

REPORT

New Delhi, India
10-14 January 2005

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

Twenty-fourth Session



**Report of the
FAO Commission for Controlling the
Desert Locust in South-West Asia
Twenty-fourth Session**

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Participants of the 24th Session of the FAO Commission for Controlling the Desert Locust in South-West Asia (seated, left to right): Keith Cressman (FAO), Mohammed Arif Hosini (Afghanistan), Ali Azadeh Aliabadi (I.R. Iran), P.S. Chandurkar (India), Raashid Bashir Mazari (Pakistan), Clive Elliott (FAO), Ram Asre (India); (standing): Locust Warning Organization staff (India).

Summary of Recommendations and Agreements

The Member Countries:

- (a) India and Pakistan should try to improve the coverage of surveys during the summer, especially in the gap between Khaipur and Jaisalmer;
- (b) copies of monthly border meeting reports (India/Pakistan border) should be regularly sent to DLIS at FAO HQ;
- (c) should implement various measures to improve the early warning systems in their countries;
- (d) should prepare letters from their Government to the Director-General of FAO requesting the re-establishment of the Secretariat post;
- (e) that have stocks of obsolete pesticides should bring this to the attention of the appropriate office in Rome;
- (f) I.R. Iran and Pakistan should make several improvements to future Joint Surveys, commencing with the 2005 survey:
 - (i) the Directors of the Plant Protection Organization, I.R. Iran and the Plant Protection Department, Pakistan should organize and attend a meeting at the Mirjavah/Taftan border on 31 March to facilitate the preparation and undertaking of the Joint Survey with all participants;
 - (ii) the same Directors should meet with the team at the end of the survey (1 May) to discuss the results, problems and suggested improvements;
 - (iii) three survey officers and one assistant should be nominated to participate in the survey. Once all of the participants have completed a short training course, two of the three survey officers will be selected for the survey;
 - (iv) sufficient training in locust survey methodology and data collection, daily and final reporting, use of GPS, compass, eLocust, SPOT-VGT and communication equipment shall be provided to the survey participants in advance of the survey. It is suggested that one of the survey officers from the previous Joint Survey assists in providing the training to participants;
 - (v) those participants who do not speak English may need to attend an intensive short course;
 - (vi) I.R. Iran should nominate an Environmental Assistant who will be responsible for collecting rainfall data and taking digital photos during the survey; whereas, Pakistan will nominate a Maintenance Assistant who will provide support to the team during the whole survey;
 - (vii) the locust officers and assistants shall participate in the entire survey. They should not be replaced at the mid-way point;
 - (viii) all efforts should be made to survey the Great Sandy Desert in Pakistan between Panjgur and Nokkundi. This should be followed up by regular surveys in the area by the Plant Protection Department in Pakistan whenever there are indications that rainfall may have occurred in this important area;
 - (ix) the delegate from I.R. Iran will try to obtain authorization to use a Thuraya satellite phone during the portion of the survey that is conducted in their countries.
- (g) the FAO Desert Locust Master Trainer Manual and the Standard Operating Procedures should be translated into local languages in India and I.R. Iran.

The delegate from Afghanistan:

- (a) should ensure that the first annual contribution to the Commission is paid in 2006.

The delegate from India:

- (a) the country holding the Chairmanship (India) should designate one of its own staff as Hon. Secretary of the Commission, pending the appointment by FAO of a full-time Secretary within the Region. The Hon. Secretary will assist in distributing information to Member Countries obtained by the Chairman during visits undertaken on behalf of the Commission as well as help promote the Commission's activities.

The delegate from I.R. Iran:

- (a) should obtain permission for the use of HF radios and a satellite phone during locust survey and control operations.

The delegate from Pakistan:

- (a) should ensure that the geographic information system for the management of locust and environmental data, RAMSES, is being used by the Locust Information section in Karachi and that data export files are regularly sent to FAO DLIS with a brief interpretation.

The Secretariat (FAO):

- (a) should provide background information on the history of the Secretariat post to the Member Countries to help them in the preparation of letters from their Government to the Director-General of FAO;
- (b) should continue the dialogue with donors, including USAID, for assistance to strengthen national capacities in the Region;
- (c) should procure a Thuraya satellite phone with a pre-paid card for India, I.R. Iran and Pakistan. The phone will be used to improve logistics and human safety during the joint survey, starting in 2005, and to help organize India-Pakistan border meetings during the summer;
- (d) should procure HF radio equipment and eLocust2 (once it has been finalized) for India, I.R. Iran and Pakistan, and VHF walkie-talkies for I.R. Iran and Pakistan;
- (e) should organize a Training-of-Trainers course once the current Desert Locust emergency ends;
- (f) should procure a vehicle for I.R. Iran, Ulvamast sprayers and spare parts for India, and laptops for India and I.R. Iran;
- (g) should extend EMPRES to the Eastern Region.

Opening

1. The Session began with the presentation of bouquets of flowers to the Chief Guest Ms. Radha Singh, Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Government of India and to the other officials seated on the dais.
2. The outgoing Chairman of the FAO Commission for Controlling the Desert Locust in South-West Asia, Mr. Raashid Bashir Mazari (Pakistan) welcomed Ms. Radha Singh, Mr. A.K. Singh, Additional Secretary, the honourable delegates of the Commission's Member Countries, the FAO Representative and the FAO staff from Rome, and all the participants to the opening ceremony of the 24th Session. He invited Mr. Ashish Bahuguna, Joint-Secretary (Plant Protection) of the Ministry of Agriculture to say a few words.
3. Mr. Bahuguna added his welcome to participants. He referred to the importance of global and regional cooperation in combating the Desert Locust. He made mention of the regional role of the South-West Asia Commission and of the coordination executed by FAO's Locust Group in Rome. He said that although the locust situation in India was very calm, the emergency situation in West Africa was being followed very closely, in case locust swarms might move towards the South-West Asia region. India's Locust Warning Organisation was being strengthened with computer networking and email, but FAO's help was needed to update the skills of locust staff. Mr. Bahuguna said that he looked forward to hearing about the discussions of the Session and to reading what recommendations would be made.
4. Mr. Daniel Gustafson, FAO Representative, on behalf of the Director-General, welcomed the delegates of the Member Countries and warmly thanked the Government of India for hosting the 24th Session. He reminded participants that the Commission was a statutory body of FAO which had been established in 1963. Its mandate was to ensure that member countries: (a) maintain a permanent locust information and reporting service; (b) maintain an adequate permanent locust control service; (c) hold reserves of pesticides and application equipment; (d) support training, survey and research on locusts; (e) participate in the implementation of any common policy on preventive locust control.
5. Mr. Gustafson said that, despite the serious locust situation in West Africa, FAO at present evaluated the risk of locust swarms invading South-West Asia as very low. Nevertheless the situation should be watched carefully as it could change quickly. Furthermore advance preparations should be made so that if an emergency developed, it could be quickly contained. He said that the holding of the Commission Session at this time was opportune, allowing the Member Countries to discuss how best to cooperate and coordinate efforts in the region.
6. Mr. Clive Elliott, FAO Senior Officer of the Locust Group in Rome, added his appreciation of the Government of India's agreement to host the Session, following the decision to postpone the holding of the Session in Kabul, Afghanistan. He said that he wished that this Session was being held in happier circumstances after the terrible human and material losses caused by the tsunami in southern India and elsewhere. The Desert Locust was another form of natural disaster, albeit on a smaller scale. During the last 14 months, 18 countries in Africa and the Middle East had carried out locust control operations, with more than 12 million hectares sprayed at a cost of over US\$ 200 million.

7. Mr. Elliott said that in response to the locust emergency, FAO had re-establish the Emergency Centre for Locust Operations (ECLLO) and had expanded its staff. The first Alert on the Desert Locust had been issued on 17 October 2003, and the first Appeal for funds (US\$ 9 million) to help the affected countries had been made in February 2004. The international donor community had been slow to respond, as a result of which each month or two the Appeal had been increased until it reached US\$ 100 million in August 2004. In the end, the donors had responded well and FAO had received US\$ 70 million, bilateral assistance had made up the difference, and the World Bank was coming in with substantial longer term funding. He said that in the worst case scenario, locust swarms could reach South-West Asia in the Baluchistan area of I.R. Iran and Pakistan, during the period of March to May 2005. From there they could reach the India/Pakistan border by the summer of 2005. However, unless there were new findings of large scale breeding around the Red Sea, this worst case scenario presented a very low risk. The Commission Session presented a good opportunity to discuss the situation in detail and to agree on what preparations were necessary.
8. The outgoing Chairman, Mr. Mazari, expressed his appreciation of the efforts made by the Member Countries to strengthen their capacity in the face of a possible future threat. He expressed his thanks to the Government of India for hosting the Session and to FAO for providing the Secretariat. On behalf of the Plant Protection Department of the Government of Pakistan, he presented gifts to Ms. Radha Singh and to Mr. Clive Elliott in acknowledgement of their roles.
9. The Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture of India, Ms. Radha Singh, officially welcomed the distinguished delegates of Afghanistan, I.R. Iran and Pakistan, and the FAO staff, and wished that their visit and discussions would be purposeful and productive. She said that locusts were a perennial threat to agricultural production in India, and the Government had a long tradition of locust management stretching back to the 1930s. The Locust Warning Organisation (LWO) itself was established in 1939 and it covers a potential infestation area of 200,000 km² in Rajasthan, Gujarat and Haryana. She said that the LWO has been successful over the years in locust control, with the help of neighbouring countries, some donors and FAO.
10. The Secretary said that she was confident that the Session would facilitate the preparation of a concerted and coordinated strategy to meet a possible locust attack in the region. She mentioned the need to find alternatives to the traditional organophosphate chemicals and to move towards using biopesticides instead. Other advanced technologies should also be employed to a maximum level, such as remote sensing. In the context of improving the work of the Commission to make it more responsive and effective, she said that India felt that the Secretariat of the Commission should be located within the region and that the EMPRES Programme should also be developed there.
11. The Secretary wished successful debates and discussions over the next days, and officially inaugurated the 24th Session of the Commission.
12. Mr. P.S. Chandurkar, Plant Protection Adviser to the Government of India and Director of Locust Control, proposed a Vote of Thanks to all the participants, representing the Government of India, the Commission's Member Countries and their Embassies, the FAO, and the Press. He also acknowledged all the efforts and hard work done by his colleagues in the Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine and Storage, and in the Locust Warning Organisation in organizing the Session.

Elections

13. The Member Countries elected India as Chairman of the current Session and Afghanistan as Vice-Chairman. The elections were accepted with acclaim. A list of participants is presented in Annex 1.
14. The Chairman presented a draft agenda that was adopted without changes (Annex 2).
15. A Drafting Committee composed of the Secretariat was elected.

Desert Locust Situation: December 2002 – January 2005, and Outlook for the Spring and Summer of 2005

16. The working paper was presented and showed that the Desert Locust situation had been calm in the Eastern Region from December 2002 to January 2005 (Annex 3). Joint-Border surveys were conducted by I.R. Iran and Pakistan in the spring breeding areas in Baluchistan of both countries. In 2003, isolated locusts were seen at 62/185 survey stops and at 48/335 stops in 2004. In both cases, the locusts were only present in Pakistan, mainly in coastal areas. Isolated breeding was detected in March, 2004 but locust numbers did not increase because of poor rainfall. During the summer period, good monsoon rains fell along the Indo-Pakistan border in both years. Surveys were conducted on both sides of the border by national teams in Pakistan and India. In 2003, isolated adults were seen at 223/761 stops in 2003 and at 90/2788 stops in 2004. Although small-scale breeding occurred in the Cholistan and Tharparkar deserts in Pakistan during September 2003, locust numbers did not increase significantly. In response to the increased locust activity in other regions in 2004, additional surveys were undertaken in southwest I.R. Iran in the spring and four times the number of surveys were carried out in Rajasthan, India during the summer.
17. The outlook for Region during the spring and summer of 2005 is good. Locust populations are expected to remain low in the spring and summer breeding areas within the region unless additional locusts arrive from the Central Region. This would most likely occur in about March and April but only if unusually heavy rains fall along the Red Sea in the next few weeks and numerous swarms were to form. At present, this risk is assessed as very low because only few areas of infestation are present in the winter breeding areas along the Red Sea. Nevertheless, it was stressed that surveys should continue to be carried out on a regular basis in the spring and summer breeding areas in the Eastern Region, and countries should keep themselves informed of the situation through the monthly FAO Desert Locust Bulletins and forecasts.
18. It was noted that substantial efforts were made by India to fill the gaps in surveys during the summer of 2001 and 2002 in Rajasthan, India following the remarks made in the 23rd Session on the large gaps in survey coverage. Nevertheless, it was **recommended** that India and Pakistan should try to improve even further the coverage of surveys during the summer, especially in the gap between Khaipur and Jaisalmer.

Review of the Desert Locust Survey and Control Activities carried out by the Member Countries during 2003-2004

19. Regular surveys were carried out in the spring breeding areas by I.R. Iran and Pakistan and in the summer breeding areas by Pakistan and India during 2003-2004. The I.R. Iran and Pakistan conducted a Joint-Border survey in both years in April. Monthly border meetings to exchange information on the current Desert Locust situation in the summer breeding areas were held on the Indo-Pakistan border from August to November 2004. It was not possible to hold similar meetings in 2003.
20. It was **recommended** that copies of the monthly border meeting reports should be regularly sent to the Desert Locust Information Service (DLIS) at FAO headquarters.

Review of the Recommendations of the Twenty-third Session and Progress Made

21. The Secretariat presented a working paper on this item. Several recommendations, which remained outstanding from the last Session, were discussed in detail:

Re-establishment of the Commission Secretariat post in the Region

22. Budget cuts at FAO have not allowed the creation of a new post to be considered. The Secretariat was again requested to provide background information on the post so that delegates can prepare letters from their governments to the Director-General requesting the re-establishment of the post. Member countries should also consider action at high government levels. In the meantime, it was **agreed** that the country holding the Chairmanship would designate one of his own staff as Hon. Secretary of the Commission, pending the appointment by FAO of a full-time Secretary within the Region. The Hon. Secretary will assist in distributing information to Member Countries obtained by the Chairman during visits undertaken on behalf of the Commission as well as help promote the Commission's activities.

Microlight trials

23. Due to the absence of appropriate locust infestations in the Region, microlight trials to detect hopper bands could not be undertaken. If appropriate locust infestations occurred, the delegates reiterated their interest in such trials.

RAMSES

24. Although the geographic information system (GIS) for the management of locust and environmental data, RAMSES, was installed in India, I.R. Iran and Pakistan, data export files had only been received by DLIS from I.R. Iran and India.

Modernization of communications

25. It was noted that the hoped for inputs from Australia which were put to the observer from Australia who had attended the 23rd Session, Mr. Graeme Hamilton, Director of the Australian Plague Locust Commission, that is, Codan HF radio equipment and a radio technician, had not materialized. It was suggested that contacts be continued with

Australia by the Secretariat and Commission Member Countries with the Australian embassies in their countries. Delegates expressed their interest in modernizing existing systems in India and Pakistan with the latest Codan equipment. The delegate from I.R. Iran reiterated his interest in establishing an HF radio system in locust breeding areas.

Obsolete pesticides

26. Member Countries reiterated that they have significant stocks of obsolete pesticides that require disposal. The Secretariat reminded participants of the high cost of incineration and the need for highly specialized equipment. Efforts should be made by Member Countries and the Secretariat to bring this issue to the attention of the appropriate office in Rome.

Donor Support for the Region

27. The Secretariat has been in regular contact with USAID regarding assistance to the region to strengthen national capacities, preferably under the framework of EMPRES, but so far with no result. It was agreed that the Secretariat should continue the dialogue with donors, including USAID, regarding this issue.

Review of the Results of the Joint-Border Surveys during the Spring Breeding Seasons of 2003 and 2004

28. The Secretariat prepared a working paper and gave a presentation that reviewed the results of the Joint-Border surveys for 2003 and 2004. In 2003, the team made 134 stops along a 10,000 km itinerary. In 2004, 153 stops were made in 11,500 km. Isolated locust hoppers and adults were seen at one place near Gwadar on the Baluchistan coast in 2004. Shortcomings and potential improvements were presented and discussed at length by the participants.

29. In future joint-border surveys, it was **recommended** that:

- (a) the Directors of the Plant Protection Organization in I.R. Iran and of the Plant Protection Department in Karachi should organize and attend a meeting with the survey participants at the Mirjavah/Taftan border on 31 March to facilitate the preparation and undertaking of the Joint Survey;
- (b) the same Directors should meet with the team at the end of the survey (1 May) to discuss the results, problems and suggested improvements;
- (c) three survey officers, and one assistant, should be nominated to participate in the survey. Once all of the participants have completed a short training course, two of the three survey officers will be selected for the survey;
- (d) sufficient training in locust survey methodology and data collection, daily and final reporting, use of GPS, compass, eLocust, SPOT-VGT and communication equipment should be provided to the survey participants in advance of the survey. It was suggested that one of the survey officers from the previous Joint Survey should assist in providing the training to participants;
- (e) those participants who do not speak English may need to attend an intensive short course;
- (f) I.R. Iran should nominate an Environmental Assistant who will be responsible for collecting rainfall data and taking digital photos during the survey; whereas, Pakistan will nominate a Maintenance Assistant who will provide support to the team during the whole survey;

- (g) the locust officers and assistants should participate in the entire survey. They should not be replaced at the mid-way point except for emergency reasons such as ill-health;
- (h) all efforts should be made to survey the Great Sandy Desert in Pakistan between Panjgur and Nokkundi. This should be followed up by regular surveys in the area by the Plant Protection Department in Pakistan whenever there are indications that rainfall may have occurred in this potentially important area;
- (i) the delegate from I.R. Iran should try to obtain authorization to use a Thuraya satellite phone during the portion of the survey that is conducted in their countries;
- (j) two Thuraya satellite phones with pre-paid cards should be procured and provided to the Plant Protection Organization, I.R. Iran and the Plant Protection Department, Pakistan to improve logistics and safety for the teams during the joint survey.

Progress of the EMPRES (Desert Locust) Programme in the Western and Central Regions

- 30. The Secretariat gave a presentation on the Emergency Prevention System for Transboundary Animal and Plant Pests and Diseases (EMPRES) programme, explaining the objectives and achievements of the programme so far in the Central and Western Regions.
- 31. The delegates urged that the EMPRES programme be extended to the Eastern Region.

Improvements of Desert Locust early warning

- 32. The Secretariat prepared a working paper and gave a presentation on the frequency, quality and timeliness of reporting during 2003-2004. New technologies were described that can be used for data collection and transmission (eLocust), data management (RAMSES), monitoring ecological conditions (SPOT-VGT and MODIS imagery) and connecting to the Internet via satellite (RBGAN).
- 33. The results of an analysis by the Secretariat of reporting quality, timeliness and frequency indicated that most countries sent at least one high quality report on time every month in 2003 and 2004 (Annex 4). The reports received from India (167) accounted for two-thirds of all reports sent from the Region to DLIS in 2003 and 2004, compared to Pakistan (59 reports) and I.R. Iran (27). The quality of reporting was generally higher from those countries that are using RAMSES (I.R. Iran and India). In Pakistan, the Locust Information Officer nominated by the Government received 11 months of training at FAO Headquarters in the DLIS office from November 2002 to October 2003. It was expected that this training would contribute to improving data management and reporting in the country. Nevertheless, there was a decline in the quality of reports in Pakistan. Although RAMSES was installed in Karachi and training was provided, the system was currently not being used to manage locust and environmental data. In I.R. Iran, RAMSES was currently being modified by the Locust Unit Head to support Farsi.
- 34. While good progress had been made by the three countries, there was still room for improvement. Countries using RAMSES should include a one or two sentence interpretation of the data when sending data export files to DLIS. The fortnightly bulletins in India and Pakistan should be modernized and improved to include maps from RAMSES. I.R. Iran should consider preparing a monthly bulletin that summarizes the Desert Locust situation and is distributed to national agencies as well as to Commission Members and FAO on a regular basis. In Pakistan, all efforts should be made to begin

using RAMSES on an operational basis as soon as possible and to send FAO DLIS data export files on a weekly basis. All countries should be sure to report those locations where surveys were conducted but locusts were not found. The Secretariat encouraged countries to disseminate information through the Internet by developing web pages that should be updated on a regular basis. So far, India and Pakistan have initiated such developments.

35. The delegates reacted positively to the above suggestions and **agreed** to implement them as quickly as possible in order to improve the early warning system in their countries.
36. Several units of eLocust were provided to India, I.R. Iran and Pakistan but feedback on their use in the field during surveys had so far not been provided to the Secretariat. In the meantime, most of the eLocust equipment was no longer manufactured. Furthermore, data transmission via expensive HF radio modems had turned out to be more complicated and difficult to keep operational than expected. In response, FAO had recently initiated the development and testing of a new version (eLocust2) that consists of a single handheld unit with a built-in GPS and an ability to transmit data by satellite to the National Locust Centre. It is intended that each survey team has an eLocust2 unit. It is hoped that eLocust2 will be ready by the summer of 2005 and existing emergency funds will cover procurement and setup costs. The cost of data transmission will need to be incorporated into existing national budgets, perhaps supplemented by Commission funds. The annual transmission cost during recession periods is estimated to be about US\$ 2,000 for I.R. Iran (6 teams during the spring) and US\$ 5,500 for Pakistan (6 teams during the spring and 8 teams during the summer). In India, because locust surveys are conducted close to Circle Offices, data will be downloaded directly from eLocust2 to a PC once survey teams return to their Offices.
37. The delegates fully supported the development of eLocust2 and reiterated the need for every survey team to have a unit. Once it has been fully tested in the field and finalized, about 30 units are estimated to be required in India, 20 units in Pakistan and 10 units in I.R. Iran.

Accounts for 2002-2004

38. The Secretariat presented a working paper on the final accounts for 2002 and 2003 and the indicative expenditures for 2004 as of 15 December 2004 (Annex 5). Explanations were given of the overall financial situation as well as detailed expenditures. A total expenditure of US\$ 131,868 was incurred in 2002 and US\$ 114,396 in 2003. So far in 2004, US\$ 47,824 had been spent, including support costs. To date, the total of the expenditures during 2003/2004, excluding support costs, were US\$ 146,813 against the budget of US\$ 243,300, giving a delivery rate of about 60%, compared to 82% in 2001/2002. This reduction was due to the locust emergency in the Western and Central Region, which had resulted in less attention for the Eastern Region.
39. The presentation included the overall position of contributions received from Member Countries. The delegate of India explained that a bureaucratic problem had occurred with the 2004 contribution and steps had already been initiated to rectify it. The payment was expected to reach FAO within one or two months. The delegate from I.R. Iran said that his Government's policy was to pay the annual contribution of US\$ 25,000 and to add to this a further contribution of US\$ 25,000 in respect of the arrears. Such a payment had been made in 2004 and was expected to continue until the arrears had been paid off. The delegate from Pakistan said he would investigate why there were certain shortfalls in his

country's payments and also asked FAO to provide further details on the origin of the arrears. The delegate from Afghanistan said that contributions were expected to restart in 2006.

Work Plan for 2005-2006

40. Member Countries identified their priorities for expenditures in 2005-2006. After considerable discussion, a list of standard and new items was **agreed** on for a total expenditure of about US\$ 370,000, plus support costs (Annex 6). The budget for the Trust Fund in 2005-2006 according to these expenditures is shown in Annex 7.

41. Several specific points were raised and clarified as follows:

eLocust2 and communications

42. The delegates **agreed** that top priority should be given to improving data collection and transmission as well as communications in the field. Accordingly, funds were allocated for the purchase and operational use of two eLocust2 units in India, I.R. Iran and Pakistan, for the procurement of VHF radios, for the upgrading of the existing HF radio networks in India and Pakistan, and for the establishment of HF radio communications in I.R. Iran.

Training

43. Except in I.R. Iran, very few national courses have been conducted by the nationally designated Master Trainers who had received training at the Training-of-Trainers (TOT) course in Oman in 2002. This was partially due to a lack of training material in local languages and to the designation of unsuitable persons as Master Trainers. Accordingly, it was agreed that once the current Desert Locust emergency ends, FAO should organize a regional TOT course for two designated trainers each from India and Pakistan, and one from I.R. Iran. The course could include designated trainers from EMPRES/CR countries. Furthermore, the Desert Locust Master Trainer Manual and the Standard Operating Procedures should be translated into local languages in India and I.R. Iran.

44. The delegate from I.R. Iran indicated that locust staff from Afghanistan would be welcome to participate in national training courses held in I.R. Iran.

Border meetings

45. The delegates from India and Pakistan agreed that the costs associated with the monthly border meetings that are held during the summer can be covered by their respective national budgets.

Chairman and Vice-Chairman visit to FAO HQ

46. An allocation for a visit by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman to FAO HQ was maintained in the 2005-2006 budget as a contingency, in case there was a need for such a visit.

Participation in CRC session

47. It was agreed that the Chairman would participate in the next Session of the Central Region Commission and, upon his return, inform Member Countries of the South-West Asia Commission about the Session.

Any Other Business

48. The Secretariat gave a presentation on the lessons learned during the current Desert Locust emergency.

Date and Place of the Next Session

49. The Secretariat 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 25th Session in September or October 2006, subject to approval being obtained from his Government. Alternatively, if for some reason this was not possible, the delegate from I.R. Iran agreed that the Session could be hosted in his country.
50. The duration of future Sessions should be 4-5 days, depending on the Desert Locust situation. During Desert Locust emergencies, the Secretariat will consult with the Chairman to determine the appropriate length of the Session.

Adoption of the Report

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

Closure of the Meeting

52. Mr. Elliott, on behalf of FAO, thanked the delegates and all the participants for their contributions towards a successful and useful meeting, which had produced meaningful and practical recommendations that would help to improve national locust programmes. The Government of India, the Chairman and his staff were warmly thanked for having made excellent arrangements which had allowed the meeting to proceed smoothly. He said that for the next Session, he would be passing responsibility for the Secretariat to Mr. Cressman. He felt that the Commission would be in safe hands, given Mr. Cressman's detailed knowledge of the locust areas in the three main Member Countries. Mr. Elliott said that he had enjoyed working with the Commission over the last four Sessions, and wished the Commission all the best in the future.
53. The Chairman, Mr. Chandurkar, said that he felt that the discussions and interactions between the Member Country delegates had been an enriching experience, creating a better understanding of each country's situation. India felt that it was important and in the interests of the Commission for members to continue to press for the re-establishment of the Secretariat post within the region. Furthermore FAO should give serious consideration to extending EMPRES to the Eastern Region. EMPRES could make an important contribution to improving the preparedness of the Member Countries to face any Desert Locust outbreaks or upsurges within the region or invasions of swarms from the west. Mr. Chandurkar also said that the Commission needed to make better use of its funds over the next two years than had been possible during the emergency situation that had applied in

the last 14 months. It was also necessary to strengthen early warning by upgrading facilities in the Region such as communications and eLocust2. He expected that the transition of Secretariat responsibilities from Mr. Elliott to Mr. Cressman would be achieved smoothly at FAO.

54. The Chairman thanked the Director-General of FAO for giving India the opportunity to host the Session, the Member Countries for their good contributions, the FAO Representation for its support, and the FAO staff for all they had done in their capacity as the Secretariat of the Commission. He wished everyone a safe journey home and declared the Session closed.

Annex 1. List of Participants

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Annex 2. Agenda

1. Opening of the Session
2. Election of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Commission
3. Adoption of the Agenda
4. Election of the Drafting Committee
5. The Desert Locust situation December 2002 – January 2005 and outlook for the spring and summer of 2005
6. A review of the Desert Locust survey and control activities carried out by the Member Countries during 2003-2004
7. Review of recommendations of the Twenty-third Session and progress made
8. Report of the Joint-Border Surveys during the spring breeding seasons of 2003 and 2004
9. Progress of the EMPRES (Desert Locust) programme in the Western and Central Regions
10. Improvements of Desert Locust early warning
11. Accounts for 2002-2004 and work plan for 2005 and 2006
12. Any other business
13. Date and place of the next Session
14. Adoption of the Report
15. Closure of the Meeting

Annex 3. Desert Locust Situation for September 2000 – December 2002 and Outlook for the Spring of 2003

Overview

No significant infestations were reported in the spring and summer breeding areas in the Region from December 2002 to the present. Consequently, there was no need for control operations to be carried out. At present, the risk of swarms appearing from the Western or Central Regions is extremely low. No significant developments are expected during the spring and summer of 2005 in the Eastern Region.

Desert Locust situation in the Eastern Region (December 2002 – January 2005)

Spring 2003. Immature solitary adults at densities up to 4/ha were first detected in the spring breeding areas in Pakistan during the second half of February in coastal areas of Baluchistan and near Las Bela. During the first half of March, similar infestations were found in the interior of Baluchistan. Only light rain fell at times and in a few places during the spring. Consequently, ecological conditions were not very favourable for breeding. Insignificant numbers of locusts remained in Baluchistan until early May and near Las Bela until July.

Summer 2003. Seasonal rains associated with the monsoon reached Rajasthan, India in mid June. Pre-monsoon rains had occurred a few weeks earlier in Pakistan in parts of the Tharparkar and Cholistan Deserts. During the first half of July, isolated mature adults were reported in Tharparkar and Cholistan. Although heavy monsoon rains fell during July in breeding areas along both sides of the border, only insignificant numbers of locusts were present in Pakistan and no locusts were reported in India. Small-scale breeding occurred in Cholistan and Tharparkar in September when a few first to fourth instar hoppers were seen in four places. Locusts were not seen in Rajasthan until the first half of October when vegetation began to dry out. By December, no further locusts were reported from the summer breeding areas in both countries.

Spring 2004. Light to moderate rain fell in the spring breeding areas in Baluchistan, Pakistan during the second half of January and in early February. Isolated adults were reported in Pakistan along the coast near Gwadar and further inland near Turbat from mid-February onwards. By mid-March, the adults had become mature and solitary first and second instar hoppers were present at a density of 1-2/bush in a small area at Akra Band between Gwadar and Turbat. Locust numbers did not increase during the spring due to poor rainfall and dry ecological conditions. Only isolated adults at densities of up to 25/ha were reported during April and persisted until the end of May.

Summer 2004. Isolated immature adults, at densities of up to 12/ha, first appeared in the summer breeding areas at several places in the Cholistan Desert in Pakistan during the first half of June. The monsoon rains reached Rajasthan during the second week of June and light rains fell in most areas as well as in a few places in Cholistan and Tharparkar Deserts in Pakistan. Although good rains fell during the summer, only isolated adults were present and persisted in the summer breeding areas in Pakistan until the end of October. No locusts were reported in India.

No locusts were reported in Iran during the reporting period, although swarms threatened to invade the western part of the country from central Saudi Arabia in the spring of 2004.

Desert Locust situation in other regions

Good rains fell during the summer of 2003 in the Sahel of West Africa and Sudan, causing local outbreaks in Mauritania, Mali, Niger and Sudan in October. In November, swarms moved to Northwest Africa where breeding occurred in the spring of 2004 and an upsurge subsequently developed. Swarms that were not controlled invaded the Sahel at the beginning of the summer and laid eggs. A substantial number of new swarms formed in West Africa during September and October and reinvaded Northwest Africa. In November, a few swarms reached the eastern Mediterranean, Egypt and Israel, and smaller infestations appeared in Saudi Arabia and Jordan. A few of these matured and laid eggs in northeast Sudan in late December. Swarms also appeared in the Canary Islands and in southern Portugal. Several immature swarms moved along the Southern Circuit in West Africa and invaded Gambia, southern Senegal and Guinea Bissau in December. At present, locust infestations in the Western Region are larger and more numerous than at any other time since the last plague of 1987-89. So far, aerial and ground control operations have treated more than 12 million ha since October 2003.

Outlook for the spring and summer of 2005

If unusually good rains fall along the Red Sea coastal plains and substantial Desert Locust breeding occurs there in the next few months, then there is a low risk that a few swarms could move to western and southern Iran and eventually reach the spring breeding areas in Baluchistan between March and June. However, the chances that this will occur are extremely low. Consequently, only scattered locusts are likely to be present in the spring breeding areas and, given sufficient rainfall, small-scale breeding could occur but locust numbers will remain below threatening levels. Scattered adults are likely to appear in the summer breeding areas along the Indo-Pakistan border in about June and small-scale breeding will probably occur unless rainfall associated with the monsoon is poor. In any case, no significant developments are likely in the Region between now and the end of the summer.

Annex 4. Reporting quality/timeliness/frequency

Introduction

Effective Desert Locust early warning depends on regular monitoring of seasonal breeding areas by national locust units and reporting survey and control results in a timely manner to the FAO Desert Locust Information Service (DLIS) on a regular basis. Properly trained field staff should have the resources to conduct surveys and the necessary tools to record and transmit survey results to the national locust unit headquarters. There, at least one designated locust information officer should have the means to manage and analyze locust, weather and the environmental data so that it can be used for planning survey and control operations. Effective and reliable communication systems should be in place in each country to allow rapid retrieval and transmission of information both within the country as well as regionally and internationally.

Desert Locust surveys

Data collection. The collection and recording of data during surveys is primarily done by completing a standard form, usually the FAO Desert Locust Survey and Control Form that was adopted by the 33rd session of the FAO Desert Locust Control Committee. In some cases, countries have developed their own forms. This, in practice, is okay as long as the form contains the same basic information found on the FAO form so that it is compatible with data management systems in all affected countries and at FAO. In the past few years, an electronic system of data recording has been developed called eLocust. Although eLocust is sufficiently easy to use and robust enough for fieldwork, transmission of eLocust data is more costly and complicated. A new more robust version of eLocust that relies on data transmission by satellite will be developed and tested this spring.

Reporting locust absence. Whenever surveys are conducted in the field, the locust officer should collect basic data at each stop, regardless if Desert Locust are present or not. These data are: date, latitude/longitude, area surveyed (ha), habitat type, vegetation condition, vegetation density, soil moisture and locust presence. This information should be sent to the national locust unit so that it can be entered into RAMSES.

Training. FAO has provided training to two nationally designated Master Trainer in Iran and Pakistan, and one in India. FAO has also developed a Field Kit that can be used by Master Trainers to conduct national training courses. Countries are encouraged to increase their efforts in ensuring that all field staff are adequately training to collect, record and transmit high quality data in a timely manner to the national locust units.

Data management and analysis

RAMSES. Within the Commission, FAO has provided RAMSES to India, Iran and Pakistan. Staff from FAO DLIS visited India and Pakistan to install RAMSES and provide training to users in the national locust unit in each country. It is being used operationally in India and Iran to manage locust and environmental data. Both countries send export data files to FAO DLIS on a regular basis. The Plant Protection Organization in Iran is in the process of

modifying RAMSES to support Farsi language. Despite the best efforts of FAO, RAMSES is not used in Pakistan.

Remote sensing. The remote sensing expert in FAO DLIS provided training to the locust information officers in India and Pakistan on the use and interpretation of remote sensing imagery, mainly SPOT-VGT for vegetation detection, for planning locust surveys. FAO DLIS provides imagery for each country in the Commission every ten days that can be downloaded from the Internet.

Desert Locust Information Officer. Mr. Ghulam Qadir Baloch was nominated by the Government of Pakistan in his capacity as Assistant Entomologist at the headquarters of the Department of Plant Protection, Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock in Karachi to attend an 11-month training programme at FAO DLIS from November 2002 to October 2003. The DLIS staff provided intensive and detailed training to Mr. Baloch on the management and analysis of locust, weather and environmental data, the use and interpretation of remote sensing imagery, and the use of eLocust and RAMSES. Upon his return to Pakistan, it was expected that Mr. Baloch would work in the information section of the national locust unit and share his knowledge and experience with other colleagues in order to improve Desert Locust reporting and information in Pakistan.

Desert Locust reporting

Within the framework of the early warning system, countries are expected to keep DLIS informed about the locust situation at least once a month, regardless if surveys are carried out or not. As a means of measuring improvements in reporting, each locust report received by DLIS from affected countries in 2003 and 2004 was evaluated in terms of its quality and timeliness. The general findings are:

India. Reports were received every month in 2003-04, consisting of RAMSES export files and fortnightly bulletins. The quality of the reports improved slightly while their timeliness remained the same.

Iran. The frequency of reporting improved in 2004 when reports were received every month, compared to 2003 when reports were received in 8 out of 12 months. Reports consist of RAMSES export files. The quality of the reports declined slightly while their timeliness improved.

Pakistan. Reports were received every month in 2003-04, consisting of two fortnightly bulletins per month. Completed survey forms or RAMSES export files were not received. Both the quality and timeliness of reporting declined in 2004, compared to 2003 mainly because some details regarding ecology and locust were missing.

Afghanistan. No reports were received during 2003-2004.

Suggested improvements

A general decline was noticed in the quality and timeliness of reporting in the Region. Efforts are required in all countries to improve reporting and to ensure that field officers are properly trained in data collection and transmission, and information officers know how to manage, analyze and report locust information. Specific suggestions for improvements are:

India. A few sentences indicating the period of coverage and main findings should accompany every RAMSES export file that is sent by email to DLIS. The Locust Unit should consider improving the fortnightly bulletin by incorporating outputs from RAMSES such as maps and information derived from remote sensing products such as SPOT-VGT.

Iran. A few sentences indicating the period of coverage and main findings should accompany every RAMSES export file that is sent by email to DLIS. The PPO should consider the issuing of monthly Desert Locust bulletins that summarize the weather, ecological conditions and locust situation. The bulletin should incorporate outputs from RAMSES such as maps and information derived from remote sensing products such as SPOT-VGT. Please refer to the FAO Desert Locust Guidelines 3. Information & Forecasting for more details and examples.

Pakistan. Every effort should be made to immediately start using RAMSES on a daily basis to manage locust data. All survey results, including those where no locusts are found, should be entered into RAMSES. The export file should be sent to FAO DLIS on a weekly basis accompanied by a short paragraph indicating the period of coverage and main findings. The Locust Unit should consider improving the fortnightly bulletin by incorporating outputs from RAMSES such as maps and information derived from remote sensing products such as SPOT-VGT.

Internet. So far, Pakistan is the only country in the Region to have information about the locust situation on the Internet. Other countries should consider developing their own web pages while Pakistan should improve what already exists. It may be worthwhile to see web pages of locust-affected countries in other regions for ideas.

Annex 5. Accounts for 2002-2004

Introduction

At the last 23rd Commission Session, held in Islamabad in 2002, complete accounts up to 2001 and the indicative expenditures for 2002 for the Commission's Trust Fund MTF/RAS/001/MUL were presented. For this 24th Session, final expenditure for 2002 and 2003 is reported, together with indicative expenditure for 2004. The overall financial position of the Commission Trust Fund is shown in Table 1. Expenditure on specific items/activities approved by the 23rd Session against the allocated budget is tabulated in Table 2. The final accounts for 2002, 2003 and the indicative expenditures for 2004 are presented in Tables 3 (a), (b), and (c). The current status of contributions made by Member Countries is given in Tables 4 (a), (b), and (c).

Noteworthy points in the tables

Overall situation. Concerning the budget approved at the last Session, it was decided that the expenditures should be limited to a total of US\$ 243,300 plus support cost overheads for the years 2003 and 2004. The final expenditures for the year 2002 which were not available at the last Session was US\$ 131,868, compared to the indicative level reported of US\$ 108,644. The expenditure for the year 2003 were US\$ 114,396 and the provisional expenditure for the year 2004 as at December 15th is US\$ 47,824, including the support cost. To date, the total of the expenditures during 2003/2004, excluding support costs, were US\$ 146,813 against the budget of US\$ 243,300, giving a 60% delivery rate. The rate of delivery may improve as late expenditures are included before accounts close. By comparison to the previous two years, the final expenditures for the period 2001/2002, excluding support costs, were US\$ 171,519 against a budget of US\$ 215,000, a delivery rate of 82%. The reduction in the delivery rate is attributable to the locust emergency in the Western and Central Regions, which has resulted in less attention for the Eastern Region.

Table 1 also shows that the current balance of unallocated funds is US\$ 173,425, including the Iran and Pakistan contributions for Year 2004, and excluding the contributions of India and Afghanistan for the same period which have not yet been received. In deciding on the budget for 2005 and 2006, the expectation of the level of contributions, including the settling of any arrears, over this two year period needs to be taken into account. Depending on what information delegates bring to the Session, a somewhat enlarged budget for 2005/2006 could be considered.

Detailed 2002, 2003, 2004 Expenditures. Table 2 records the expenditure achieved against the items agreed at the 23rd Session for the period 2003/2004. The costs of the Joint-Border Survey between I.R. Iran and Pakistan was about US\$ 10,000 less than expected per year, suggesting that the next budgets should be costed at US\$ 20,000 per year instead of US\$ 30,000. For the Joint-Border Survey between India and Pakistan, the funds were paid in 2003 but were not claimed in 2004. The funds not used in 2004 could be carried forward into 2005. In the case of the travel by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman to FAO headquarters and to the Session of the Central Region Locust Commission, no requests were received for the former and for the latter a Travel Authorisation was raised but not used. In respect of the 24th Session

of the South-West Asia Locust Commission, the postponement of the Session from December 2004 to January 2005 has resulted in no expenditure being recorded on this line in 2004.

On the planned new expenditures, only half the funds available for eLocust were used, pending reports on its usefulness by the Member Countries. RAMSES was installed in India, I.R. Iran, and Pakistan, at an expenditure close to what was expected. By contrast, virtually none of the funds for computers and modems were used. No funds were used to translate either the Desert Locust Master Training Manual or the Standard Operating Procedures. Microlight trials, which depended on significant locust populations being available, did not materialize because of the lack of locusts within the region. An unplanned expenditure was the participation of two delegates (I.R. Iran and Pakistan) from South-West Asia in the Desert Locust Control Committee Technical Group Workshop on Contingency Planning for Desert Locust Management, held in Mauritania in May 2004. Another unplanned expenditure was a contribution from the Commission to the costs of creating a database of all the past records of Desert Locust. This is now available on a discs and each country can access all the records of Desert Locust infestations held by the Desert Locust Information Service at FAO headquarters.

The detailed annual expenditures for 2002 and 2003 (both final), and for 2004 up to 15 December are given in Tables 3 (a), (b), and (c). They are considered to be self-explanatory.

Member Country Contributions. Data on the contributions paid from Member Countries into the Commission's Trust Fund are presented in Tables 4 (a), (b) and (c). There is no record of India having paid its contribution in Year 2004, but since India has an exemplary record of paying its contributions, the payment is expected to be received soon. I.R. Iran did not pay its contributions in Year 2002, paid in 2003, and paid double in 2004. Pakistan has a shortfall of US\$ 6,865 over the three years from 2002-2004. Unfortunately Afghanistan has not yet managed to re-establish its small contribution after many years of non-payment.

Assistance provided to South-West Asia Countries from FAO EMPRES

FAO funded limited activities in South-West Asia from its Regular Programme EMPRES. Only one activity was funded from EMPRES resources during the period under review, namely the honorarium of the consultant in Remote Sensing who went to India and Pakistan to discuss the use of SPOT-VEG satellite images for improved locust surveys and to install and provide training on the data management system RAMSES for improved analysis of locust situations and use in decision-making.

Programme of Work and Budget for 2005/2006

It is proposed that the 24th Session should decide on the level of annual expenditure in the next two years. The standard budget according to Member Country contributions is:

<u>Code</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>2003 (US\$)</u>	<u>2004 (US\$)</u>
5013	Consultants	7,000	7,000
5014	Contractual Services	1,810	1,810
5021	Travel	15,000	15,000
5023	Fellowships & Training	12,000	12,000
5024	Expendable Equipment	7,000	7,000
5025	Non-expendable Equipment	20,000	20,000
5028	General Operating Expenses	2,000	2,000
	Sub-Total:	<u>64,810</u>	<u>64,810</u>
5029	Support Costs:		
	5% for codes 5024 & 5025		
	13% for other codes	6,265	6,265
	Unallocated balance	375	375
	Total:	<u>71,450</u>	<u>71,450</u>

The new proposed Budget for Years 2005/2006 is given as Table 5.

Table 1

Trust Fund no. 912300 – MTF/RAS/001/MUL
Commission for Controlling the Desert Locust in South-West Asia

Summary Budget and Expenditures at 15 December 2004

Receipts		Prior Years	2002	2003	2004	Total	
Contributions		2,300,226	34,063	71,566	66,714	2,646,226	
Interest earned		166,981	3,235	1,853	1,587		
<hr/>							
Expenditures		Prior Years	2002	2003	2004	Total	Total
					(provisional (excl. 2004))		(incl.2004)
Account							
5011 Salaries Professional		63	0	0	0	63	63
5012 General Service		0	0	0	15,935	0	15935
5013 Consultants		35,355	1,792	8,267	0	45,414	45414
5014 Contracts		14,153	597	7,967	0	22,717	22717
5021 Travel		321,397	43,846	23,165	18,206	388,408	406614
5023 Training		60,658	0	0	0	60,658	60658
5024 Expendable equipment		62,921	8,560	35,185	1,681	106,666	108347
5025 Non-expendable equipment		527,231	45,249	10,806	0	583,286	583286
5026 Hospitality		761	0	0	0	761	761
5028 General operating expenses		1,040,402	20,463	18,843	6,500	1,079,708	1086208
5040 General overhead expenses		86	0	258	0	344	344
5050 Chargeback		12,786	0	0	0	12,786	12786
						0	0
	Sub-total	2,075,812	120,505	104,490	42,322	2,300,807	2343129
						0	0
5029 Support costs (5% on codes 5024 and 5025; 13% on all other codes)		102,903	11,361	9,905	5,502	124,169	129671
						0	0
	Total	2,178,715	131,866	114,395	47,824	2,424,976	2472800
<hr/>							
Cash balance		288,492	193,924	152,948	173,425		

N.B. prior years expenses (up to 31/12/1981) are included in account 6300 (US\$ 917,052)

Table 2

**Expenditures incurred by activity for the period 2003-2004,
as agreed at the 23rd Session.**

	Unit cost	AFG	IND	IRN	PAK	AFG\$	IND\$	IRN\$	PAK\$	Total	Expend
Standard expenditures											
IRN/PAK Joint survey	15000			2	2	0	0	30000	30000	60000	39,156
Joint survey report	250			2	2	0	0	500	500	1000	1,002
PAK/IND border mtgs	5000		2		2	0	10000	0	10000	20000	10,000
Chair/Vice visit to HQ	2500	1	1			2500	2500	0	0	5000	0
Participation in CRC session	2500				1	0	0	0	2500	2500	0
24th Session Travel/Running Costs	3500	1	1	1	1	3500	3500	3500	3500	14000	0
<i>subtotal</i>										<i>102500</i>	<i>50,158</i>
New expenditures											
eLocust	600		10	5	10	0	6000	3000	6000	15000	7,161
RAMSES	11000		1	1	1	0	11000	11000	11000	33000	30,243
Computers+modem, IND/PAK/AFG	1200	1	15		10	1200	18000	0	12000	31200	846
Computers+network, IRN	2000			5		0	0	10000	0	10000	10,047
DLMTM - translation	2500		1	1	1	0	2500	2500	2500	7500	0
SOP - translation+printing	1000		1	1	1	0	1000	1000	1000	3000	0
Training	5000		1	1	1	0	5000	5000	5000	15000	1,932
Survey equipment	5000	1				5000	0	0	0	5000	6,017
GPS	300		19	9	14	0	5700	2700	4200	12600	5,475
Microlight trials	3000		1		1	0	3000	0	3000	6000	0
Cressman - 2003 IRN/PAK JS	2500			1		0	0	2500	0	2500	4,883
Participation in DLCC Techn.Group								3049	3827		6,876
Support to creating database											15,935
Miscellaneous											7,240
<i>subtotal</i>						<i>6200</i>	<i>52200</i>	<i>40749</i>	<i>48527</i>	<i>140800</i>	<i>96,655</i>
total										243300	146,813

Table 3 (a)

MTF/RAS/001/MUL
Commission for Controlling the Desert Locust in Southwest Asia

FINAL
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR 2002

<u>Account</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Cost US\$</u>
5013	<u>Consultants</u> Prof. J. Lowe 26.9-25.10.02 for Training of Trainers (TOT) course: Muscat, Oman (\$ 9,000 from which US\$ 1,792 to RAS/001(PO 121950)	1,792
	Sub-total:	1,792
5014	<u>Contracts</u> Printing of report "Desert Locust Joint Border Survey in the Spring Breeding Areas of the Iran and Pakistan"(April 2002)- 50 copies	597
	Sub-total:	597
5021	<u>Travel</u> Consultant Lowe to attend the TOT course in Oman (AHQ 0051449)-Portion DSA charged to RAS/001 the rest being charged on INT/007 and INT/670/NET	396
	Workshop organized in Mauritania by Expert Aston to demonstrate new technologies in application of pesticides on Desert Locust (14.11-30.11.2001): Accruals 2001- India : participation J. Prasad (India)	1,705
	TOT Workshop, Muscat , Oman,7-17.10.02 on Desert Locust Survey and control: Singh (IND) – AHQ0051363 Refund Asre – AHQ0051527(IND) Abbas Zadeh Gholam Reza (IRA)-AHQ0050771 Fani Sabed Reza (IRA)-AHQ0050791 Muhammad Muzaffar Alam (PAK)-AHQ0051945 Zafar Ali (PAK)-AHQ0051757	372 (847) 2,297 2,297 2,368 2,148
	Sokhansanj (IRA)-Participation 23 rd Session CRC Damas, Syria, 9-14.3.2002-(AHQ 0041887)-DSA	1,326
	DGPS Workshop on Improved pesticide application For Desert Locust control, Nouakchott(MAU),Dec2002: Ghassami Mohammad Reza(IRA)-AHQ0055445	2,368
	Iran : DSA of Iranian Team participating in the Joint Border Survey with Pakistan	9,000

	Pakistan: DSA of Pakistanian Team	
	Participating in the Joint Border Survey with Iran	9,000
	Zafar Ali (PAK)- claim TEC for additional days (thq90509) to participate 36 th Session DLCC, Rome, 23/9/01-29/9/01 (AHQ0034135)	514
	Consultant Ceccato (AHQ0052912): visit in India and Pakistan (20.10-30.10.2002) in connection with the Promotion of EMPRES activities in the Region (Meeting with various officers in the Locust Warning Organization in Fardabad and visit to LWO office/Remote sensing Center in Jodhpur)	4,063
	23rd SWAC Meeting, Islamabad, 16-20.12.2002:	
	Minhas, B.S.(IND)-AHQ0056103	3,202
	Sokhansanj (Iran)-AHQ0056102	1,969
	Inyatullah Samadi (AFG)-AHQ0056104	728
	Zafar Ali (PAK)-AHQ0056344	470
	Khan Tariq Shafiq (PAK)-AHQ0056317	470
	Sub-total:	43,846
5024	<u>Expendable Procurement</u>	
	Credit PAK due error:	(1,505)
	For each country:	
	PAK/Iran/IND: 2Psion 5mx handled,16MB, English OS,2 units 64 MB compact flash memory card for item 1;2 units zipper case (PO 116137)	2,972
	India: protective clothes, survey kits, control kits	2,723
	Iran: protective clothes, survey kits, control kits	4,370
	Sub-total:	8,560
5025	<u>Non Expendable Procurement</u>	
	India – FPO 5-21424-8115M Vehicle Mounted Sprayer (Micronair) PO114254	8,204
	Custom clearing and forward charges	245
	Iran –FPO 5-22345-Sprayers-Micron Sprayers Limited (PO 119578)	16,901
	Non expendable items	3,294
	Upgrading Hardware	88
	Two sets UPS	1,748
	Pakistan – Supply of Risograph Digital Copy Printer	3,030
	Supply of 2 computers	3,274
	FPO 5-016670 Sprayer (Micronair) PO 120093	8,384
	Global Insurance FPOs	81
	Sub-total:	45,249

5028	<u>General Operating Expenses</u>	
	Funds to organize ToT workshop in Oman,10.2002	2,525
	Insurance FPOs April-Sept 02	136
	Iran –Joint Border Locust Survey with Pakistan	2,704
	Pakistan -Joint Border Locust Survey with Iran	3,847
	Pakistan -Special Border Locust Survey along Pakistan/India border	5,000
	Organization 23 rd SWAC, PAK, Dec.2002	2,188
	AFFC Manual adjustment (June 2002) for PAK	4,063
	Government contribution which had been done erroneously in year 2001 against exp. account GOE(6152) in place of Income account, generating a credit (\$4,063.32) on GOE in year 2001. To cancel this transaction , debit for same amount in year 2002	
	Sub-total:	20,463
5029	<u>Support Cost</u>	
	(5% on accounts 5024 and 5025)	2,690
	(13% on all other accounts)	8,671
	Sub-total:	11,361
TOTAL EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR 2002		US\$ 131,868

Table 3 (b)

MTF/RAS/001/MUL
Commission for Controlling the Desert Locust in South-West Asss Asia

FINAL
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR 2003

<u>Account</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Cost US\$</u>
5013	<u>Consultants</u>	
	MCS Consultant Insurance cost	17
	J.Pender- to create new RAMSES for PAK/IRA/IND (PO 130129)	8,250
	Sub-total	8,267
5014	<u>Contracts</u>	
	DPR-127623- Joint Border Survey Report printing 75 copies -PO 134857	1,002
	Univ Greenwich -PO 76078 Error-Correction was requested on 16/12/2004	6,965
	Sub-total:	7,967
5021	<u>Travel</u>	
	ToT Training,Oman, Oct.2002: Singh (IND)-DSA	1,932
	Cressman: Participate in joint Iran/PAK Desert Locust control survey in Iran-18.4-3.5.2003-AHQ0060337	4,883
	Iran: Joint border survey Iran/Pakistan-local staff DSA	6,270
	PAK: Joint border survey with Iran, 04-05.2003	6,300
	P.Ceccato: 30.11-16.12.2003-IND/PAK-Install RAMSES and provide training - AHQ0071794	3,780
	Sub-total:	23,165
5024	<u>Expendable Procurement</u>	
	Metroimport News-Accessories for digital fotocamera- photographic documentation of locust and habitat situation during field surveys in Iran and Pakistan-PO 129649	278
	Fotodigital camera ROCH Mod CAPLIO RR-30-PO129783	583
	ESRI-3 Geographical Information System software for South West Asia-3 Arc View 3.3 license for PC (Win) and 3 Spacial Analyst License for PC (Win),en.version (to run RAMSES)-PO 130207	18,213
	Icarus-6 Pson 5mx/Garmin 12 XL/12V cigarette lighter power/data cable-PO 132557	922
	FB Computers- PO 132754- Psion 5mx Palmtop (english software)	5,589
	OPG Industries Inc.-PO 142927- Garmin GPS	5,475
	Pakistan: Survey equipment	4,125
	Sub-total:	35,185

5025	<u>Non Expendable Procurement</u>	
	Iran: 5 computers for Locust Unit	10,047
	PAK: supply of computer	759
	Sub-total:	10,806
5028	<u>General Operating Expenses</u>	
	Insurance orderings	87
	India: Joint Border survey IND/PAK	5,000
	Iran: Joint Border survey IRA/PAK	4,756
	Pakistan: Joint Border survey IRA/PAK	4,000
	Pakistan: Joint Border survey IND/PAK	5,000
	Sub-total:	18,843
5040	<u>General Overhead Expenses</u>	
	Pouch	258
	Sub-total:	258
5029	<u>Support Costs</u>	
	(5% on accounts 5024 and 5025)	2,300
	(13% on all other accounts)	7,605
	Sub-total:	9,905
TOTAL EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR 2003		US\$ 114,396

Table 3 (c)

MTF/RAS/001/MUL
Commission for the Control of Desert Locust in the Eastern
Region

PROVISIONAL AS AT 15/12/2004
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR 2004

<u>Account</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Cost US\$</u>	
5012	<u>General Services</u> G-2 F.Farina, in support DLIS information to SW Asian countries	15,935	15,935
5021	<u>Travel</u> Iran: Joint Border Survey Iran/Pakistan Pakistan:Joint Border Survey Iran/Pakistan DLCC Technical Group, Nouakchott,2 to 7 May 2004: M.Ghaemian (Iran)-AHQ0079271 Buksk Muhammad (PAK)-AHQ0079581	5,370 5,960 3,049 3,827	18,206
5024	<u>Expendable Procurement</u> FB Computers-Data/dual power lead for Psion 3c/3mx/5mx Ericsson and Garmin GPS-PO 147845 For Iran and Pakistan: for joint border survey-24 maps each 1:500,000 scale TPC maps sheets No H7A-B-C-D and H8A,H8D -four copies each-RMIB Geoscience-PO147964	650 1,031	1,681
5028	<u>General Operating Expenses</u> Iran: Joint Border Survey Iran/PAK Pakistan:Joint Border Survey Iran/PAK	1,500 5,000	6,500
5029	<u>Support Costs</u> (5% on accounts 5024 and 5025) (13% on all other accounts)	- 5,502	5,502
TOTAL EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR 2004			47,824

Table 4 (a)**Trust Fund no. 912300 – MTF/RAS/001/MUL****Commission for Controlling the Desert Locust in South-West Asia****Status of Contribution as at 31 December 2002 (expressed in US\$)**

Member Government	Outstanding 31/12/2001	Contribution due for 2002	Received by 31/12/2002	Outstanding 31/12/2002
AFGHANISTAN	22,000.00	2,750.00	0.00	24,750.00
INDIA *	0.00	27,000.00	27,000.00	0.00
* IRAN	318,965.74	25,000.00	0.00	343,965.74
PAKISTAN	57,934.27	16,700.00	7,063.32	67,570.95
TOTALS	398,900.01	71,450.00	34,063.32	436,286.69

* 25% paid in local ccy through Imprest/Acc.

Table 4 (b)**Status of Contribution as at 31 December 2003 (expressed in US\$)**

Member Government	Outstanding 31/12/2002	Contribution due for 2003	Received by 31/12/2003	Outstanding 31/12/2003
AFGHANISTAN	24,750.00	2,750.00	0.00	27,500.00
INDIA *	0.00	27,000.00	27,116.46	(116.46)*
IRAN	343,965.74	25,000.00	25,000.00	343,965.74
PAKISTAN	67,570.95	16,700.00	19,449.56	64,821.39
TOTALS	436,286.69	71,450.00	71,566.02	436,170.67

* 25% paid in local ccy through Imprest/Acc.

Table 4 (c)

Trust Fund no. 912300 – MTF/RAS/001/MUL

Commission for Controlling the Desert Locust in South-West Asia

Status of Contribution as at 15 December 2004 (expressed in US\$)

Member Government	Outstanding Contribution 31/12/2003	Contribution due for 2004	Received by 15/12/2004	Outstanding 15/12/2004
AFGHANISTAN	27,500.00	2,750.00	0.00	30,250.00
INDIA *	(116.46)	27,000.00	0.00	26,883.54
IRAN	343,965.74	25,000.00	49,991.48	318,974.26
PAKISTAN *	64,821.39	16,700.00	16,722.87	64,798.52
TOTALS	398,900.01	71,450.00	66,714.35	440,906.32

* 25% paid in local ccy through Imprest/Acc.

Annex 6. Proposed Expenditures for 2005-2006

	Unit cost	AFG	IND	IRN	PAK	\$AFG	\$IND	\$IRN	\$PAK	Tota
Standard expenditures										
IRN/PAK Joint survey	10,000			2	2	0	0	20,000	20,000	40,000
Joint survey report	250			2	2	0	0	500	500	1,000
Chair/Vice visit to FAO HQ	2,500	1	1			2,500	2,500	0	0	5,000
Participation in CRC session	2,500		1			0	2,500	0	0	2,500
25th Session travel/running costs	3,500	1	1	1	1	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,500	14,000
<i>subtotal</i>						6,000	8,500	24,000	24,000	62,500
New expenditures (1)										
eLocust2 equipment	1,800		2	2	2	0	3,600	3,600	3,600	10,800
eLocust2 transmission	1,000		1	1	1	0	1,000	1,000	1,000	3,000
Computers - laptop	3,000		2	2		0	6,000	6,000	0	12,000
HF radios (2)	2,500		30	9	20	0	75,000	22,500	50,000	147,500
VHF radios (walkie-talkie)	500			8	15	0	0	4,000	7,500	11,500
Satellite phones + prepaid card	2,000		1	1	1	0	2,000	2,000	2,000	6,000
Vehicles	25,000			1		0	0	25,000	0	25,000
TOT workshop (3)	4,000		3	2	3	0	12,000	8,000	12,000	32,000
TOT workshop participation	2,500	1	2	2	2	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	17,500
National training	5,000	1	1	1	1	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	20,000
DLMTM translation	2,500		1	1	1	0	2,500	2,500	2,500	7,500
SOP translation	1,000		1	1	1	0	1,000	1,000	1,000	3,000
Ulvamast	3,500		3			0	10,500	0	0	10,500
Ulvamast spare part kit	200		20			0	4,000	0	0	4,000
<i>subtotal</i>						7,500	127,600	85,600	89,600	310,300
totals						13,500	136,100	109,600	113,600	372,800

(1) priorities are highlighted

(2) upon receipt of Iran clearance

(3) assumes that EMPRES/CR will also contribute an equal portion for 8 participants in 2006

Annex 7. Trust Fund Budget for 2005-2006

Code	Item	2005 (US\$)	2006 (US\$)
5650	Contractual Services	7,500	3,000
5900	Travel	18,500	20,500
5920	Training	30,000	22,000
6100	Non-expendable Equipment	175,000	55,300
6300	General Operating Expenses	20,500	20,500
	Sub-total	251,500	121,300
6130	Support Costs:		
	5% on 6000 + 6100	8,750	2,765
	13% on remainder	9,945	8,580
	Sub-total	18,695	11,345
	Total	270,195	132,645
GRAND TOTAL		US\$ 402,840	