 3. A final version of the outbreak/invasion contingency plan should be ready for each country by the end of 2015 and submitted to the Executive Secretary for final approval. (Recommendation 16)
- 4. The member countries reaffirmed the need and the importance to increase the level of annual contributions as these have not changed since the establishment of the Commission fifty years ago while there has been a substantial increase in costs and Commission activities. (Recommendation 21)
- 5. The annual member country contributions to the SWAC Trust Fund should be increased by 50 percent. (Recommendation 22)
- 6. Existing financial instruments in member countries should be incorporated into the national contingency plans. (Recommendation 26)
- 7. Provide brief descriptions, reports and photos of their training and other field activities to the Executive Secretary for uploading to the SWAC website. (Recommendation 28)
- 8. Inform the Executive Secretary when the request for payment of member contributions is submitted to their government. (Recommendation 36)

#### <u>India</u>

- 1. Frontline countries should increase their efforts in incorporating information from locals, nomads, scouts and others into the national locust information network as a means of guiding locust survey teams in those areas that are inhabited. (Recommendation 1)
- 2. One locust officer from India should participate in the portion of the I.R. Iran joint survey between Chabahar and Bandar Abbas in 2015. (Recommendation 6)
- 3. The individual who is responsible for national locust activities and for related contingency planning in each member country and the Executive Secretary should participate in a CRC Contingency Planning Workshop in Egypt (February 2015). (Recommendation 14)
- 4. A final version of the outbreak/invasion contingency plan should be ready for each country by the end of 2015 and submitted to the Executive Secretary for final approval. (Recommendation 16)
- 5. Frontline countries should facilitate registration of *Metarhizium* and IGRs in their countries for Desert Locust control, and refer to the 10<sup>th</sup> report of the Pesticide Referee Group. (Recommendation 18)
- 6. The member countries reaffirmed the need and the importance to increase the level of annual contributions as these have not changed since the establishment of the Commission fifty years ago while there has been a substantial increase in costs and Commission activities. (Recommendation 21)
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- 10. Inform the Executive Secretary when the request for payment of member contributions is submitted to their government. (Recommendation 36)

#### I.R. Iran

- 1. Frontline countries should increase their efforts in incorporating information from locals, nomads, scouts and others into the national locust information network as a means of guiding locust survey teams in those areas that are inhabited. (Recommendation 1)
- 2. The annual Iran/Pakistan joint survey should continue despite difficulties posed by insecurity. (Recommendation 2)
- 3. Until flights resume to Zahedan, both countries should alternately host the final meeting in Tehran and Karachi, commencing with Tehran in 2015. Accordingly, the GOE of the travelling country should be increased by USD 2 000 to allow participation of both the team leader and locust head. (Recommendation 3)
- 4. One Iranian locust officer should join a survey to be carried out by the Omani locust unit on the northern (Batinah) coast of Oman during the spring of 2015 or 2016. The usefulness of this activity and its results should be reviewed at the next session of the Commission. (Recommendation 9)
- 5. I.R. Iran and Pakistan are encouraged to deactivate eLocust3 units after the spring and summer (Pakistan only) season when units are not expected to be used for six months or more. (Recommendation 12)
- 6. The individual who is responsible for national locust activities and for related contingency planning in each member country and the Executive Secretary should participate in a CRC Contingency Planning Workshop in Egypt (February 2015). (Recommendation 14)
- 7. A final version of the outbreak/invasion contingency plan should be ready for each country by the end of 2015 and submitted to the Executive Secretary for final approval. (Recommendation 16)
- 8. Frontline countries should facilitate registration of *Metarhizium* and IGRs in their countries for Desert Locust control, and refer to the 10<sup>th</sup> report of the Pesticide Referee Group. (Recommendation 18)
- 9. The member countries reaffirmed the need and the importance to increase the level of annual contributions as these have not changed since the establishment of the Commission fifty years ago while there has been a substantial increase in costs and Commission activities. (Recommendation 21)
- 10. The annual member country contributions to the SWAC Trust Fund should be increased by 50 percent. (Recommendation 22)
- 11. If I.R. Iran pays 50 percent of its arrears within four years, then the remaining 50 percent will be waived. (Recommendation 24)
- 12. Existing financial instruments in member countries should be incorporated into the national contingency plans. (Recommendation 26)
- 13. The Pakistani and Iranian Master Trainers, in collaboration with the Executive Secretary, should organize a national Training of Trainers (ToT) workshop in their countries to select the best participants as potential Master Trainers to be trained further by FAO. (Recommendation 27)
- 14. Provide brief descriptions, reports and photos of their training and other field activities to the Executive Secretary for uploading to the SWAC website. (Recommendation 28)
- 15. Inform the Executive Secretary when the request for payment of member contributions is submitted to their government. (Recommendation 36)

#### **Pakistan**

- 1. Frontline countries should increase their efforts in incorporating information from locals, nomads, scouts and others into the national locust information network as a means of guiding locust survey teams in those areas that are inhabited. (Recommendation 1)
- 2. The annual Iran/Pakistan joint survey should continue despite difficulties posed by insecurity. (Recommendation 2)
- 3. Until flights resume to Zahedan, both countries should alternately host the final meeting in Tehran and Karachi, commencing with Tehran in 2015. Accordingly, the GOE of the travelling country should be increased by USD 2 000 to allow participation of both the team leader and locust head. (Recommendation 3)

- 4. One locust officer from India Pakistan should participate in the portion of the I.R. Iran joint survey between Chabahar and Bandar Abbas in 2017. (Recommendation 6)
- 5. The designated national locust information officer from Pakistan should participate in the 11-month training at DLIS starting in December 2015. (Recommendation 11)
- 6. I.R. Iran and Pakistan are encouraged to deactivate eLocust3 units after the spring and summer (Pakistan only) season when units are not expected to be used for six months or more. (Recommendation 12)
- 7. The individual who is responsible for national locust activities and for related contingency planning in each member country and the Executive Secretary should participate in a CRC Contingency Planning Workshop in Egypt (February 2015). (Recommendation 14)
- 8. A final version of the outbreak/invasion contingency plan should be ready for each country by the end of 2015 and submitted to the Executive Secretary for final approval. (Recommendation 16)
- 9. Frontline countries should facilitate registration of *Metarhizium* and IGRs in their countries for Desert Locust control, and refer to the 10<sup>th</sup> report of the Pesticide Referee Group. (Recommendation 18)
- 10. The member countries reaffirmed the need and the importance to increase the level of annual contributions as these have not changed since the establishment of the Commission fifty years ago while there has been a substantial increase in costs and Commission activities. (Recommendation 21)
- 11. The annual member country contributions to the SWAC Trust Fund should be increased by 50 percent. (Recommendation 22)
- 12. Existing financial instruments in member countries should be incorporated into the national contingency plans. (Recommendation 26)
- 13. The Pakistani and Iranian Master Trainers, in collaboration with the Executive Secretary, should organize a national Training of Trainers (ToT) workshop in their countries to select the best participants as potential Master Trainers to be trained further by FAO. (Recommendation 27)
- 14. Provide brief descriptions, reports and photos of their training and other field activities to the Executive Secretary for uploading to the SWAC website. (Recommendation 28)
- 15. Prepare a project to strengthen its national locust capacity, and submit it to the Executive Secretary for donor consideration. (Recommendation 29)
- 16. Complete the translation of the FAO Desert Locust Master Trainer Manual, and print and distribute this and the FAO Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) without further delay. (Recommendation 30)
- 17. Provide proof of payments to FAO in case of annual contribution discrepancies so that action can be taken to readjust the arrears. (Recommendation 35)
- 18. Inform the Executive Secretary when the request for payment of member contributions is submitted to their government. (Recommendation 36)

#### **FAO**

- 1. The SWAC Executive Secretary should join the portion of the joint survey in I.R. Iran in 2015 to ensure the continuation of a high quality survey and participate in the final meeting. (Recommendation 4)
- 2. The SWAC Executive Secretary should prepare a SOP for the joint survey and final meeting. (Recommendation 5)
- 3. The current level of DSA in both countries should be reduced by 10 percent just for the joint survey in 2015 and 2016. (Recommendation 7)
- 4. The level of DSA for the joint survey should be reviewed at the next session and adjusted if necessary. (Recommendation 8)
- The CRC/SWAC Desert Locust information officer workshops should continue on an annual basis and two designated national information officers should participate from each of the frontline countries. (Recommendation 10)

- 6. The designated national locust information officer from Pakistan should participate in the 11-month training at DLIS starting in December 2015. (Recommendation 11)
- 7. eLocust3 units should be dispatched to I.R. Iran and Pakistan as soon as possible and time for use during spring surveys. (Recommendation 13)
- 8. The individual who is responsible for national locust activities and for related contingency planning in each member country and the Executive Secretary should participate in a CRC Contingency Planning Workshop in Egypt (February 2015). (Recommendation 14)
- 9. The possibility of incorporating an electronic inventory system as a tool for contingency planning and maintaining updated inventories should be explored. (Recommendation 15)
- 10. A workshop should be organized in 2016 to draft a first version of an upsurge contingency plan, attended by the person responsible for national locust activities and for related contingency planning in each member country. (Recommendation 17)
- 11. If payments are not made under some compelling circumstances, then the Commission should do its best to help the member country and provide some support. (Recommendation 19)
- 12. In case the Trust Fund balance becomes dangerously low, the Executive Secretary should suspend all non-essential activities but maintain those important activities that impact the region as a whole such as maintaining the locust early warning system. (Recommendation 20)
- 13. The Executive Secretary should send an official letter to member countries requesting the increase of annual contributions to the SWAC Trust Fund by 50 percent and include the necessary documentation and justification. (Recommendation 23)
- 14. The Executive Secretary should inform the relevant units in FAO concerning the arrangement for payment of the Iranian arrears. (Recommendation 25)
- 15. The Pakistani and Iranian Master Trainers, in collaboration with the Executive Secretary, should organize a national Training of Trainers (ToT) workshop in their countries to select the best participants as potential Master Trainers to be trained further by FAO. (Recommendation 27)
- 16. The Executive Secretary should check with the FAO Legal Office to obtain evidence of Iranian membership to the DLCC so that I.R. Iran can rejoin DLCC. (Recommendation 31)
- 17. FAO should inform the Executive Secretary when the annual Call of Funds is issued so that the Secretary can inform the FAO Representation and the relevant locust authorities in each country. (Recommendation 32)
- 18. The Member Countries reaffirmed and reiterated the important and critical role played by DLIS in early warning as the basis for locust preventive control and, therefore, insisted that FAO continue to fund its operation and services. In the case of budget constraints and as a last resort, the Commission would consider contributing to some part of the operating costs of DLIS. (Recommendation 33)
- 19. FAO should take more care and ensure that monthly eLocust charges are applied correctly to each region. (Recommendation 34)
- 20. FAO's financial management system should be modified to allow reporting of expenditures by activity rather than FAO accounting code. (Recommendation 37)
- 21. One laptop, printer, scanner and digital camera should be procured for the Plant Protection Department in Afghanistan to be used for locust-related matters. (Recommendation 38)

# 29<sup>th</sup> Session of the FAO Commission for Controlling the Desert Locust in South-West Asia (SWAC)

### 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration

- 1. Celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the FAO Commission for Controlling the Desert Locust in South-West Asia (SWAC) commenced with a recital from the Holy Quran. Dr. Mohammad Ali Baghestani, Director, Plant Protection Organization, Government of I.R. Iran, welcomed the participants. He reiterated the importance of SWAC and reminded everyone that the Desert Locust is considered as a dangerous pest in I.R. Iran. Prior to modern times, locals used traditional methods to control locusts and protect their crops.
- 2. Mr. Keith Cressman, Executive Secretary of SWAC, indicated that delegates from the four member countries had the foresight half a century ago to understand that a regional commission could play a very important role in the fight against Desert Locust; that it could assist countries in survey and control and to be better prepared. This insight came at the end of a 14-year plague (1949-1963) that had brought destruction and had devastating consequences in the region. Subsequently, SWAC was established on this day 50 years ago as the first of three FAO regional locust commissions. It is probably one of the first examples of the preventive control strategy that is now universally adopted by affected countries. Mr. Cressman thanked the member countries for sharing their knowledge and expertise within the region and for their commitment to the Commission that has contributed to its success and will ensure its continuation in the next 50 years to come.
- 3. Mr. Serge Nakouzi, FAO Representative in the I.R. Iran, summarized the process of establishing the Commission. He underscored FAO's goal of ending hunger and poverty and that the Organization's activities are driven by five strategic objectives: (a) eliminate hunger, (b) increase food production sustainably, (c) reduce rural poverty, (d) improve system fairness, and (e) increase resilience from disasters. SWAC directly tackles two of these – increase food production sustainably by protecting crops from locusts and increase resilience from disasters through early warning, contingency planning and preventive control – and indirectly the other three if SWAC activities are implemented successfully. Since the establishment of SWAC, locust outbreaks and upsurges have been stopped earlier and the region has not faced a serious plague. This demonstrates the soundness and effectiveness of SWAC in our fight against the Desert Locust. The cost of curative control far exceeds the cost of prevention; for example, the cost to control the 2003-2005 locust upsurge in W and NW Africa was equivalent to 170 years of preventive control in that region. Our forefathers understood that regional locust commissions could play a key role in prevention. Because of the importance of this region, the first regional locust commission was established in Southwest Asia. Yet the strength of these commissions is based on member contributions and they cannot function in their absence. Member countries benefit from SWAC in many ways. It covers the cost of survey and control data transmission by satellite, provides countries with technical advice, new tools such as eLocust3 and RAMSES GIS, organizes workshops on contingency planning, management and locust information, Master Trainer courses and national ToT workshops, and pays for participation at sessions of SWAC and the FAO Desert Locust Control Committee (DLCC). Earlier this year, all SWAC activities had to cease as member countries had not paid and there are USD 0.5 million in arrears. Today's annual contributions remain the same as they were 50 years ago – they have never increased although today's costs are 15 times higher than in 1964. The other two commissions recently agreed to increase their member country annual contributions and to pay on time – it is time for SWAC to do the same. This is the only way that we can ensure another 50 years of successful preventive control and to protect food and livelihoods in this region.
- 4. Engineer Mohammad Hussein Shariatmadar, Supreme Advisor of H.E. Minister for Jihad-e-Agriculture, I.R. Iran, indicated his pleasure to host the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and 29<sup>th</sup> session of SWAC. He mentioned the importance of agriculture in the country and its role in preventing hunger cannot be underestimated. Sound policies that embrace sustainability, conservation and the environment are required and should be integrated in our fight against the key pest of Desert Locust. Desert Locust control has been conducted against Desert Locust in I.R. Iran for the past 70 years. The Desert Locust Control Office was the first office established that later became the Plant Protection Organization.
- 5. Dr. Reza Arjmandi, former Director, Plant Protection Organization, I.R. Iran, reminisced about the early days of the Commission and recalled a Desert Locust control campaign in the early 1980s as was as previous

- sessions of SWAC. He reiterated the importance of always being prepared and never becoming complacent in the fight against this most dangerous pest.
- 6. Dr. Ahmed Rassipour, former Director, Plant Protection Organization, I.R. Iran, stated that Desert Locust infestations have steadily declined during the past few decades due to SWAC and the dedicated efforts of locust officers and national programmes. He recalled when he was a locust officer in 1967 and when he participated in SWAC and FAO Desert Locust Control Committee (DLCC) sessions. He emphasized the important decision taken in the 19<sup>th</sup> session of SWAC to re-establish the Iran/Pakistan joint survey.
- 7. Mr. Mirjan Hemat, Dr. J.N. Thakur, and Azam Khan, the delegates from Afghanistan, India and Pakistan respectively, spoke of the valuable services and assistance provided by SWAC to their countries. The development, introduction and support of new tools and technologies, the organization of courses and workshops to strengthen national capacities in early warning, training and planning, and the funding of the joint survey and eLocust2 data were examples of such services. Lastly, the speakers thanked the Government of I.R. Iran for hosting the anniversary celebration and the 29<sup>th</sup> session.
- 8. Mr. Mamoon Al-Alawi, Executive Secretary of the FAO Commission for Controlling the Desert Locust in the Central Region (CRC) acknowledged the importance of SWAC and the utility of interregional collaboration and cooperation in the common fight against the Desert Locust. He presented a CRC ceremonial plate to SWAC that was accepted by the current chairman.
- 9. The FAO Representative, Supreme Advisor to H.E. Minister for Jihad-e-Agriculture, I.R. Iran, and the SWAC Executive Secretary presented a certificate of recognition, a framed SWAC logo and a 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary book to each member country.
- 10. The FAO Representative, Supreme Advisor to H.E. Minister for Jihad-e-Agriculture, I.R. Iran, and the SWAC Executive Secretary together cut the first piece of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary cake.

### Opening of the 29<sup>th</sup> Session

- 11. Dr. Mohammad Ali Baghestani, Director, Plant Protection Organization, Government of I.R. Iran welcomed member country delegates and FAO participants to the 29<sup>th</sup> session. He indicated it was a good opportunity for the country and appreciated that I.R. Iran could host this important session. He provided a brief summary of the history of plant protection in I.R. Iran that commenced with Desert Locust control and indicated the achievements of the Plant Protection Organization (PPO) in controlling Desert Locust, other locust, grasshopper and plant pest species, and weeds both at the federal and provincial levels using chemical and non-chemical means. He hoped that this discussions and decisions taken at this session would strengthen further collaboration within the region.
- 12. Keith Cressman, FAO Senior Locust Forecasting Officer at FAO Headquarters in Rome and the Executive Secretary of SWAC, presented an overview of the agenda of the 29<sup>th</sup> session in which the theme is financial solvency to sustain the future of the Commission. He suggested that delegates take a step backward in order to see the way forward by examining the value-added services that SWAC can provide to member countries, what SWAC can do that national locust programmes cannot, and how to convince member governments not only to continue their support but to increase it. Perhaps SWAC and the national locust programmes have been too successful since the region has not had to face a plague, the last upsurge was more than 20 years ago, and a number of outbreaks have been controlled. Consequently, it is becoming more challenging to keep member governments engaged and committed. He expressed his gratitude to PPO and the Government of I.R. Iran for their tireless efforts in hosting this session.
- 13. Dr. J.N. Thakur, the outgoing Chairman of SWAC, welcomed the honourable delegates of the Commission's Member Countries, the FAO Representative and the FAO staff, and all the participants to the opening ceremony of the 29<sup>th</sup> session, and thanked I.R. Iran as the host country. He reviewed the achievements that have been accomplished since the last session. He reminded everyone that the main objective of this session is to review progress made on the recommendations from the 28<sup>th</sup> session and to prepare a work plan for the next biennium. He reiterated that the future of the Commission relies on increasing annual contribution levels to the Trust Fund and convincing governments to ensure that financial constraints are not faced in the future.

- 14. Ms Annie Monard, Senior Officer and Team Leader of the Locust and Transboundary Plant Pests and Diseases Group at FAO Headquarters, thanked the Government of I.R. Iran for supporting national and regional activities in the framework of the Commission and to the benefit of all Member Countries, and for hosting this session. She described the important role that SWAC plays in facilitating communication, dialogue and the exchange of information within the region. She mentioned the need to address financial issues related to a meeting on financial systems held in Rome (March 2014) and the importance of increasing annual contributions similar to the other two regional commissions, the FAO Commission for Controlling the Desert Locust in the Western Region (CLCPRO) and the Central Region Commission (CRC), that decided to increase their annual contributions by three-fold and two-fold respectively.
- 15. Mr. Serge Nakouzi, the recently appointed FAO Representative in I.R. Iran, on behalf of the Director-General, welcomed the delegates of the Member Countries and thanked the Government of I.R. Iran for hosting the 29<sup>th</sup> Session. He recalled that the successes of SWAC during the past 50 years have had a positive impact on food security in member countries and beyond. He reiterated the financial soundness of preventive rather than curative control. It is clear that SWAC has played a significant role in this as few Desert Locust outbreaks occur compared to outbreaks of other plant pest species. But the Commission and its support to member countries cannot continue in the absence of financial support from these very same countries. Today's annual contributions remain the same as they were 50 years ago. The most important topic to be discussed in this session that affects the future of SWAC is financial commitment. All SWAC activities were frozen earlier this year because of a negative balance in the trust fund. As a result, recommendations could not be fully implemented such as training workshops and the dispatch of the new eLocust3 system, which is the backbone of the early warning system and preventive control strategy against Desert Locust plagues. For example, Pakistan and Iran could not receive eLocust3 and eLocust2 will cease working on 31 December 2014. The delegates must face hard decisions in this session – not only how to encourage member countries to meet their financial obligations on time and to pay their arrears but also to increase the level of annual contributions like the other commissions have done. There is much to do in this region - biopesticides, contingency planning, training of trainers, improved management, new technologies - but this cannot be done without funds. Financial solvency is the only way forward if SWAC is to continue to play an important and vital role in this region for the next 50 years.

#### **Elections**

- 16. The Member Countries elected I.R. Iran as Chairman of the current Session and Afghanistan as Vice-Chairman. The elections were accepted with acclaim. A list of participants and observers is presented in Annex 1.
- 17. The Executive Secretary presented a draft agenda that was adopted (Annex 2).
- 18. The Session entrusted the drafting of the report to the Executive Secretary of the Commission.

#### **Desert Locust early warning**

#### Desert Locust Situation (January 2013 – December 2014) and forecast to spring 2015

- 19. The Executive Secretary gave a presentation that reviewed the Desert Locust situation since the 28<sup>th</sup> Session (Annex 3). In general, the situation remained calm in both the spring and summer breeding areas except in spring 2014 when an outbreak developed in southeast I.R. Iran due to good rainfall and hopper and adult groups formed as a result of local breeding. Ground teams treated 34,146 ha from late April to mid-June.
- 20. The control operations carried out in I.R. Iran were well-timed and effectively prevented the formation of hopper bands and swarms and the subsequent migration of swarms to summer breeding areas along the Indo-Pakistan border. This was a good example of preventive control.
- 21. The outlook until summer 2015 calls for a continuation in a generally calm situation. Seasonal rainfall predictions issued in December suggest a possibility for above-normal rainfall during January and May in the spring breeding areas of I.R. Iran while normal rainfall is expected in adjacent areas of southwest Pakistan. Consequently, small-scale breeding is likely to occur in April and May that could cause locust numbers to

- increase but probably remain below threatening levels. There is no threat of an invasion during the spring from the Central Region.
- 22. The delegates discussed the importance of using other sources of information such as locals, nomads, and scouts. In I.R. Iran, information provided by local scouts, often retirees from the Agriculture Office under contract to PPO, via mobile telephone was found to be very useful and reliable in helping teams locate green vegetation and locust infestations. On the other hand, information was less reliable from shepherds.

Recommendation 1. Frontline countries should increase their efforts in incorporating information from locals, nomads, scouts and others into the national locust information network as a means of guiding locust survey teams in those areas that are inhabited.

#### Report on Joint-Border Surveys and Meetings in 2013 and 2014

- 23. The Executive Secretary presented the results of the joint survey that was carried out in 2013 and 2014. Only a few scattered adults were seen on the southeast coast of I.R. Iran in 2013 while more important infestations were seen in coastal and interior areas in 2014. In both years, no locusts were seen in Pakistan.
- 24. In 2013, a locust officer from Pakistan, India, Afghanistan and Oman joined the portion of the survey carried out on the southeast coast of I.R. Iran. This was found to be a very useful experience because it allowed the participants to exchange information, become familiar with the habitat and to be trained while in the field. Due to lack of funds, this could not be carried out in 2014.
- 25. At the 28<sup>th</sup> session, it was recommended that one locust officer from Oman participate in the joint survey on the coast of I.R. Iran while one Iranian locust officer participate in a national survey on the coast of Oman. The respective government should cover the costs of the participants. This activity did not occur in 2014, as PPO could not cover the costs of their officer.
- 26. It was noted with some dismay that the meeting at the end of the 2014 joint survey with the team leaders and locust heads of I.R. Iran and Pakistan did not take place due to the inability of the Pakistani team to reach Zahedan in the absence of flights from Karachi and the danger of travelling overland.
- 27. It was also noted that the quality of the joint report has been deteriorating steadily over the past few years and it was hoped that this was not indicative of the survey quality.
- 28. The delegates reviewed the recommendations of the joint surveys in 2013 and 2014 and **agreed** with the proposals that were made for strengthening future joint surveys.
- 29. The Executive Secretary of CRC encourage member countries to take the necessary steps to strengthen the Iran/Pakistan joint survey and find ways to continue the survey without interruption because it is an example of the only continuous joint survey in the Desert Locust recession area. The delegates, in turn, reaffirmed their commitment to the importance of the annual joint survey.
- 30. The delegates discussed the relatively high cost of the annual joint survey. It was noted that DSA accounts for a large portion of these costs and that the current level may not reflect the true cost of accommodation and food faced by participants during the survey. Furthermore, it was noted that the joint survey costs should be reduced given the current financial situation of the Trust Fund.
- 31. The delegates discussed the relevance and importance of surveying the spring breeding areas along the northern (Batinah) coast of Oman since this area is contiguous with that in southeast Iran and southwest Pakistan. If significant locust infestations develop in this area, they can potentially threaten the SWAC region by migrating to I.R. Iran in the spring and to the Indo-Pakistan area at the beginning of the summer. Therefore, it is desirable to be familiar with this breeding area as well as the Desert Locust situation.
- 32. It was previously foreseen that this cost could be covered by I.R. Iran but due to internal regulations, this is not possible. Therefore, it was **agreed** that one Iranian locust officer could join one survey carried out by the Omani locust unit during the spring in 2015 or 2016. The usefulness of this activity and the benefits of the results should be reviewed at the next session of the Commission.
- 33. The delegates from India and Pakistan indicated that they were satisfied with the contents of the Joint Border meeting reports and **agreed** that such meetings should continue on a regular basis every year between June and November.

Recommendation 2. The annual Iran/Pakistan joint survey should continue despite difficulties posed by insecurity.

Recommendation 3. Until flights resume to Zahedan, both countries should alternately host the final meeting in Tehran and Karachi, commencing with Tehran in 2015. Accordingly, the GOE of the travelling country should be increased by USD 2 000 to allow participation of both the team leader and locust head.

Recommendation 4. The SWAC Executive Secretary should join the portion of the joint survey in I.R. Iran in 2015 to ensure the continuation of a high quality survey and participate in the final meeting.

Recommendation 5. The SWAC Executive Secretary should prepare a SOP for the joint survey and final meeting.

Recommendation 6. One locust officer from India (2015), Afghanistan (2016) and Pakistan (2017) should participate in the portion of the I.R. Iran joint survey between Chabahar and Bandar Abbas.

Recommendation 7. The current level of DSA in both countries should be reduced by 10 percent just for the joint survey in 2015 and 2016.

Recommendation 8. The level of DSA for the joint survey should be reviewed at the next session and adjusted if necessary.

Recommendation 9. One Iranian locust officer should join a survey to be carried out by the Omani locust unit on the northern (Batinah) coast of Oman during the spring of 2015 or 2016. The usefulness of this activity and its results should be reviewed at the next session of the Commission.

#### Information and reporting

- 34. The Executive Secretary reviewed the quality and timeliness of reporting to the Desert Locust Information Service (DLIS) at FAO Headquarters during 2013-14 (Annex 4). It was noted that all frontline countries were sending high quality reports on time in both years.
- 35. Frontline countries were reminded to report at least once per month and to send RAMSES data with a brief summary and interpretation within 5 days of the end of surveys, rather than waiting until the end of the month. During control campaigns and outbreaks, countries should increase the frequency of reporting to two times per week. It is imperative that extra efforts are made to ensure that control totals reported in RAMSES, situation reports and monthly bulletins match and are the same.
- 36. Delegates discussed the importance of the annual CRC/SWAC Desert Locust information officer (DLIO) workshops held in Cairo. The workshops are the primary means to keep national locust information officers constantly updated in the use of new technologies, refresh their knowledge and provide them with advanced training. In this way, the national locust information officers will be able to prepare high quality bulletins and provide the best possible advice to locust heads.
- 37. The Executive Secretary agreed that it was acceptable for countries to use the new SWAC logo on their fortnightly or monthly locust bulletins if they wish.
- 38. It was clarified that only one locust information officer could be trained at a time in the 11-month training programme at DLIS because of time and workload constraints of the Senior Locust Forecasting Officer and due to insufficient funds allocated from the Desert Locust Control Committee (DLCC) Trust Fund. Therefore, the rotation of one participant from each region will remain in place.

Recommendation 10. The CRC/SWAC Desert Locust information officer workshops should continue on an annual basis and two designated national information officers should participate from each of the frontline countries.

Recommendation 11. The designated national locust information officer from Pakistan should participate in the 11-month training at DLIS starting in December 2015.

#### **New technologies**

39. The Executive Secretary provided feedback on the usage of eLocust2 and RAMSES during 2013-14 (Annex 5). eLocust2 was used by the frontline countries to send more than 24,000 messages of which two-thirds were sent by India alone due to its continual monitoring of locust breeding areas throughout the year.

- 40. It was noted approximately USD 15 000 per year was spent on eLocust2 costs. Between 77-94% of this amount was for activation and monthly subscription fees. To reduce this amount, countries were encouraged to deactivate those units that are not expected to be used for six months or more. It was suggested that a RAMSESv4 plug-in could be developed to help manage eLocust3 units better.
- 41. The new eLocust3 was presented to delegates and it was explained that as eLocust2 will be decommissioned on 31 December 2014, all countries will need to use eLocust3 and RAMSESv4 starting on 1 January 2015 (Annex 6). Each frontline country will receive the same number of eLocust3 units to replace existing eLocust2 units. So far, India has received eLocust3 but I.R. Iran and Pakistan did not due to a lack of funds in the Trust Fund. The Executive Secretary will work with the frontline countries to ensure a smooth transition from eLocust2 to eLocust3 and from RAMSESv3 to RAMSESv4.

Recommendation 12. I.R. Iran and Pakistan are encouraged to deactivate eLocust3 units after the spring and summer (Pakistan only) season when units are not expected to be used for six months or more.

Recommendation 13. eLocust3 units should be dispatched to I.R. Iran and Pakistan as soon as possible and time for use during spring surveys.

#### **Contingency plans**

- 42. The four member countries have completed the first drafts of their contingency plans for outbreaks (in frontline countries) and invasion (Afghanistan) after attending a SWAC workshop (Tehran, October 2013) and several draft revisions organized under the leadership of the Executive Secretary.
- 43. It was **agreed** that the current drafts require further refining to include all aspects and additional details before they can be considered completed and finalized.
- 44. A step-by-step approach should continue to be implemented. Hence, the responsible individual from each member country and the Executive Secretary should participate in an interregional workshop in 2015 to further refine the outbreak/invasion contingency plans. Once these are finalized, then work should commence on drafting a contingency plan for an upsurge.

Recommendation 14. The individual who is responsible for national locust activities and for related contingency planning in each member country and the Executive Secretary should participate in a CRC Contingency Planning Workshop in Egypt (February 2015).

Recommendation 15. The possibility of incorporating an electronic inventory system as a tool for contingency planning and maintaining updated inventories should be explored.

Recommendation 16. A final version of the outbreak/invasion contingency plan should be ready for each country by the end of 2015 and submitted to the Executive Secretary for final approval.

Recommendation 17. A workshop should be organized in 2016 to draft a first version of an upsurge contingency plan, attended by the person responsible for national locust activities and for related contingency planning in each member country.

#### Increased use of biopesticides

- 45. The Executive Secretary, assisted by the AGPMM Team Leader and the CRC Executive Secretary reiterated the usefulness and importance of using biopesticides as a supplement, rather than a substitute, for chemical pesticides especially in environmentally sensitive areas such as pastures with grazing livestock, in national parks, near water bodies or inhabited areas. Member countries were encouraged to incorporate biopesticides as one of the tools used in Desert Locust management rather than relying solely on chemical pesticides.
- 46. The delegate from Afghanistan presented results of testing *Metarhizium* and Insect Growth Regulators (IGRs) in 2014 against Moroccan Locust. Good results were achieved from both after 9 and 7 days, respectively. It was noted that there are cumulative effects of *Metarhizium* and it works well under different climates. IGRs worked well against first to third instar hoppers and persisted for about 20 days. Diflubenzuron (IGR) and *Metarhizium* have been registered in Afghanistan since 2004 and 2014 respectively.

- 47. A lively discussion ensued regarding the appropriateness of biopesticides during outbreaks and concern was expressed in the relatively long time it takes to kill locusts compared to chemical pesticides. In the end, it was **agreed** that biopesticides are more appropriate for preventive rather than outbreak control.
- 48. Delegates from the frontline countries confirmed that biopesticides were not registered yet in their countries for Desert Locust control.

Recommendation 18. Frontline countries should facilitate registration of *Metarhizium* and IGRs in their countries for Desert Locust control, and refer to the 10<sup>th</sup> report of the Pesticide Referee Group.

#### Ways and means of strengthening the Commission

#### Improved management of the Trust Fund

- 49. The Executive Secretary informed delegates that the balance of the Trust Fund was negative for three month, May to July, in 2014 as a result of non-payment of annual contributions. Consequently, the unusual step of suspending all Commission activities had to be taken. Eventually, the balance returned to positive after contributions were received from India and Afghanistan in the autumn, and some of the Commission activities could resume.
- 50. As a result of this incident, the Executive Secretary sought advice from the delegates concerning the need to establish guidelines, rules or procedures on the use of limited Trust Funds.
- 51. The delegate from Pakistan **agreed** that the national ToT workshop could remain suspended until contributions from his country were received.
- 52. It was noted that when a country became a member of the Commission, they accepted the related financial obligations. When a country does not pay its annual contribution, it does not indicate an unwillingness to pay, only that it is facing difficulties in making the payment.
- 53. After a thorough discussion, the delegates **agreed** that in case the balance of the Trust Fund becomes dangerously low, priority should be given to those important activities that impact the region as a whole, regardless if contributions are received from the concerned countries; for example, the dispatch of eLocust3 units to I.R. Iran and Pakistan. Lower priority should be given to those activities that only affect a single country such as training, procurement and translation, especially if contributions have not been received from that country.

Recommendation 19. If payments are not made under some compelling circumstances, then the Commission should do its best to help the member country and provide some support.

Recommendation 20. In case the Trust Fund balance becomes dangerously low, the Executive Secretary should suspend all non-essential activities but maintain those important activities that impact the region as a whole such as maintaining the locust early warning system.

#### **Revision of member country contributions**

- 54. The delegates reaffirmed the importance of increasing the annual member country contributions since the level of contributions has not changed in 50 years, general costs have increased substantially over the years and there are an increased number of activities being carried out by the Commission.
- 55. After substantial discussion of the need and benefits of increasing the annual contributions, and in line with the recommendation made at the 28<sup>th</sup> session, the delegates **agreed** to increase annual member country contributions by 50 percent. Sufficient documentation justifying this increase, including the benefit of SWAC to member countries and the threat that Desert Locust pose to each country, will be required in order to convince national authorities to accept this proposal.
- 56. The delegates **agreed** that the 50 percent increase is non-negotiable and must be respected by all countries in order to be fair. This should be clearly communicated to government authorities when the request for the increase is made.

Recommendation 21. The member countries reaffirmed the need and the importance to increase the level of annual contributions as these have not changed since the establishment of the Commission fifty years ago while there has been a substantial increase in costs and Commission activities.

Recommendation 22. The annual member country contributions to the SWAC Trust Fund should be increased by 50 percent.

Recommendation 23. The Executive Secretary should send an official letter to member countries requesting the increase of annual contributions to the SWAC Trust Fund by 50 percent and include the necessary documentation and justification.

#### **Recovery of current arrears**

- 57. The delegates discussed at length the importance of paying the arrears given the current financial situation of the Trust Fund. The governments of I.R. Iran and Pakistan are encouraged to take the necessary action to meet their financial obligations to the Commission in a timely manner.
- 58. It was further discussed to find a solution regarding the large arrears of I.R. Iran that would be beneficial to both the country and the Commission. In this manner, the concept of reducing a portion of the arrears if the remaining part is paid on a scheduled basis was considered. This mechanism has been used successfully in CRC and in the DLCC.

Recommendation 24. If I.R. Iran pays 50 percent of its arrears within four years, then the remaining 50 percent will be waived.

Recommendation 25. The Executive Secretary should inform the relevant units in FAO concerning the arrangement for payment of the Iranian arrears.

#### Establishment of a financing system / emergency fund

- 59. The Executive Secretary gave an overview of the financing system mechanism that was presented at a special meeting held in Rome (March 2014) and attended by two representatives from SWAC, Mr. Mehdi Ghaemain (I.R. Iran) and Mr. Ram Asre (India). The objective is to ensure that locust-affected countries have adequate access to all potential financial systems or instruments when faced with increase locust infestations during outbreaks, upsurges and plagues so as to be able to conduct the necessary control operations. The financial systems should be incorporated into the national contingency plans of each country.
- 60. The CRC Executive Secretary presented a brief summary and results of the discussions on this topic at the recent 29<sup>th</sup> CRC session. As member country contributions were increased, a portion of the additional funds will be incorporated into a CRC regional emergency fund to be used based on certain criteria and requirements. A road map was developed that contains actions to be taken in the next biennium concerning financial systems in each country and the region.
- 61. All member countries should finance survey and control operations during recessions and outbreaks and, if necessary, establish a separate specific budget within the Plant Protection Departments. During upsurges and plagues, additional funds will be required from national, regional and international financial systems. In India, there is a specific budget allocated to the Locust Warning Organization. In I.R. Iran, there is a centralized budget at PPO in Tehran and provincial budgets for the Agriculture Offices in those provinces affected by Desert Locust. In Pakistan, locust operations are funded from a centralized budget in the Plant Protection Department. In Afghanistan, there is an annual budget for plant protection activities including locusts.
- 62. National emergency funds exist in all four member countries. In India, there are a number of financial systems at various national levels that can be accessed during locust emergencies. In I.R. Iran, there is a very large emergency fund for natural disasters, including locusts, for provinces, and the provincial governor has additional funds at his disposal. In Afghanistan, there is a national emergency fund.
- 63. From a lengthy discussion, it was concluded that each member country in SWAC has a sufficient national budget and resources to carry out survey and control operations during recessions and outbreaks.

  Furthermore, there are sufficient national emergency funds as financial systems that can be utilized once national budgets have been exhausted during locust outbreaks, upsurges and plagues.

64. At the international level, there are three primary instruments that are available: (a) UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), (b) UN Special Fund for Emergency and Rehabilitation Activities (SFERA) and (c) an FAO appeal to the international donor community.

Recommendation 26. Existing financial instruments in member countries should be incorporated into the national contingency plans.

#### Review of 28<sup>th</sup> Session recommendations and progress made

- 65. The delegates reviewed progress made on the 77 recommendations made at the 28<sup>th</sup> session (Annex 7). It was noted that 62% (48/77) of the recommendations were implemented, 18% (14/77) partially implemented and 17% (13/77) not implemented. India implemented 75% of its recommendations, Pakistan 67%, FAO and the Executive Secretary 61%, and I.R. Iran 58%.
- 66. The CRC Executive Secretary stated that national ToT workshops are more useful than international Master Trainer workshops because more master trainers can be selected and the cost is lower. The national master trainer assisted by either a master trainer in the region or a suitable expert conducts the workshops.

  Consequently, the delegates **agreed** that the national ToT approach is solid and desirable.
- 67. There remains a need to provide funds for the translation of the Desert Locust Master Trainer Manual (DLMTM) in Pakistan. Funds are also required for printing the DLMTM and the SOP.
- 68. Afghani locust officers should be trained under the FAO Caucasus and Central Asia (CCA) project rather than using SWAC trust funds.
- 69. I.R. Iran provided the translation of the DLMTM and SOPs in Persian to the delegate of Afghanistan at this session.
- 70. Oman participated in the 2013 joint survey but an Iranian locust officer could not join the Oman survey because he did not receive authorization from his government. Authorization has been requested from the Government of I.R. Iran to allow an Iranian survey officer to join the Omani survey in 2015.
- 71. After the Iranian revolution, the new government asked national organizations to resubmit their membership in international commissions and committees. PPO submitted their request for SWAC but not for DLCC. According to the Government, I.R. Iran could not rejoin the DLCC because it requires evidence of its previous membership.
- 72. The mandate and role of the DLCC were clarified. This information is available on Locust Watch website.
- 73. It was decided that a number of recommendations, some of which were updated, should be carried over or continued during the next biennium.

Recommendation 27. The Pakistani and Iranian Master Trainers, in collaboration with the Executive Secretary, should organize a national Training of Trainers (ToT) workshop in their countries to select the best participants as potential Master Trainers to be trained further by FAO.

Recommendation 28. Member countries should provide brief descriptions, reports and photos of their training and other field activities to the Executive Secretary for uploading to the SWAC website.

Recommendation 29. Pakistan should prepare a project to strengthen its national locust capacity, and submit it to the Executive Secretary for donor consideration.

Recommendation 30. Pakistan should complete the translation of the FAO Desert Locust Master Trainer Manual, and print and distribute this and the FAO Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) without further delay.

Recommendation 31. The Executive Secretary should check with the FAO Legal Office to obtain evidence of Iranian membership to the DLCC so that I.R. Iran can rejoin DLCC.

Recommendation 32. FAO should inform the Executive Secretary when the annual Call of Funds is issued so that the Secretary can inform the FAO Representation and the relevant locust authorities in each country.

Recommendation 33. The Member Countries reaffirmed and reiterated the important and critical role played by DLIS in early warning as the basis for locust preventive control and, therefore, insisted that FAO continue to

fund its operation and services. In the case of budget constraints and as a last resort, the Commission would consider contributing to some part of the operating costs of DLIS.

#### **Accounts for 2012-2014**

- 74. The Executive Secretary presented the accounts for 2013-2014 according to FAO accounting codes (Annex 8) and SWAC activities (Annex 9). Explanations were given on the overall financial situation as well as detailed expenditures. The financial expenditures in 2013 were USD 110 403 and thus far in 2014, USD 47 739. The total expenditures for 2013-2014 was USD 158 142 compared to a budget of USD 224 100 plus support costs that was approved at the 28<sup>th</sup> session.
- 75. Annex 9 shows that more annual contributions were received from member countries in 2013 (USD 79 750) compared to 2014 (USD 29 234). Contributions received in 2013-2014 were USD 108 984.
- 76. It was noted that there was an accounting error in that monthly invoices for eLocust2 for all countries were incorrectly charged against the SWAC Trust Fund between November 2013 and June 2014; whereas, each of the three regional locust commission trust funds should have been charged for the respective amount that was consumed by member countries in each region in each month.
- 77. Considering the contributions that were received in 2013-2014 and the expenditures for the same period, the account was overspent by USD 49 158. Consequently, the balance of the Trust Fund fell below zero between May and July 2014. The current balance of the Trust Fund as of 5 December 2014 is USD 19 474 with an additional USD 17 300 under recuperation after an overcharge associated with eLocust2 monthly invoices. This should bring the total unallocated funds at present to USD 36 774.
- 78. The delegate from Pakistan stated that there might be a discrepancy concerning annual contributions paid by his country.
- 79. The delegate from I.R. Iran stated that the PPO received an official note from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs that the contribution for 2014 will be paid by end of December 2014 (USD 10 000) and in February 2015 (USD 15 000). Furthermore, the new government is trying to reduce its arrears as soon as possible as a means of improved collaboration with international organizations.

Recommendation 34. FAO should take more care and ensure that monthly eLocust charges are applied correctly to each region.

Recommendation 35. Pakistan should provide proof of payments to FAO in case of annual contribution discrepancies so that action can be taken to readjust the arrears.

Recommendation 36. Member countries should inform the Executive Secretary when the request is submitted to their government.

Recommendation 37. FAO's financial management system should be modified to allow reporting of expenditures by activity rather than FAO accounting code.

#### Work Plan for 2015-2016

80. Member Countries identified their priorities for expenditures in 2015-2016 and, after substantial discussion, a list of standard, carry-over (from the 2012-2014 work plan) and new items was **agreed** on for a total expenditure of about USD 179 600 plus support costs (Annex 11):

#### (a) Standard expenditures

**IRN/PAK Joint Survey.** This includes a reduction in DSA by 10 percent, the cost of air travel to allow the locust head and team leader to participate in the final meeting in Tehran (2015) and Karachi (2016), and the inclusion of one locust officer from India (2015) and Afghanistan (2016) in the portion of the Iranian joint survey between Chabahar and Bandar Abbas.

<u>Session travel and GOE</u>. The Trust Fund will support the participation of the person responsible for the national locust programme in each member country at the 30<sup>th</sup> session of SWAC.

<u>eLocust3 transmission</u>. The Trust Fund will cover the costs associated with activation and monthly data transmission and subscriptions for eLocust3 in the three frontline countries.

<u>National training</u>. The Trust Fund will supplement national training workshops upon request by the member country that includes a detailed budget.

<u>Locust Information Officer workshop</u>. The Trust Fund will support the participation of two designated national locust information officers from the three frontline countries who use RAMSESv4 on a regular basis at an annual CRC/SWAC workshop.

<u>DLCC</u>. The Trust Fund will support the participation of one person in each member country who is responsible for the national locust programme at the 41<sup>st</sup> session of the DLCC to be held in 2015-2016.

<u>New technology support</u>. Technical support for updating RAMSESv4 functionality and other technologies.

(b) Carry-over expenditures from the 2013-2014 work plan

<u>Desert Locust Master Trainer Manual (DLMTM) and Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)</u>. This covers the cost of printing the DLMTM and SOP in Pakistan. Both documents should be distributed without further delay.

**National ToT.** In collaboration with the Executive Secretary, the nationally designated Master Trainer(s) should conduct a workshop to train 10-16 potential trainers in Pakistan.

#### (c) New expenditures

<u>CRC contingency planning workshop.</u> An inter-regional workshop will be organized in Hurghada, Egypt on 15-19 February 2015; one participant responsible for the national locust programme and related contingency planning from each SWAC Member Country will be invited.

<u>Iran survey exchange in Oman</u>. The Trust Fund will cover the cost of one Iranian locust officer to join an Omani national survey to be carried out on the northern (Batinah) coast of Oman during the spring breeding period in either 2015 or 2016. The cost of the actual survey will be covered by Oman.

<u>National ToT</u>. In collaboration with the Executive Secretary, the nationally designated Master Trainer(s) should conduct a workshop to train 10-16 potential trainers in I.R. Iran.

<u>Computer equipment</u>. One laptop, printer, scanner and digital camera should be procured for the Plant Protection Department in Afghanistan to be used for locust-related issues.

**Regional contingency planning workshop.** A regional workshop will be organized for formulating the first draft of an upsurge contingency plan for each member country. The person responsible in each member country for the national locust programme and related contingency planning will be invited.

81. The budget for the Trust Fund in 2015-2016 according to the expenditures listed above is shown in Annex 12. It is based on the presumption that member countries will pay their annual contributions on time in 2015 and 2016, and it fully utilizes the current estimated balance.

#### **Any Other Business**

- 82. The delegates discussed the issue of including additional countries in the membership of the Commission, specifically Caucuses and Central Asian (CCA) countries that are affected by the Moroccan Locust. It was agreed that it would be better not to include these countries at this time. This reaffirms decisions and recommendations made at previous sessions of the Commission.
- 83. The delegate of Afghanistan reminded the session that several outstanding recommendations concerning his country were not carried over at the 28<sup>th</sup> session. This was because Afghanistan did not attend the 28<sup>th</sup> session. Nevertheless, he expressed the importance of these recommendations.
- 84. In the discussion that followed, it was **agreed** that one laptop, printer, scanner and digital camera should be procured for the Plant Protection Department in Kabul and to be used for locust-related matters. However,

it was not possible to consider a M.Sc. fellowship due to a lack of funds in the Trust Fund. Furthermore, the next session should review and discuss carefully the practice of funding fellowships, given the relatively low annual budget of the Commission.

Recommendation 38. One laptop, printer, scanner and digital camera should be procured for the Plant Protection Department in Afghanistan to be used for locust-related matters.

#### **Date and Place of the Next Session**

85. The Executive Secretary explained that, according to tradition, session venues were rotated amongst the member countries. The delegate from Afghanistan said that his country would be pleased to host the 30<sup>th</sup> session, subject to approval being obtained from his Government. Alternatively, if for some reason this was not possible, the delegate from Pakistan agreed that the session could be hosted in his country.

#### **Adoption of the Report**

86. The Report, with the agreed amendments, was adopted unanimously with acclaim.

#### Closure of the Meeting

- 87. The Chairman, Dr. Mohammad Ali Baghestani, Director, Plant Protection Organization, Government of I.R. Iran, thanked the member country delegates for their active participation that led to fruitful and constructive discussions. He acknowledged the participation of FAO staff and the Executive Secretary's tireless efforts throughout the Session. He felt that the discussions as well as the session itself will foster and strengthen ties, collaboration and communications between the member countries that will further strengthen the Commission. He wished all participants a safe journey back to their homes.
- 88. Mr. Keith Cressman, the Executive Secretary, expressed his deep gratitude to the Government of I.R. Iran for hosting the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and the 29<sup>th</sup> session and to all colleagues in the PPO and other Government departments for their efforts in the good arrangements that led to the success of both events. He thanked the delegates and observers for their frank and useful contributions during the discussions that, at times were challenging and difficult. He appreciated the patience and the willingness of the delegates to find meaningful and sensible solutions and to take the necessary decisions that will help to ensure the future success of the Commission. He encouraged everyone to implement the recommendations fully and on time before the 30<sup>th</sup> session.
- 89. The delegate of Pakistan, Mr. Azam Khan, on behalf of the delegates of the three countries thanked the Government of I.R. Iran for hosting the 29<sup>th</sup> session and the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of the Commission, and for the hospitality and excellent arrangements made during their stay.

#### **Condolences**

- 90. A moment of silence was observed to pay homage to the departed soul of Mr. A.K. Rai who passed away unexpectedly on 22 November 2014. Mr. Rai was the former Deputy Director of the Locust Warning Organization Field Headquarters in Jodhpur, India. In October 2013, he had participated in the regional workshop on contingency planning held in Tehran. The Commission would like to express their sincere condolences to his family and government.
- 91. It is with deep regret that the Commission learned of the death of Mr. Bashir Muhammad on 21 April 2014. Mr. Muhammad was an energetic and experienced locust field officer in Pakistan who worked for the Plant Protection Department for nearly 40 years until his retirement in 2006. He participated in the 1996 and 2002 Iran/Pakistan joint surveys as well as several Commission-sponsored activities. The Commission would like to express their sincere condolences to his family and government.

#### **Annex 1. List of Participants**

AFGHANISTAN Mirjan Hemat

Head, Emergency Pest Action Department Plant Protection and Quarantine Department Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock

Kabul

Mobile: +93 70 026 5038 Email: hemat009@yahoo.com

INDIA J.N. Thakur

Joint Director (Entomology)

Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine and Storage

Ministry of Agriculture

Faridabad

Tel: +91 129 2412149 Mobile: +91 9891904453 Email: jn.thakur@nic.in

I. R. IRAN Mohammad Ali Baghestani

Director, Plant Protection Organization

Ministry of Jihad-e-Agriculture No. 2, Yemen Avenue, Evin, Tehran

Tel: +98 21 2240 2712 Email: director@ppo.ir

PAKISTAN Azam Khan

Deputy Director (Locust)
Department of Plant Protection

Ministry of National Food Security & Research

Jinnah Avenue, Malir Halt, Karachi-27

Tel: +92 21 99248607 Mobile: +92 300 9215560

Email: plantprotection.gov@gmail.com

FAO Mamoon Al-Alawi

Executive Secretary, Central Region Commission (CRC)

Cairo, Egypt

Tel: +20 2 33316018 Mobile: +20 10 06697824

Email: Mamoon. Al Sarai Alalawi @ fao.org

Web: www.crc-empres.org

#### **Keith Cressman**

Senior Locust Forecast Officer / Secretary, SWAC Locust and Transboundary Plant Pests and Diseases Group, AGP

Rome, Italy

Tel: +39 06 57052420 Mobile: +39 349 4356980 Email: keith.cressman@fao.org Email: eclo@fao.org (reporting) Web: www.fao.org/ag/locusts

#### **Annie Monard**

Senior Officer / Team Leader Locust and Transboundary Plant Pests and Diseases Group, AGP

Rome, Italy

Tel: +39 06 57053311 Mobile: +39 340 8584414 Email: annie.monard@fao.org

#### Other participants from I.R. Iran

#### Mehdi Ghaemian

Assistant Director for Controlling General Pests Plant Protection Organization Ministry of Jihad-e-Agriculture No. 2, Yemen Avenue, Evin, Tehran Tel: +98 21 22403198

Mobile: +98 912 1028930

Email: mehdi.ghaemian@gmail.com

#### **Mahmoud Chalaki Zebardast**

Head of Locust and Rodent Control Group Plant Protection Organization Ministry of Jihad-e-Agriculture No. 2, Yemen Avenue, Evin, Tehran Tel: +98 21 23091412

Mobile: +98 912 3456227 Email: m\_Chalaki@yahoo.com

#### Ali Babali Fashki

Locust Information Officer Plant Protection Organization Ministry of Jihad-e-Agriculture No. 2, Yemen Avenue, Evin, Tehran

Tel: +98 21 23091404 Mobile: +98 912 6223448 Email: a.babalifashki@gmail.com

#### Annex 2. Agenda

#### 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration

- Recital from the Holy Quran
- Welcome remarks
- Inaugural address
- Historical perspectives
- Member country recognition
- FAO Commission for Controlling the Desert Locust in the Central Region (CRC) memento
- Presentation of the SWAC certificate, logo and Anniversary book to member countries
- Ceremonial cake gift

#### Opening of 29<sup>th</sup> Session

- Welcome
- Election of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the Commission
- Adoption of the agenda
- Election of the Drafting Committee

#### **Technical issues**

- 1. Desert Locust early warning
  - a. Situation (January 2013 December 2014) and forecast to summer 2015
  - b. Report on Joint-Border Surveys and Meetings in 2013 and 2014
  - c. Information and reporting
  - d. New technologies
- 2. Contingency plans
- 3. Increased use of biopesticides

#### **Administrative issues**

- 4. Ways and means of strengthening the Commission
  - a. Improved management of the Trust Fund
  - b. Revision of member country contributions
  - c. Recovery of current arrears
  - d. Establishment of a financing system / emergency fund
- 5. Review 28th Session recommendations and progress made
- 6. Accounts for 2012-2014
- 7. Work plan for 2015-2016

#### Closing

- Any other business
- Date and place of the next session
- Adoption of the report

#### Annex 3. Desert Locust situation (2013-2014) and forecast to summer 2015

#### Desert Locust situation in 2013-2014

The situation remained generally calm during the spring and summer breeding periods in 2013 and 2014. There was a small outbreak that developed in the spring breeding area of southeast Iran that was controlled in May and June 2014 by treating more than 34,000 ha by ground.

#### Spring 2013

Although low numbers of mature solitarious adults were seen copulating on the southeast coast near Chabahar in early April, subsequent hatching and hoppers were not detected. In mid-May, scattered mature solitarious adults laid eggs in the Jaz Murian Basin near Ghale Ganj at mid-month that hatched in June. Control teams treated 510 ha of medium-density solitarious hoppers.

In Pakistan, surveys were not undertaken until April. Scattered mature solitarious adults were present in the northern interior of the spring breeding area in Baluchistan near Nushki during May and isolated adults were seen on the coast near Pasni in June.

#### Summer 2013

In Pakistan, low numbers of mature solitarious adults first appeared in the summer breeding areas at the end of May on the Indo-Pakistan border southeast of Rahimyar Khan. More locusts appeared during July in Cholistan where isolated mature solitarious adults were seen at 31 places, mainly southeast of Rahimyar Khan along the Indian border where they persisted in August and September. A few isolated mature adults were seen west of Karachi near Uthal during July and August.

In India, isolated mature solitarious adults were seen at two places between Bikaner and the border of Pakistan in June. During July, scattered immature and mature solitarious adults were present in a few places of Rajasthan near the Pakistan border west of Bikaner and southwest of Sam where they persisted from August to November.

#### Spring 2014

In Iran, isolated mature solitarious adults were first seen in early March at one place along the coast east of Chabahar. In late March and early April, scattered mature solitarious and *transiens* adults at densities of up to 5 adults/m² were present on the southeast coast and laid eggs in areas of heavy rainfall near Jask. The eggs hatched during the second decade of April and low numbers of solitarious hoppers were seen. Control operations commenced on 21 April and continued until 11 May. During the first half of June, immature and mature adult groups formed on the southeast coast near Jask and Chabahar, and control operations resumed for a few days.

In the interior, scattered mature solitarious adults were seen laying eggs during mid-March and April in areas that received good rains in the Jaz Murian Basin near Ghale Ganj and Kahnuj. Hatching occurred during May and control operations were mounted against solitarious and *transiens* hoppers of all instars that formed a few small groups of up to 300 hoppers/bush until mid-June. The hopper fledging and scattered immature solitarious and *transiens* adults were reported. In the eastern part of Jaz Murian, scattered mature adults were seen in May near Bampur where immature and mature adult groups formed during the first half of June. The situation improved after mid-June as a result of the control operations and due to drying conditions.

#### Summer 2014

In India, isolated mature solitarious adults were first seen on 16 May at one location northwest of Jaisalmer. During August, isolated immature solitarious adults were present in northwest Rajasthan near the Indira Gandhi Canal between Bikaner and the Pakistan border where they persisted until early November and then declined thereafter.

In Pakistan, scattered mature solitarious adults were seen during July at 10 places in Cholistan near the Indian border in the Bahawalpur and Rahimyar Khan areas where they persisted during August and September.

In Iran, isolated mature solitarious adults were present near Chabahar in October.

#### **Control operations**

Ground teams treated 34,656 ha from 21 April to 12 June 2014 in coastal and interior spring breeding areas of southeast Iran.

	Period	HA treated
Coast		
Jask	21 Apr - 11 May	2,356
	4 June	1,000
Chabahar	8 June	2,000
Interior		
Jaz Murian	24-31 May	12,500
	2-12 June	13,000
Iranshahr	5-6 June	3,000
Total		34,656

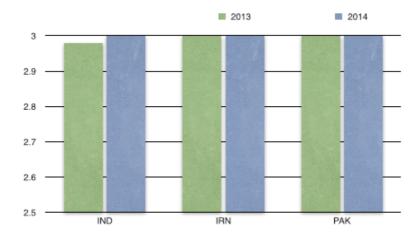
#### Forecast until summer 2015

Breeding will cause locust numbers to increase in southeast Iran and southwest Pakistan once temperatures increase in about March. Locusts are likely to appear first in coastal areas during February and March and then in interior areas during April and May. The scale, timing and location of spring breeding will depend on rainfall between January and May. Seasonal precipitation forecasts suggest that rainfall during spring 2015 will be normal.

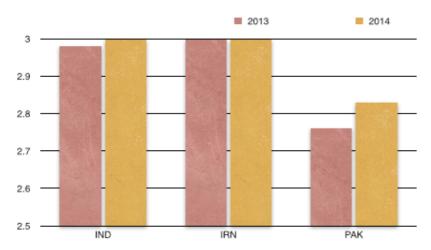
Therefore, unless unusually heavy rains occur or if there is a threat from the spring breeding areas in the interior of the Arabian Peninsula, only small-scale breeding is expected to take place in southeast Iran and southwest Pakistan during spring 2015 that will cause locust numbers to increase slightly in both countries. All efforts should be made to ensure that regular surveys are undertaken in the spring breeding areas.

Results from the annual Iran/Pakistan joint survey in April can be used for planning the summer campaign along both sides of the Indo-Pakistan border in 2015.

#### **Annex 4. Desert Locust reporting**

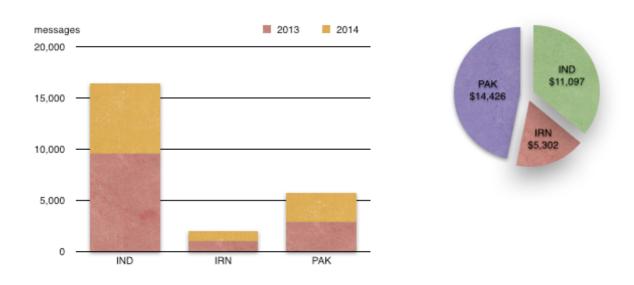


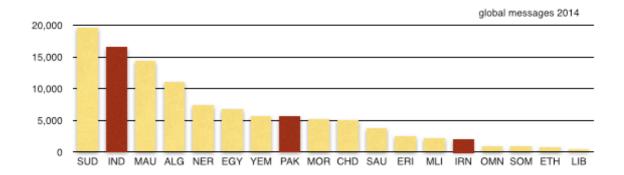
**Figure. 1.** Reporting quality 2013-2014 scored on a scale of 1 to 3 where 3 is the highest quality report that contains complete data and information such as RAMSES data with a brief summary and interpretation, or a well-written bulletin with maps. All countries maintained high quality report in 2013 and 2014.

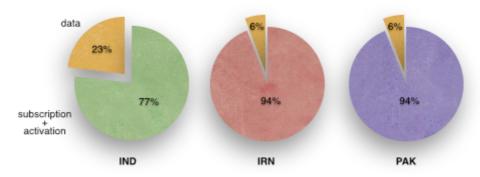


**Figure. 2.** Reporting timeliness 2013-2014 scored on a scale of 1 to 3 where 3 is a timely report received within five days of the end of the survey or control operation. India and I.R. Iran maintained timely reporting in 2013 and 2014 while Pakistan continued to improve.

Annex 5. Usage of eLocust2 and RAMSESv3 in 2013-2014







Some 24,000 messages were sent from eLocust2 units in India, Iran and Pakistan in 2013-2014 for a total cost of about USD 30 000. India sent the highest number of messages but at a lower cost than Pakistan, indicating a more efficient management of monthly subscription and data costs (23% and 77% respectively compared to 6% and 94% in Pakistan). India was also the second highest user of eLocust2 in all locust-affected countries.

#### Annex 6. eLocust3 and RAMSESv4

Starting on 1 January 2015, eLocust2 can no longer be used in any country because data transmission will cease due to decommissioning of the current Inmarsat satellite. Therefore, all countries must stop using eLocust2 on 1 January and start using eLocust3. DLIS has configured and deployed new eLocust3 units to all countries that will replace the current number of eLocust2 units. One national locust information officer from each country was trained as an eLocust3 Master Trainer at the CLCPRO/CRC/SWAC Inter-regional workshop for Desert Locust Information Officers that was held in Morocco in May 2014. The Master Trainers are expected to train all survey and control officers in their country on eLocust3 and provide troubleshooting and technical support when users have problems with the software, hardware and components.

eLocust3 offers many advantages over eLocust2. It uses a commercially available rugged 10-inch ToughPad tablet by Panasonic with a colour touch screen, camera, built-in GPS, WIFI, Bluetooth, rechargeable battery that lasts up to 12 hours, and USB storage. It can be recharged in the office or in the vehicle. There is only one cable that powers an external low-lying antenna for data transmission by satellite. The antenna has magnetic feet that can be attached to the roof of the vehicle or placed inside on the front dashboard. The latter position is advantageous in sensitive areas. The tablet connects to the antenna wirelessly using Bluetooth. The eLocust3 software is available in English, Arabic and French. Users can enter and transmit 50% more data than was possible with eLocust2, including additional details on the habitat, vegetation, locusts, control and safety. An unlimited number of photos can be taken that are automatically geo-referenced and saved on a micro USB SD memory card for easy transfer to the PC rather than increasing the cost of satellite transmission. eLocust3 includes a 3D mapping application, eLocust3D, which displays Landsat, road maps and the latest rainfall estimates and greenness map to help users navigate to green vegetation in the field without the need for an Internet connection. A digital reference library is also available in the three languages that contains the FAO Desert Locust Guidelines, the SOPs, user manuals for equipment, locust photos, training videos and many other references. One complete eLocust3 kit containing the tablet, antenna, chargers, Bluetooth antenna power cable, micro USB SD memory card, software and case costs approximately USD 2 500.

At the end of 2014, a completely rewritten and updated version of RAMSES called RAMSESv4 will be deployed to countries to replace the 15 year-old current RAMSES. Starting 1 January 2015, all new field data should only be entered into RAMSESv4. Most of this data will be imported automatically via eLocust3. Any teams that do not have eLocust3 can record data on an updated FAO Desert Locust Standard Survey/Control form but this will be difficult to send quickly to the national locust centre and it will take further time to enter the data manually into RAMSESv4. Therefore, all teams should use eLocust3. During January 2015, DLIS will convert existing RAMSESv3 databases in each country to the new RAMSESv4 format.

The three regional locust commissions contributed to a portion of the two-year development costs of RAMSESv4. The new version uses freely available open-source GIS and spatial database software to manage the new eLocust3 data as well as remote sensing imagery and historical data. It is more powerful, yet easier and quicker to use and to update. It will be available in English, Arabic and French. The initial release will only offer basic functionality. Additional summary, analytical and map-making functions will have to be provided through a series of updated plug-ins based on country requirements to be funded from the trust funds of the three regional locust commissions. National locust information officers received training on pre-release versions of RAMSESv4 at the inter-regional locust information officer workshops in 2013 and 2014. Training on the new operational version will be provided at regional locust information officer workshops in 2015 and 2016.

# Annex 7. Status of the 28<sup>th</sup> session recommendations

- (not implemented) + (implemented) -/+ (partial)

No.	Recommendation item	AFG	IND	olemented IRN	PAK	FAO	d) -/+ (partial)  Comments
1	India, I.R. Iran and Pakistan should discuss the decline						
-	in reports and quality with their locust information						
	officers and prepare bulletins based on the analysis of		+	+	+		
	RAMSES data in order to improve reporting.						
2	I.R. Iran should create a Gmail account for the locust						
	information office to ensure that reports and data are			+			
	sent regularly to FAO DLIS.						
3	The Executive Secretary should ensure that feedback						Implemented
	and suggested improvements are provided to					+	
	participants every year at the annual inter-regional					'	
	locust information officer workshop.						
4	All countries should take the necessary steps to						
	improve the content and design of their national locust		+	+	+		
	bulletins.						
5	Two extra days should be added to the CRC/SWAC						1 extra day added
	inter-regional locust information officer workshop in					-/+	as CRC did not
	2013 to allow sufficient training to be provided on					,	agree to 2 extra
	RAMSESv4 and eLocust3.		ļ				days
6a	In order to improve future joint surveys:			,	,		single JS was not
	The joint survey should continue every year, preferably			-/+	-/+		possible due to
	as a single joint survey			<u> </u>			insecurity
6b	Young, well-trained and informed survey officers			+	+		
	should participate			1			
6c	Experienced off-road drivers should participate, and						
	one driver should be equipped with a tool kit and			+	+		
	spare parts in order to make emergency repairs						
6d	Each country should organize a training course prior to						
ou	the joint survey			+	+		
6e	Team Leaders must be able to speak and write in						PAK TL?
00	English			+	+		174112.
6f	Four sets of walkie-talkies (4-5 km range) should be						
	provided to each country			+	+		
			ļ				
6g	The daily allowance should be increased by 25%			+	+		
6h	One locust officer from Afghanistan, India and Pakistan						in 2013 but not
	should join the joint survey in I.R. Iran; in this case, two			-/+			2014
	additional drivers will be required						
6i	In 2013, the joint survey should start on 10 April in						
	both countries rather than on 1 April			+	+		
	ladia and Delista about discours a the Isiat Dandan						
7	India and Pakistan should improve the Joint Border						
	Meeting report by combining the separate country locust situation and weather/ecology sections into a						
	single section, elaborating its contents by including a		_		_		
	more detailed analysis of the situation, and ensure		'		'		
	that the bulletin regularly reaches FAO DLIS in a timely						
	manner.						
8	The Executive Secretary should provide a general						Implemented
-	template for the Joint Border Meeting report to India					+	
	and Pakistan.						
9	Survey teams should try to spend about 20 minutes at						IRN: spend 20 min
	an individual survey location. In this way, a greater			,.			but did not
	number of locations could be surveyed in one day.		+	-/+	+		increase number of
							stops

No.	Recommendation item	AFG	IND	IRN	PAK	FAO	Comments
10	More research is required on survey methodologies for solitarious populations, including sequential sampling. The Field Station for Investigation on Locusts (FSIL, Bikaner, India) could look into this issue so that all Member Countries may benefit.		-/+				Competent authority was approached to fill vacant posts - this is in progress
11	The Executive Secretary should organize a regional workshop on contingency planning to be held in Tehran and attended by two persons from each Member Country.					+	Implemented (13-15/10/13)
12	Indian and Pakistani Master Trainers, in collaboration with the Executive Secretary, should organize a national Training of Trainers (ToT) workshop in their country to select the best participants (four in India, two in Pakistan) as potential Master Trainers to be trained further by FAO.		+		-	+	Implemented in India (27/10-1/11/14)
13	Two locust information officers from India, I.R. Iran and Pakistan should attend the annual inter-regional workshop in Cairo where, in 2013, they should be trained in RAMSESv4 as well as a Master Trainer for eLocust3.		+	+	+		Implemented
14	The national locust information officer in I.R. Iran should attend the 11-month training programme at FAO DLIS, followed by Pakistan and India.			+		+	Implemented (1/4/13-28/2/14)
15	SWAC and CRC should organize an inter-regional Master Trainers workshop for new Master Trainers.					-	no interest from CRC
16	Member countries should provide brief descriptions, reports and photos of their training and other field activities to the Executive Secretary for uploading to the SWAC website.		-	-	+	-/+	IND: noted that this recommendation is missing from the summary; however, this
							would be done in due course; IRN: no training
17	I.R. Iran and Pakistan should exchange bulletins and locust information by email with the LWO Field Headquarters in Jodhpur (lwo-jod-rj@nic.in).			+	+		
18	Master Trainers should continue to conduct 1-2 training courses per year in their country.		+	-	-		PAK: no funds IRN: Jan 2015
19	I.R. Iran should provide Afghanistan with Farsi translations of the overhead transparencies in the FAO Desert Locust Master Trainer Manual and the FAO Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).			+			will be given to AFG delegate at 29th session
20	Translations of the overhead transparencies in the FAO Desert Locust Master Trainer Manual and the FAO Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) should be completed and distributed without further delay in India and Pakistan.		+		-		PAK: no funds
21	The Codan HF radios should be installed without further delay in India.		+				
22	An addition to the 21 eLocust2 units presently available in India, an additional 14 eLocust3 units should be procured and provided, once they become available. The current number of eLocust2 units in all countries will be replaced by the same number of eLocust3 units.					+	Implemented (eLocust3)

No.	Recommendation item	AFG	IND	IRN	PAK	FAO	Comments
23	Iranian Master Trainer(s) should train two Afghani Master Trainers on Desert Locust and Moroccan Locust in Afghanistan in 2014, which might be cost-shared with FAO's Caucasus and Central Asia (CCA) programme.	-		-			IRN did not receive reply from AFG
24	A laptop and digital camera should be procured locally for India.					+	
25	As a means of strengthening inter-regional collaboration and information exchange, one locust officer from I.R. Iran should join a national survey in Oman during the spring while one Omani locust officer could join a portion of the annual joint survey in I.R. Iran. The funding for this activity should come from the national budgets of the respective countries.  SWAC Trust Funds must not be used for the			-		+	2013: no authorization 2014: no reply from OMN
27	Procurement of vehicles.  Pakistan should prepare a project to strengthen its national locust capacity, and submit it to the Executive Secretary for donor consideration.				-		
28	Whenever possible, FAO should issue invitations for Commission activities at least two months in advance to ensure adequate participation by Member Countries.					+	Implemented
29	The annual member contributions should be increased by 30-50%. The Executive Secretary should provide the necessary supporting documentation to Member Countries so they can study and discuss it with their relevant ministries, and report back to the 29th session in order to determine the next steps.	-/+	-/+	-/+	-/+	-/+	Documentation received late from Executive Secretary; to be taken up with the Governments now
30	Upon receipt of an official request from I.R. Iran, FAO should transfer the contributions from I.R. Iran that were attributed incorrectly to the DLCC trust fund back to the SWAC trust fund.			-		-	1978: DLCC membership was suspended by new Government so all funds paid since 1979 should go to SWAC; DLCC membership can only rejoin DLCC based on establishment document (does not exist - create)
31	All efforts should be made to reconcile the contributions of I.R. Iran and Pakistan and, whenever possible, make the necessary concessions to encourage both countries to pay their arrears.			-/+	-/+		PAK: no payments received 2013-14
32	FAO should inform the Executive Secretary when the annual Call of Funds is issued so that the Secretary can inform the FAO Representation and the relevant locust authorities in each country.					-/+	partially done in 2014
33	The Member Countries reaffirmed the important and critical role played by DLIS in early warning as the basis for locust preventive control and, therefore, insisted that FAO continue to fund its operation and services. In the case of budget constraints and as a last resort, the Commission would consider contributing to some part of the operating costs of DLIS.					-	FAO Regular Programme budget of DLIS was further reduced in 2014

No.	Recommendation item	AFG	IND	IRN	PAK	FAO	Comments
34	A book should be published on the history of SWAC for its 50th anniversary in 2014, and a celebratory event should be organized at the next session of the Commission.					+	Implemented; 200 copies
35	A logo should be designed for SWAC in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Commission.					+	Implemented

<sup>- (</sup>not implemented) + (implemented) -/+ (partial)

# Annex 8. SWAC TF accounts 2013-2014 – FAO accounting codes

# Statement of Accounts 2013 (MTF/RAS/001/MUL)

Account	Description	Cost US\$
5013	Consultants	
		0
	subtotal	0
5014	Contracts	25.25.4
	Novacom PO 306087 (PR 52375)	35,854
5004	subtotal	35,854
5021	Travel  TA 2001 Chapming (accounts to complete mounts)	150
	TA 3061 Ghaemian (accruals + carry forward)	150
	TA 3575 Haidari Mir Amanuddin (accruals + carry forward) TA 9019 Sharma Chandra Shekhar	257
		603
	TA 11322 Hemat Mirjan  TAs for SWAS/CRS DI Information Officers Workshop / Coire 22.25 April 2012)	603
	TAs for SWAC/CRC DL Information Officers Workshop (Cairo, 22-25 April 2013)	29,869
	TA 14006 Mehdi Ghaemian, April 2013  TAs for SWAC DL Contingency Planning Workshop (Tehran, 13-15 Oct 2013)	1,934 10,793
	Karachi IRN/PAK Joint Survey	5,306
	Pakistan Payment of Air Tickets May 2013	1,029
	subtotal	50,544
5023	Training	30,344
3023	rranning	0
	subtotal	0
5024	Expendable Equipment	
		0
	subtotal	0
5025	Non Expendable Equipment	
	Spazio PC PO 300678 - 16 sets of walkie-talkies	1,476
	Spazio PC PO 302071 - 9 external HDDs for SWAC	1,560
	subtotal	3,036
5028	General Operating Expenses	
	Contract 4601024 to cover the expenditures incurred for the SWAC DL Contingency	2,068
	Planning Workshop, Tehran	
	Department of Plant Protection, Karachi - IRN/PAK Joint Survey	6,000
	Insurance for POs 300148 (22 HDD), 300678 (16 walkie-talkies), 302071 (HDD)	6
	subtotal	8,074
5040	General Overhead Expenses	
	FAO Pouch and packing services	194
	subtotal	194
5029	Support Costs	
	5% on accounts 5024 and 5025; 13% on all other accounts	12,701
	subtotal	12,701
		448.125
	Total expenditures in 2013	110,403

# Statement of Accounts 2014 as of 30 November 2014 (MTF/RAS/001/MUL)

Account	Description	Cost US\$
5013	Consultants	
	ePPR 114533 Ghaemian Nov 14	1,171
	subtotal	1,171
5014	Contracts	
	Novacom PO 306087 accruals + carry forward	-219
	subtotal	-219
5021	Travel	
	TA 3061 Mehdi Ghaemian accruals + carry forward	-3
	TA 3575 Haidari Mir Amanuddin accruals + carry forward	-101
	TA 46674 Mehdi Ghaemian, March 2014	246
	TAs for the DL Information Officer Workshop (Agadir, 19-23 May 2014)	4,848
	TAs for the National DL Master ToT course (Jodhpur, India 27 Oct -1 Nov 2014)	3,596
	DSA for IRN/PAK Joint Survey – Iran, March 2014	11,285
	Bukhari Travels air tickets Pakistan, June 2014	981
	Payment against FBA Pakistan, March 2014	5,331
	Kuoni Business Travel India, May 2014	1,582
	subtotal	27,765
5023	Training	
	Cressman training India, Nov 14	978
	subtotal	978
5024	Expendable Equipment	
	Spazio PC PO 309455 16GB micro SD memory card USB reader	38
	Scorpions Computer Inc New Delhi contract 4401106 Cannon Digital Camera	605
	Ricci Arti Grafiche PO 312769 I4202/E - A celebration of 50 years	1,488
	Cressman, ToT training, India	355
	subtotal	2,486
5025	Non Expendable Equipment	
	Scorpions Computer Inc New Delhi contract 4401106 laser printer, laptop	1,381
	subtotal	1,381
5028	General Operating Expenses	
	FAO UN Commissary 92 (SWAC) FAO squared stickers March 14	86
	FBA Pakistan March 2014 IRN/PAK Joint Survey	6,029
	Cressman, ToT training, India	130
	subtotal	6,245
5040	General Overhead Expenses	
	FAO Pouch services	
	subtotal	3,073
5029	Support Costs	
	5% on accounts 5024 and 5025; 13% on all other accounts	
	subtotal	4,859
	Total expenditures in 2014	47,739

## Annex 9. SWAC TF accounts 2013-2014 – SWAC activities

Please refer to the work plan of the  $28^{th}$  session regarding each activity and its associated budget.

EXPENDITURES	Budget	Expended	Comments
Standard expenditures			
IRN/PAK Joint survey	24,000	22,666	
IRN/PAK Joint survey	30,000	28,742	
28th Session travel/op costs	7,000	3,230	
29th Session travel/op costs	14,000	?	in progress
eLocust2 transmission	36,000		Novacom
National training	12,000	0	no requests received
RAMSES/eLocust2 wkshop	18,000	23,909	Cairo 4/13, Agadir 5/14
41st DLCC	6,000	0	not undertaken
New technology support	9,000	5,028	IT and GIS support
subtotal	156,000	119,210	
Unimplemented (carry-over) expendit	ures		
eLocust3	21,000	0	from FAO HQ funds
DLMTM translation	2,500	0	not requested
SOP translation	1,000	0	not requested
DLMT AFG training (Iran)	5,000	0	not undertaken
Computers - laptop	1,500	1,380	
National ToT	10,000	5,060	only India done 10/14
subtotal	41,000	6,440	
New expenditures			
walkie-talkies set	1,600	1,476	
50th anniversary	5,000	?	in progress
MT inter-regional workshop	10,500	0	not undertaken
Contingency Planning workshop	10,000	12,114	Tehran 10/13
subtotal	27,100	13,590	
TOTALS	224,100	139,241	
Support			
Support costs (13%)	20,000	17,560	estimated 2013-14
Pouch	2,200	3,267	estimated 2013-14
subtotal	22,200	20,827	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	246,300	160,068	

Annex 10. SWAC TF member country contributions 2013-2014

Member	Outstanding	Contribution	Received	Outstanding
Governments	31/12/2011	due for 2012	by 31/12/2012	31/12/2012
Afghanistan	(630.00)	2,750.00	4,260.00	(2,140.00)
India	913.96	27,000.00	27,913.96	0.00
I.R. Iran	320,002.43	25,000.00	0.00	345,002.43
Pakistan	86,019.54	16,700.00	16,456.74	86,262.80
2012 total	406,305.93	71,450.00	48,630.70	429,125.23
Member	Outstanding	Contribution	Received	Outstanding
Governments	31/12/2012	due for 2013	by 31/12/2013	31/12/2013
Afghanistan	(2,140.00)	2,750.00	2,750.00	(2,140.00)
India	0.00	27,000.00	27,000.00	0.00
I.R. Iran	345,002.43	25,000.00	50,000.00	320,002.43
Pakistan	102,719.54	16,700.00	0.00	119,419.54
			$(4,990.00)^1$	
2013 total	445,581.97	71,450.00	74,760.00	437,281.97
Member	Outstanding	Contribution	Received	Outstanding
Governments	31/12/2013	due for 2014	by 5/12/2014	09/12/2014
Afghanistan	(2,140.00)	2,750.00	610.00	0.00
India	0.00	27,000.00	26,484.26	515.74
I.R. Iran	320,002.43	25,000.00	0.00	345,002.43
Pakistan	119,419.54	16,700.00	0.00	136,119.54
2014 total	437,281.97	71,450.00	27,094.26	481,637.71

<sup>1.</sup> adjustment to Afghanistan invoices of 2010 and 2011 figures in USD; parenthesis () indicate a credit

# Annex 11. SWAC TF work plan 2015-2016

TF912300 - MTF/RAS/001/MUL

Figures are in USD

EXPENDITURES	Unit cost	AFG	IND	IRN	PAK	\$AFG	\$IND	\$IRN	\$PAK	Total
Standard expenditures										
IRN/PAK Joint survey 2015			1	1	1	0	2,500	10,700	12,700	25,900
IRN/PAK Joint survey 2016		1		1	1	2,500	0	12,700	10,700	25,900
30th Session travel/op costs	1,500	1	1	1	1	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	6,000
eLocust3 transmission	5,000		2	2	2	0	10,000	10,000	10,000	30,000
National training	2,000		2	2	2	0	4,000	4,000	4,000	12,000
RAMSES/eLocust2 wkshop	2,400		4	4	4	0	9,600	9,600	9,600	28,800
41st DLCC	2,500	1	1	1	1	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	10,000
New technology support	3,000		1	1	1	0	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000
subtotal						6,500	30,600	43,300	41,300	147,600
Unimplemented (carry-over) expenditures										
50th Anniversary / 29th Session	3,500			1		0	0	3,500	0	3,500
DLMTM translation + printing	2,500				1	0	0	0	2,500	2,500
SOP printing	1,000				1	0	0	0	1,000	1,000
National ToT	5,000				1	0	0	0	5,000	5,000
subtotal						0	0	0	8,500	12,000
New expenditures										
CRC Contingency Planning workshop	1,500	1	1	1	1	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	6,000
IRN survey exchange in OMN	1,000			1		0	0	1,000	0	1,000
National ToT	5,000			1		0	0	5,000	0	5,000
Laptop, printer, camera, scanner	2,000	1				2,000	0	0	0	2,000
2016 Upsurge Contingency Plans workshop	1,500	1	1	1	1	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	6,000
subtotal						5,000	3,000	9,000	3,000	20,000
Support costs (13%)										
TOTAL						11,500	33,600	52,300	52,800	179,600

Annex 12. SWAC TF budget 2015-2016

FAO code	Item	Total (USD)
5013 / 5570	Consultants	9,000
5014 / 5650	Contracts	30,000
5660	Local contracted labour	500
5021 / 5900	Travel	89,600
5023 / 5920	Training	13,800
5024 / 6000	Expendable equipment	3,900
5050	Printing	3,500
5028 /6300	General operating expenses	29,300
	Total	179,600

5029 / 6130 Support costs