

REPORT

**Doha,
Qatar,
28 May –
01 June,
2006**

**FAO Commission for
Controlling the Desert
Locust in the Central
Region**

Twenty-Fifth Session



Report of the

Twenty-Fifth Session

**COMMISSION FOR CONTROLLING THE DESERT LOCUST
IN THE CENTRAL REGION**

Doha, Qatar, 28 May – 01 June, 2006

**Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,
Rome 2006**



Group photo for participants in the 25th Session of the Commission for Controlling the Desert Locust in the Central Region, in Doha, Qatar, 28 May – 01 June 2006.

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Report of the Twenty-Fifth Session

COMMISSION FOR CONTROLLING THE DESERT LOCUST IN THE CENTRAL REGION

Doha, Qatar, 28 May – 01 June, 2006

Summary of recommendations

Recommendations related to the Secretariat:

1. The contracted aerial spraying companies should install a Differential Global Positioning System (DGPS) in each of their spray aircraft, as a condition to submitting tenders for Desert Locust aerial control operations.
2. The Commission to send the DGPS test report that was conducted in Sudan in 1999, after its translation into Arabic, to Saudi Arabia and other member countries.
3. The official adherence of Eritrea to the Commission to become Member no. 16.
4. Eritrea should submit to the Commission a detailed report on the expenditure of the Saudi bilateral assistance.
5. The DLIS Information Officer to study the information transmission system that was presented by Saudi Arabia, and to submit a technical report on its reliability for the use in transmitting locust information in the Central Region, in coordination with the Locust Centre of Saudi Arabia.
6. The Chairman and the Secretary of the Commission to visit Yemen and Sudan very soon to encourage both countries to agree to provide financial autonomy to their Locust Control Centres.
7. EMPRES/CR member countries that were not members of the Commission's Executive Committee should participate only in the Commission's Sessions. The cost of their travel should be met from EMPRES/CR fund when required.
8. The Executive Committee report should be sent to all EMPRES/CR member countries and to associate members to inform them of the Executive Committee's deliberations.
9. FAO should be requested to check if it was necessary to amend the Establishment Agreement of the Commission to allow the cost of the participation of all members in Commission Sessions, to be covered by the Commission's Trust Fund, on condition that the member countries should settle their annual contributions regularly.
10. The possibility of the Central Region making use of excess stocks of pesticides in the Western Region, free of charge, on the condition that shipment cost should be covered, should be investigated. Arrangements for the pesticides and their shipment should be negotiated between the donor country, recipient country, and FAO.
11. The donated pesticides should be analyzed for their efficacy at origin before shipping to the recipient country.
12. The Commission in the Central Region should coordinate with the Western Region Commission to obtain a detailed list of the available pesticides.

13. An appreciation message to be prepared by the Commission and sent to Mr. Christian Pantenius, the former EMPRES/CR Coordinator, acknowledging his efforts and excellent performance in the Central Region.
14. To send a sympathy message to Mr. Ghazi Hawari, wishing him speedy recovery, signed by all members attending this session, and to be hand carried by the representative of Saudi Arabia in this meeting. The CRC Secretary, on behalf of the member countries, to purchase a gift to be sent to Mr. Hawari through the Locust Control Centre in Jeddah.

Joint border surveys:

15. The importance of conducting joint border surveys between neighbouring countries, CRC to provide the needed support.
16. Conduct joint border survey between Egypt and Libya when the administrative procedures permit.

Training:

17. DLCO-EA to prepare curricula and transparencies on aerial survey and control of DL, to be submitted to the Commission for comments before conducting a training course.
18. Emphasis was made on conducting sub-regional training courses in view of their benefit to the member countries of the Central Region

Publications:

19. Send an Arabic version of the training manual kit to Iraq as the previously sent kit was never received by the concerned department.
20. A logo was chosen provided that some changes were included. After these inclusions, the revised logo was approved.

Recommendations related to the budget:

21. Endorse the expenditure 2004 and 2005.
22. The Commission pays the estimate cost of US\$19,000 per year being the transmission cost of eLocust2.
23. The Commission pays the annual cost of US\$3,000 for rainfall estimates and MODIS maps.
24. EMPRES/CR should cover the cost of the development of remote sensing system relating to the MODIS maps and rainfall estimates, being approximately US\$10,000–15,000, as a one time payment.
25. The Commission will purchase six eLocust2 for Saudi Arabia.
26. Cancellation of 50% of Iraq's arrears, similarly to Lebanon and Sudan, and to freeze the remaining 50% until the situation improves in Iraq, on the condition that the annual contribution should be settled timely and regularly.

27. FAO should address the countries that had not made an annual contribution for three years or more, requesting these countries to clarify their position as members of the Commission, and to settle their arrears.
28. Since the Council of Ministers in Yemen approved the increase in the contribution to the Commission to US\$5,000 in January 2006, the participants recommended the Commission to request FAO to recalculate the US\$5,000 contribution of Yemen effective from 2006.
29. Establish an emergency fund of at least US\$500,000 to face a locust outbreak or upsurge. The Secretary of the Commission should prepare the mechanism for managing the fund for discussion at the next Executive Committee Meeting, and for subsequent approval at the next Commission's Session.
30. The endorsement of the budget workplan for 2006 and 2007 after additional expenses related to recommendations made at this Session are included. The Secretary of the Commission in consultation with the Chairman is authorized to cover the cost of implementing the Commission's recommendations when these are not reflected in the Commission budget workplan.
31. To extend Mr. Fuad Bahakim's contract for six months from January 2007 to 30 June 2007 at the Commission's cost. His contract should be terminated by 30th June 2007 if his contract was not taken over by another donor.
32. The Commission to follow up with FAO to secure the operational cost the NPO in Yemen for the recommended six months.
33. Based on the request from the representative of Saudi Arabia, it was recommended to procure five laptop computers to support the field activities of the Locust Centre in Saudi Arabia.

Report of the Twenty-Fifth Session Commission for Controlling the Desert Locust in the Central Region

Doha, Qatar, 28 May – 01 June, 2006

Introduction

The Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (F.A.O) invited the member countries of the Commission, including Bahrain, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, United Arab Emirates and Yemen, to attend the Twenty-Fifth Session of the Commission for Controlling the Desert Locust in the Central Region in Doha, Qatar, 28 May – 01 June 2006.

Invitations were also addressed to the Arab League Organization, the Desert Locust Control Organization for Eastern Africa, the Commission for Controlling the Desert Locust in the Western Region, the Commission for Controlling the Desert Locust in South-West Asia. In addition, an invitation was addressed to Eritrea to attend the Session as an observer.

1) Opening Session

On behalf of the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Mr. Clive Elliott, Senior Officer, Locust and Migratory Pests Group, FAO, Rome, welcomed Sheikh Dr. Faleh Bin Naser Al Thani, Director of the General Department of Research and Agricultural Development, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Agriculture, State of Qatar. He also welcomed the Chairman and member countries of the Commission in the Central Region and the Chairman and its members of the Executive Committee. The Representative of Eritrea as an observer, was also welcomed in the Session, and was expected to officially join the Commission. Mr. Elliott indicated that this was the second time since the establishment of the Commission that a Session was held in Qatar. He explained that the cost of the control operations of the last Desert Locust invasion during the years 2003 to 2005 reached almost 400 million US dollars, covered by member countries and donors. He commended the efforts and the coordination between the countries to combat the Desert Locust outbreak and he hoped that these efforts would continue even after the EMPRES Programme was integrated into the Central Region.

Mr. Elliott expressed FAO appreciation to Qatar for hosting this Session and for providing all the needed facilities for the success of the Session.

He focused on the role that was played by the Commission in the management of Desert Locust with respect to capacity building of staff, research, joint surveys etc.

He mentioned that the Desert Locust situation was currently calm and expressed appreciation of the bilateral support that had been provided by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to Sudan and Eritrea.

Mr. Elliott acknowledged the countries that had settled their annual contribution to the Commission Trust Fund in a regular manner and hoped that other countries follow suit.

Thereafter, Dr. Sheikh Faleh Bin Naser Al Thani officially opened the Session and welcomed the representative of the FAO in Qatar, Mr. Clive Elliott, Senior Officer, Locust and Other Migratory Pests, the representatives of Regional Organizations and the Secretary of the Commission in the Central Region and Mr. Thami Benhalima, Secretary of the Commission in the Western Region.

He also welcomed the member countries of the Commission and the honourable guests indicating the importance of this meeting and the threat that the Desert Locust posed to agricultural crops, natural resources, and food security in the region. He hoped that all efforts would be put together to face this problem. He reminded participants of the importance of protecting the environment from the side-effects of pesticides particularly resulting from their misuse. He declared the Session officially open.

2) Report of the Chairman of the Commission

Mr. Mohamed Halawani, on behalf of Mr. Ghazi Hawari, Chairman of the Commission in its 24th Session, commenced the session by thanking all member countries of the Commission and its secretariat for their hard work. The activities of the Commission during the past two years were summarized in the following categories: raising the capacities, personnel development, research, joint border surveys, and publications. He pointed out the importance of mutual coordination between the countries of the Commission which was clearly seen during the Desert Locust (DL) invasion in October 2004 of the Central Region starting from the west along Egypt-Libya border, and spread out to several other countries of the Commission. The invasion demonstrated that the Commission was functioning well and that its Secretary was effective in the coordination of its work. The report also presented the various activities of the Chairman and the Secretary, including visits to Bahrain and Kuwait to activate their role in the Commission. The Chairman and the Secretary presented a proposal to help Eritrea, as a result of which the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia supported Eritrea by an amount of US\$ 337,000. During this period the Commission intensified its activities and executed most of the recommendations in its 24th Session (see appendix no.2).

3) Election of the Chairman and Vice Chairman

The delegate of the State of Qatar, Mr. Abdulla Safar Al-Khunji was unanimously elected as Chairman of the 25th Session of the Commission. Oman's delegate Mr. Mamoon Al-Alawi was elected as Vice-Chairman.

4) Adoption of the Agenda

After reviewing and discussing the provisional agenda by the Session, the agenda was unanimously agreed upon as per the following:

1. Opening Session
2. Report of the Chairman of the Commission
3. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman
4. Adoption of the Agenda
5. Election of the Drafting Committee
6. Report of the Chairman of the Executive Committee
7. Report of the activities of the Secretariat of the Commission and follow up of the recommendations of the 24th Session of the Commission
8. Desert Locust situation from May 2004 to May 2006
 - a. Complementary reports from the countries
9. Training
10. Research
11. Publications
12. Election of members and Chairman of the Executive Committee
13. CRC-EMPRES Website
14. Report from CLCPRO
15. EMPRES achievements and progress in the Central Region
16. Accounts for 2004 and 2005, contributions and arrears of member countries to the Commission Trust Fund
 - a. Work plan and budget for 2006-2007
17. Other business
 - a. Future of EMPRES Liaison Officers meetings
 - b. Contribution to cost of EMPRES NPO
 - c. Non-participation of some member countries in the Sessions of the Commission
18. Date and place of the next Executive Committee and the Session of the Commission
19. Adoption of the report of the 25th Session of the Commission
20. Closure of the Session

5) Election of the Drafting Committee

The representatives from Yemen, Jordan and Oman and FAO were elected as members of the Drafting Committee. The Commission took the responsibility of the secretariat.

6) Report of the Chairman of the Executive Committee

The Chairman of the Executive Committee Mr. Abdu Farea presented a detailed report on the activities of the Executive Committee and recommendations of its 24th Session held in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, 17-22 April 2004 and its 27th Executive Committee Meeting in Khartoum, Sudan, 14 -18 July 2005, indicating the various achievements (see appendix 3). Following intensive discussion the Commission adopted the report and the attachment and emphasized the following recommendations:

1. The contracted aerial spraying companies should install a Differential Global Positioning System (DGPS) in each of their spray aircraft, as a condition to submitting tenders for Desert Locust aerial control operations.

2. The Commission to send the DGPS test report that was conducted in Sudan in 1999 after its translation into Arabic, to Saudi Arabia and other member countries.

7) Report of the Secretariat of the Commission on activities and follow up of the recommendations of the 24th Session of the Commission

The Secretary of the Central Region Commission presented a comprehensive report, which was adopted by the Session, indicating the activities that were implemented and achieved during the period May 2004 to May 2006 (see appendix 4). Following the discussion the participants recommended the following:

3. The official adherence of Eritrea to the Commission, to become Member no. 16.
4. Eritrea should submit to the Commission a detailed report on the expenditure of the Saudi bilateral assistance.
5. The importance of conducting joint border surveys between neighbouring countries, CRC to provide the needed support.
6. Conduct joint border survey between Egypt and Libya when the administrative procedures permit.

8) Desert Locust Situation from May 2004 to May 2006

Mr. Keith Cressman, Forecasting Officer (DLIS) presented a detailed Desert Locust situation in the three regions since 2003 to the present. The report was supported with maps, showing the DL movement between the areas. He stated that currently the DL situation was calm, and there was not expected to be any outbreak in the near future. Mr. Cressman focused on the DL situation in the Central Region pointing out that the outbreak started in October 2003 in Sudan and moved eastwards, crossed the Red Sea to Saudi Arabia, and moved northwards to Egypt. He also reported on the DL swarm invasion from the Western Region to the Central Region across the Egyptian–Libyan border in October 2004, from where the DL swarms spread out to Jordan, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Cyprus, and then moved to the south along the Red Sea coast to the Egyptian–Sudanese border.

Mr. Cressman mentioned that the successful control operations, the excellent coordination between the countries, and the unfavourable conditions, lead to the decline of the DL infestation, which became calm from April 2005 to date. The total treated area in all regions was estimated to be 13 million hectare out of which 300,000 hectares were treated in the Central Region (see appendix 5).

In his presentation he reviewed the new technology that can be used in DL operations and explained in detail the eLocust2 system that was developed to overcome the difficulties in the use of eLocust1. He also outlined the changes that were introduced in RAMSES to make it compatible with eLocust2. FAO had covered the cost of developing this system, testing, procurement of sets, and cost of transmission for the first year. The Commissions should take over the cost of transmission which was estimated to be around US\$19,000 per year per Commission. Finally Mr. Cressman reviewed the rain fall estimate system which could be provided to the countries every 24 hours and/or every ten days in addition to MODIS maps. The cost was estimated to be US\$10,000–15,000 per commission, to be paid once, provided that the prescription of US\$3,000 to be settled every year by the Commission.

Following the discussions the participants recommended the following:

7. The Commission pays the estimate cost of US\$19,000 per year being the transmission cost of eLocust2.
8. The Commission pays the annual cost of US\$3,000 for rainfall estimates and MODIS maps.
9. EMPRES/CR should cover the cost of the development of remote sensing system relating to the MODIS maps and rainfall estimates, being approximately US\$10,000–15,000, as a one-time payment.

a. Complementary reports on DL situation from member countries and observers

Egypt:

The representative from Egypt stated that due to the lack of rainfall, no locust was seen since the middle of 2005. He praised the support given by his Government, FAO and the African Development Bank, which had been helpful in controlling the locust swarms that invaded the country.

Eritrea:

The representative of Eritrea mentioned that the DL situation was calm due to the unfavourable conditions. Only some groups of mixed population of DL were reported in the Eastern Lowlands in May 2005, which were successfully controlled. He added that 25,000 litres of pesticides were received from Sudan and Senegal. He thanked the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for its assistance of US\$337,000. With respect to training, they have conducted two national training courses in the field of DL operations and two staff participated in the NDVI workshop in Cairo, Egypt in March 2006.

Iraq:

The representative from Iraq mentioned that a DL centre was being established in Mathra and Anbar provinces. The new centre needed the collaboration and support of the Commission together with some equipment, appropriate small scale spraying gear, and some training for the national staff.

Jordan:

The Jordan delegate stated that his country was not a DL frontline; there were no DL activities since November 2004 when seven swarms crossed the border in the southwest coming from Sinai Peninsula, and the south of Palestine. These swarms were effectively controlled in collaboration between Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Egypt. He also mentioned the support provided by the Government of Jordan to complete the control, consisting of 10 tonnes of pesticides, 70 vehicle-mounted sprayers (ULVA-Mast) and 12 four-wheel drive vehicles, and safety equipment. A sub-regional training course was held in 2005 in Jordan for trainees from Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, Libya and Egypt.

Kuwait:

The delegate from Kuwait mentioned that the DL situation had been calm during the period under review. Nevertheless, monitoring continues and control teams are available. Three trainees participated in the sub-regional training course held in Qatar in April 2006.

Lebanon:

The delegate from Lebanon informed that the DL situation had been calm since November 2004, when 10 ha of adults coming from the west were treated on the coast. Four participants took part in the sub-regional training course that was held in Jordan in 2005, in addition to the participation of one master trainer.

Oman:

According to the delegate from Oman, the DL situation had been calm during the previous months, but the National Unit was always prepared for any emergency situation. Two National Training Courses were held for 20 trainees. Two locust staff participated in the NDVI Workshop that was held in Cairo, Egypt in March 2006 for Information Officers in the field of eLocust2 and RAMSES. An Inter-Regional Workshop on locust meteorology was held in Oman, jointly organized by FAO and the World Meteorology Organization (WMO), with the participation of National Meteorological Services and National Locust Units of ten countries.

In the field of developing aerial control capacity, in coordination with the Sultanate Air Force, Micronair AU5000 spray equipment and DGPS were procured and installed in the aircraft. A co-trainer participated in the sub-regional training course that was held in Qatar during April 2006.

Qatar:

The delegate from Qatar stated that the DL situation had been calm, but Qatar was always prepared for any emergency situation. A local training course was conducted for some national staff. Qatar hosted the sub-regional training course with the participation of 17 trainees from Kuwait, United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Iraq and Qatar.

The Qatar delegate informed that the activities of DL were being followed up through the periodical reports that are sent by the Commission.

Saudi Arabia:

The representative from Saudi Arabia presented a comprehensive report on the DL situation in the Kingdom, indicating that the climate was suitable for breeding during the end of the winter season due to the heavy rainfall in Mecca and Madina. Aerial and ground control operations were conducted by six teams during the 2003-2005 upsurge. Small hopper bands were controlled in Hail region using Malathion pesticide. He presented detailed tables of the infested and controlled areas, the quantities of pesticides used and the total cost.

He also stated the readiness of Saudi Arabia which consisted of vehicles and spray equipment. He mentioned the assistance provided from Saudi Arabia to locust-affected countries (US\$2 million to Sudan, US\$1 million to each of Algeria and Senegal, US\$337,000 to Eritrea and US\$300,000 to Yemen), during the recent upsurge.

A national training course was conducted with the participation of 25 trainees. Two Saudi participants took part in the NDVI–RAMSES workshop that was held in Cairo, in March 2006 and one participant joined the WMO Workshop in Muscat, Oman, during April 2006.

He also gave a detailed presentation regarding a proposal for BGAN communication to be used in early warning. He requested support for Saudi Arabia in the form of 6 additional eLocust2 sets required for the large area of Saudi Arabia and to equip the increased number of survey teams.

Sudan:

The representative from Sudan explained the DL situation during the last period and stated that intensive operations were conducted in the provinces of the Red Sea, Nile River, North and West Kordofan, Kassala and Khartoum during the 2003–2005 upsurge. DL populations were found in Al Shimalya province, Marawi, and the Red Sea. Maturing swarms also crossed the western border of Sudan and settled in Darfur in May 2005. Some 25,327 ha were treated and assistance was provided to Chad (7,000 litres of pesticides, 33 sprayers) and Eritrea with 10,000 litres of ULV pesticide. He praised the assistance of Saudi Arabia to Sudan. PAN was approved to be used in Sudan in 2005.

He commended the assistance provided from regional organizations, FAO and WFP in the DL survey and control operations in the insecure areas of Darfur in western Sudan.

United Arab Emirates:

The representative from the United Arab Emirates reported that no DL activity occurred during the period under review. Emirates staff participated in the sub-regional training course that was held in Doha, Qatar during April 2006.

Yemen:

The representative from Yemen explained that the climatic situation was variable in the summer and winter DL breeding areas, but it started to improve in the interior regions, Shabwa and Marib. Scattered locust populations had been found caused by the local breeding, but they did not exceed 50 ha.

Control operations in the Red Sea coast in the province of Hajja treated 175 ha in October 2005. The Locust Centre has performed only one survey in 2006, in February.

Desert Locust Control Organization for Eastern Africa (DLCO-EA):

As an observer, the Director of DLCO-EA reported that the DL situation was calm during the last period. The organization had carried out limited control operations in Somalia and Ethiopia. The Commission and EMPRES have requested DLCO-EA to conduct a regional training course on aerial locust control operations for participants from Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Oman, Yemen and Ethiopia. The request is under evaluation.

Following the reports presented by member countries and the DLCO-EA, and after intensive discussions, the Session recommended the following:

10. The Commission will purchase six eLocust2 for Saudi Arabia.
11. The DLIS Information Officer to study the information transmission system that was presented by Saudi Arabia, and to submit a technical report on its reliability for the use in transmitting the locust information in the Central Region, in coordination with the Locust Centre of Saudi Arabia.
12. The Chairman and the Secretary of the Commission to visit Yemen and Sudan very soon to encourage both countries to agree to provide financial autonomy to the Locust Control Centres.
13. DLCO-EA to prepare curricula and transparencies on aerial survey and control of DL, to be submitted to the Commission for comments before conducting a training course.
14. Emphasis was made on conducting sub-regional training courses in view of their benefit to the member countries of the Central Region.

9) Training:

The Secretary of the Commission presented a report on training activities, indicating the number of local, national and sub-regional training courses that were conducted in the period since the 24th Session of Commission. He mentioned that the number of the training courses increased in the said period due to the locust activities and the availability of funds from TCPs in addition to the support provided by CRC and EMPRES (see appendix 6). He stated that training was still a top priority for CRC activities with the aim to raise the capabilities of the locust staff in order to conduct successful DL campaigns. This was reflected in the containment of the outbreak in 2004 and of the DL swarm invasion in early 2005.

With regard to the mid-term training programme, the Secretary of the Commission mentioned that the fifth group of the Diploma had graduated in September 2005 and the sixth group of six students, 3 from Egypt, one from each of Yemen, Sudan and Saudi Arabia, were enrolled in 2005 and expected to graduate in September 2006. In June 2006, the Commission will announce the selection for a new group for the year 2006-2007.

The report indicated that the DL diploma of the University of Khartoum was evaluated in 2005 by an international consultant assisted by a national consultant. A report was submitted, approved and circulated. The Commission was following up the implementations of the recommendations with the University of Khartoum.

It was indicated also in the report that the Egyptian candidate who was studying since August 2004 for his M.Sc. in DL survey in Khartoum, was expected to graduate in September 2006.

10) Research:

The report of the Secretary of the Commission (see appendix 7) contained the aims expected from the research and the priority list of subjects. The cost of each research was

approximately US\$15,000 and the status of the research studies as of May 2006 was as follows:

- Research study at the University of Aden completed in May 2004, final report received and the file was closed.
- Research study at the University of King Faisal completed in May 2004, final financial report was pending and expected to be sent by the Locust Control Centre to close the file.
- Research study at the University of Khartoum completed in December 2005, final technical and financial reports were received and file closed. It was mentioned that this study resulted in a Master degree.

11) Publications:

The participants adopted the Secretariat's report on publications (see appendix 8) which included achievements during the past period. Most importantly it included the workplan to prepare the DL Glossary in three languages (English, Arabic and French). Also the Train-the-Trainers Manual in Arabic and English had been issued, which had been widely distributed. The presentation also included eight proposed designs for CRC logo to substitute the existing one as per the recommendation of the 27th Executive Committee Meeting. The following was recommended:

15. Send an Arabic version of the training manual kit to Iraq as the previously sent kit was never received by the concerned department.
16. A logo was chosen provided that some changes were included. After these inclusions, the revised logo was approved.

12) Election of members and Chairman of the Executive Committee:

The Commission agreed to maintain the four front line countries (Egypt, Sudan, Saudi Arabia and Yemen) in the Executive Committee as permanent members. Since Eritrea, as a front line country, has officially become a member of the Commission, it was agreed that it should compete with other frontline countries from the next session. The representatives from Kuwait, Lebanon and Iraq were unanimously chosen to complete the number in the Executive Committee to 7. The Egyptian representative was elected as the Chairman of the 28th Executive Committee Meeting of the Commission.

13) CRC-EMPRES Website:

The Secretary of the Commission described the proposed website that included the various activities of the Commission in the member countries, annual action plan, available capacities in the locust centres, in addition to reports, DL bulletin, news and upcoming events (see appendix 9). The Secretary indicated that it was also possible to link the CRC-EMPRES website with the DLIS webpage and vice versa. Important DL websites were also linked to the site. He explained that it was impossible to host the website in the FAO domain due to compatibility problem and therefore it was decided to host it in an independent server. The

website address will be www.crc-empres.org and it was expected to be on line by the first week of June 2006.

14) Commission for Controlling the Desert Locust in the Western Region (CLCPRO):

The Secretary of the Commission in the Western Region presented a comprehensive report on DL situation in the Western Region supported by maps. He mentioned that DL infestation was divided into five stages between the Sahelian and Northwestern countries in the period of 2003-2005. He mentioned that resources used for combating DL invasion were 1,500 vehicles, 150 aircraft, 500 vehicle-mounted sprayers and a large number of staff. He reported that about 300 million US dollars were used for the control operations, out of which 100 million US dollars were covered by the donor communities. Areas controlled were estimated to be about 13 million hectare, out of which 9 million hectares were controlled in the Northwest Africa.

The Secretary of the Commission referred to the effective role played by FAO, the Commission, and the support and cooperation between countries of Northwest Africa and the Sahel, estimated to be US\$ 30 million dollars. He commended the external support given by Saudi Arabia to Senegal and Algeria which amounted to US\$ 2 million, pointing out that the invasion came to an end in April 2005.

The Secretary of the Commission then explained in detail the activity of CLCPRO in meetings, contingency planning, training and in other subjects. He also referred to meetings that CLCPRO held with Ministers of Agriculture for CLCPRO member countries in July 2004, and the meeting in Senegal in August 2004, in the presence of the Head of State in Senegal. Also other meetings in Tunis and a scientific conference in Dakar, Senegal, were held in 2005.

With regard to EMPRES/WR, he stated that the actual start of the programme was in 2006 and that so far three ELO Meetings were held in Agadir, Dakar and Algiers, with only one Consultative Committee Meeting held so far, in Algiers in 2006.

He stressed on the necessity of establishing autonomous Locust Control Units in member countries in order to ensure sustainability and the success of Desert Locust activities. He also referred to the good collaboration between the Western and Central Regions Commissions and the support provided by the African Development Bank and the World Bank, being the main donors to the EMPRES/WR Programme.

In his presentation the Secretary of the Western Region Commission referred to the approved agreement of cooperation between the two Commissions in different joint activities.

15) EMPRES achievements and progress in the Central Region

A detailed report was presented by the Secretary of the Commission on EMPRES/CR achievements and progress. He highlighted the progress made in introducing new

technologies for Desert Locust survey and control (see appendix 10). The report summarized the following:

- Development of the human capacity of Desert Locust staff to better performed survey and control operations.
- Developing and use of the new technologies in control operations through the introduction of DGPS to conduct efficient aerial control operations, thereby reducing environmental risk and costs.
- Introduce and encourage bio-control products for environmentally safer control, Metarhizium had been registered in Sudan and trials were in progress in Egypt and Ethiopia to register the product for locust control.
- Adding a small quantity of the pheromone PAN (phenylacetonitrile) to chemical pesticides allowed the dosage to be reduced by 60% while still obtaining 90% mortality. Similar results have been achieved when mixing PAN with Metarhizium. This technology could open up a new avenue for more economic and safer locust control.
- Approaches developed under EMPRES/CR designed to support and strengthen the National Locust Units and to improve preventive control strategies.
- The programme was evaluated for the fourth time in 2005. The evaluation report concluded that the programme has generally achieved its goal, but in some countries this achievement was not attained due to their non-use of the new technologies. The mission recommended the recruitment of a technical officer to assist the Secretary of the Commission.

16) Accounts for 2004 and 2005, contribution and arrears of member countries:

The Secretary of the Commission presented a report on the financial position and the expenditure for the years 2004 and 2005 and up to May 2006 (see appendix 11) for the Commission's Trust Fund. After discussion by the participants, it was recommended to:

17. Endorse the expenditure 2004 and 2005.

Thereafter the Secretary presented a comprehensive report on annual contributions to the Trust Fund and the accumulated arrears of certain member countries (see appendix 11). It was stated in the report that Lebanon paid the balance of its arrears after the agreed cancellation of 50% of them. Sudan had also paid its annual contributions regularly and part of the arrears. Yemen accepted in January 2006 to increase its annual contribution from US\$1,250 to US\$5,000. After an intensive discussion the participants agreed to cancel 50% of Iraq's arrears, similarly to the decision taken for Lebanon and Sudan. The following was recommended:

18. Cancellation of 50% of Iraq's arrears, similarly to Lebanon and Sudan, and to freeze the remaining 50% until situation improves in Iraq, on the condition that the annual contribution should be settled timely and regularly.
19. FAO should address the countries that had not made an annual contribution for three years or more, request these countries to clarify their position as members of the Commission, and to settle their arrears.

20. Since the Council of Ministers in Yemen approved the increase in the contribution to the Commission to US\$5,000 in January 2006, the participants recommended the Commission to request FAO to recalculate the US\$5,000 contribution of Yemen effective from 2006.

a) Workplan for 2006 and 2007:

The workplan for 2006 and 2007 was reviewed by the Commission (see appendix 12). Following the discussion, the workplan was adopted. It was recommended to:

21. Establish an emergency fund of at least US\$500,000 to face the early outbreak. The Secretary of the Commission should prepare the mechanism for managing the fund for discussion at the next Executive Committee Meeting, and for subsequent approval at the next Commission's Session.
22. The endorsement of the budget workplan for 2006 and 2007 after additional expenses related to recommendations made at this Session are included. The Secretary of the Commission in consultation with the Chairman was authorized to cover the cost of implementing the Commission's recommendations when these are not reflected in the Commission budget workplan.

17) Other business:

a) EMPRES/CR Liaison Officers future meeting:

With reference to future EMPRES/CR meetings, the Secretary of the Commission mentioned that EMPRES/CR was phasing out as a separate programme when Phase III ends in December 2006. Thereafter, the Commission would continue implementation of the programme activities (see appendix 13). He pointed out the various meetings that had been routinely held. Following a comprehensive discussion, the participants recommended that:

23. EMPRES/CR member countries that were not members of the Commission's Executive Committee should participate only in the Commission's Sessions. The cost of their travel should be met from EMPRES/CR fund when required.
24. The Executive Committee report should be sent to all EMPRES/CR member countries and to other associate members to inform them of the Executive Committee's deliberations.

b) Contribution to the cost of EMPRES/CR NPO-Survey:

The Secretary of the Commission reported that the contract of the NPO-Survey Mr. Bahakim, who was stationed in Yemen, will be terminated by December 2006 after EMPRES/CR phases out (see appendix 14). He requested participants to discuss the matter. After lengthy discussion it was recommended:

25. To extend Mr. Fuad Bahakim's contract for six months from January 2007 to 30 June 2007 at the Commission's cost. His contract should be terminated by 30th June 2007 if his contract was not taken over by another donor.
26. The Commission to follow up with FAO to secure the operational cost the NPO in Yemen for the recommended six months.

c) The cost of participating in the Commission's meeting by non-Executive Committee members:

The participants discussed the cost for the participation of non-Executive Committee members in the Commission Session and recommended the following:

27. FAO was requested to check if it was necessary to amend the Establishment Agreement of the Commission to allow the cost of the participation of all members in the Commission Session, to be covered, on condition that the member countries should settle their annual contributions regularly.

Other recommendations

28. Based on the request from the representative of Saudi Arabia, it was recommended to procure five laptop computers to support the field activities of the Locust Centre in Saudi Arabia.

Due to the presence of large quantities of pesticides left over from the DL 2003- 2005 upsurge in the Western Region and the importance of making use of them before they become obsolete, the participants recommended:

29. The possibility of the Central Region making use of excess stocks of pesticides in the Western Region, free of charge, on the condition that shipment cost should be covered, should be investigated. Arrangements for the pesticides and their shipment should be negotiated between the donor country, recipient country, and FAO.
30. The donated pesticides should be analyzed for its efficacy at origin before shipping to the recipient country.
31. The Commission in the Central Region should coordinate with the Western Region Commission to obtain a detailed list of the available pesticides.
32. An appreciation message to be prepared by the Commission and sent to Mr. Christian Pantenius, the former EMPRES/CR Coordinator, acknowledging his efforts and excellent performance in the Central Region.

Mr. Ghazi Hawari:

With regard to the health of Mr. Ghazi Hawari, the former Chairman of the Commission at its 24th Session, the participants recommended the following:

33. To send a sympathy message, wishing him speedy recovery, signed by all members attending this Session, to Mr. Hawari and to be hand carried by the representative of

Saudi Arabia in this meeting. The CRC Secretary, on behalf of the member countries, to purchase a gift to be sent to Mr. Hawari through the Locust Control Centre in Jeddah.

18) Date and place of the next Session of the Commission and its Executive Committee

The delegate of Kuwait offered to host the 29th Executive Committee Meeting in 2007 and the delegate of Yemen offered to be the alternate.

The delegate of Lebanon offered to host the 26th Session of the Commission to be held in the year 2008 and the delegate of Oman offered to be the alternate.

The offers were appreciated and unanimously accepted by the participants. The Secretary was given the responsibility to negotiate the dates for the above meetings.

19) Adoption of the report of the 25th Session of the Commission

The participants have unanimously endorsed and approved the report of the 25th Session of the Commission that was held in Doha, Qatar, 28 May to 1st June 2006.

20) Closure of the Session

The Chairman of the Commission thanked all participants for their fruitful discussions and hard work and wished everyone safe return journey. Mr. Elliott extended his thanks and gratitude to member countries, observers, drafting committee, translator and the secretariat of the Commission.

Acknowledgements

The Commission's members expressed their gratitude and thanks to the Government of Qatar represented by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Agriculture for their generosity and excellent arrangements. The participants appreciated the attendance of Dr. Sheikh Falih Bin Naser Al-Thani for his support and for opening the Session on behalf of H.E. Dr. Sultan Bin Hassan Al-Dossari, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Agriculture of the State of Qatar.

Thanks were due to the Chairman of the Commission for his good management of this Session and were extended to the organizing committee that followed up the events of this Session under the supervision of Ms. Mariam Al-Dossari.

The participants took the opportunity of the retirement of Mr. Elliott to thank him and acknowledge his efforts particularly during the last Desert Locust outbreak. He was honored during the dinner party offered by the Commission, a symbolic award being presented to him in the name of the Central Region Commission.

The participants also thanked the Secretary of the Commission for Controlling the Desert Locust in the Western Region and the Director of the Desert Locust Control Organization for Eastern Africa for their fruitful contribution to the Session.

Special acknowledgement was extended to the Secretary of the Commission for his efforts and valuable documents presented in the Session.

The work of the Drafting Committee, the translator and the Secretariat of the meeting were also warmly appreciated.

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Appendix No (2) Report of the Chairman of the Commission

Dear Colleagues,

I would like to begin my report by wishing speedy recovery to Mr. Ghazi Hawari who has been ill for sometime and is bed ridden. On behalf of Mr. Hawari, I would like to thank the Commission's member countries and the Secretary of the Commission for electing Mr. Ghazi Hawari its Chairman, for whom I am presenting this report on his behalf. I am also representing Saudi Arabia in all decisions during this.

It has to be mentioned in this report of the great efforts exerted by the member countries in the Commission of Controlling the Desert Locust in the Central Region and their fruitful cooperation and productive coordination amongst them. This has been proven during the Desert Locust invasion in October 2004 in the Central Region from the Western Region across the border between Libya and Egypt, which spread later to the Nile Delta, Jordan, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia and along the Sudanese – Egyptian Red Sea border. This period demonstrated the high-quality management of the Secretariat of the Commission by effectively coordinating the activities in constantly following up the Desert Locust situation and field control.

The most important are

1. The successful visits, accompanied by the Chairman, to Rome to present the report of the 24th Session of CRC to the Assistant Director General (ADG).
2. Visit Eritrea to finalize its adherence to the Commission.
3. Visit Bahrain and Kuwait to activate the role of the Commission in the Central Region and highlight the importance of their participation in the Commission's sessions.
4. The Chairman and the Secretary of the Commission have produced a draft for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to financially support Eritrea, which has been successfully completed by Eritrea receiving 300,000 US Dollars.
5. With regard to the various aspects of the Commission activities during the period 2004-2006, the Commission handled an intensive workplan in which a lot of achievements were made and most of the recommendations have been implemented. Detailed working papers on different items as indicated in the agenda will be presented in this session, The following are summary of the implantation of the recommendations:

Firstly - Capacity Building:

In this area, full collaboration between the Commission and EMPRES/CR Program covered various national training programmes in addition to two sub-regional training courses. A number of scholarships were granted to students for post-graduate studies, for Advance Diploma on Desert Locust Management and Master Degrees. The issuing of the Train the Trainers Manual was considered to be one of the excellent achievements during the last period which had a very positive role in the success of all training courses.

Secondly - Research:

The Commission, jointly with EMPRES/CR Program, accomplished a number of research studies. Some research studies were completed and others still under study and field investigation. This will not be dealt here in details but later on a separate paper, where achievements and difficulties will be presented.

Thirdly - Joint Survey:

Because of the importance of joint surveys of Desert Locust breeding habitat between countries particularly border surveys, a number of joint border surveys had been implemented during the last period.

The Commission and EMPRES/CR program had implemented a number of joint surveys in cooperation with the counties, especially between Sudan/Egypt, Saudi Arabia/Yemen as well as Djibouti/Somalia borders. In this respect it is hoped that joint border surveys to be considered a permanent activity in the workplan. Unfortunately, due to administrative difficulties, the joint survey of the Egyptian/Libyan border did not take place, but we hope that these difficulties are solved soon and the survey takes place.

Fourthly - Different Matters:

With regard to publications, the Commission has achieved successfully a number of publications, in particular the issuing of the Arabic translation of the monthly Desert Locust Bulletin, and other publications for which the Secretary will present in details in this session.

It is very important to mention here the start of the preparation of the Desert Locust Glossary in the three languages (English/Arabic/French), for the benefit of all who work in the field of Desert Locust.

As well known that the coordination between the Commission and EMPRES/CR program in various aspects and fields of Desert Locust had achieved excellent results, and now after the EMPRES/CR Coordinator has been transferred to the Western Region, all activities have fallen upon the shoulders of the Secretary. As the Chairman of the Commission, I request all member countries to fully support the Secretary in implementing his work in a professional manner.

Appendix No (3) Report of the Chairman of the Executive Committee

The 27th Executive Committee Meeting was held in Khartoum, Sudan, during the period of 24-28 of July 2005, attended by the members of the Executive Committee as follows:

1. Abdu Farea Al-Romaih representing Yemen - Chairman
2. Mohamed Mohamed Abd El-Rahman representing Egypt - Member
3. Ghazi Hawari representing Saudi Arabia – Member and Chairman of the Commission in its 24th Session.
4. Sharaf Eldin Hassan Daoud representing Sudan - Member
5. Mamoon Al-Alawi representing Oman - Member.

Other participants in the meeting were:

1. Munir Butrous – Secretary of the Commission
2. Clive Elliott – Senior Officer Locust and Other Migratory Pests, FAO HQ.
3. Rabie Khalil – Director of the National Centre for Locust Control & Research, Sudan.
4. Moussa Ahmed Fouta - Head of the Meteorological Department, General Meteorological, Sudan.
5. Lidia Naguib – Commission’s Secretary.

During the period of April 2004 till May 2006, the Executive Committee, with the Secretary of the Commission, has followed up the Commission’s different activities and the implementation of the recommendations of the 24th Session in Jeddah and the 27th Executive Committee in Khartoum, Sudan, which can be summarized as per the following table:

Implemented recommendations of the Commission session and the Executive Committee Meeting of the CRC in April 2004:

Recommendations related to the Secretariat:

Recommendation	Achievements
1. Draft documentation should be sent to all member countries before approval for comments and/or additions. A deadline should be given for receiving a reply.	Draft documentations are being sent to all member countries before approval.
2. The Secretariat of the Commission to send reports of the emergency meetings that take place in the Desert Locust front line countries to all other member countries.	This will be applied when such meetings take place.
3. The Secretariat to receive details of the correspondences between the Governments of Egypt and Libya regarding the joint border surveys, thus enabling the follow up of the issue	The Ministry of Agriculture of Egypt has addressed the issue to the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, but there was no further information provided to the Secretariat regarding forwarding it to the

through the Commission for Controlling the Desert Locust in the Western Region.	Libyan Government from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Egypt.
4. The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) to follow up on the Memorandum of Understanding between the CRC and the Desert Locust Control Organization for East Africa (DLCO-EA), to expedite its signature and hence its distribution on all member countries.	The Director General of FAO has approved the Memorandum of Understanding and legal procedures are in progress for FAO and DLCO-EA to sign the document.
5. The participants of the Session have recommended that all equipment and materials provided to Sudan for DL operations should not be used for any other purposes, since Sudan has winter and summer breeding seasons and this requires intense surveys and control operations all year round.	The concerned parties at the Centre for Desert Locust Control in Sudan have been officially informed of the recommendation, which is being followed up by the management of the Centre.
6. The participants of the Session also recommended that the Commission should send an acknowledgement and appreciation letter to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for their support to Sudan.	The Secretariat of the Commission has sent an official appreciation letter to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
7. The participants of the Session recommended that the Commission should send an appreciation letter to Sudan and Yemen for their good achievements in the management and control of Desert Locust in their respective countries, hoping for more support.	Appreciation letters have been sent to Sudan and Yemen for their good achievements in the management and control of Desert Locust.
8. The participants recommended that countries of the Central Region should put forward a request to the African Development Bank (ADB) to support survey and control operations through its emergency projects, so as to finance each country with US\$ 500,000 (five hundred thousand dollars). The Chairman of the Commission should follow the previously presented project document to the Islamic Development bank (IDB) for the development projects.	Egypt has put forward a request to the African Development Bank (ADB) to support survey and control operations and approval for 500,000 \$US was received.
9. As of next year it should be made mandatory for contracted aerial	The Secretariat will follow up the matter with the concerned parties in member

companies to install a Differential Global Positioning System (DGPS) as a prerequisite, in their spray aircraft, if it is to be used in an aerial spraying.	countries when contracting aerial companies.
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Training:

10. It was recommended that the Egyptian candidate Essam Mahmoud Ibrahim be awarded a M.Sc. Scholarship from CRC for the year 2003/2004, and to send apology letters to other candidates, wishing them better luck in the future	Procedures for the Egyptian candidate were completed and student sent to the University of Khartoum to start his M.Sc. in August 2004 and should finish August 2006. Apology letters have been sent to the other candidates who did not make it this time.
11. Heads of DL Departments in member countries, especially frontline ones, should encourage staff in the field of pest control, especially DL personnel, to apply for the DL diploma at the University of Khartoum, Sudan.	The Commission has made an announcement about the DL diploma and encourages DL staff to apply for it.
12. Continuous participation of up to two National Master Trainers in Sub-regional training courses in order to refresh their capabilities and to be informed of new developments in the Desert Locust operations.	The recommendation has been implemented and the 2nd Sub-regional Training Course was held in Doha, Qatar, during April 2005, with the participation of two co-trainers from Oman and Sudan.

Research:

13. The distribution of all approved final research reports to all member countries, the Technical Department for Publication at FAO HQ and concerned parties.	The final approved research report of Mr. Osman Abdullah from Sudan completed in the year 2003 has been circulated. The study has been upgraded to PhD and the Commission will receive two copies of it. Other final research reports, from Yemen, Sudan and Saudi Arabia, were not circulated as they were not yet approved.
14. Since all the research reports submitted to the Commission Award have not fulfilled the CRC criteria for the award, it was agreed that the Secretary should send an apology to the concerned researchers, explaining the reasons for not making the award.	Apology letters have been sent to the concerned researchers, explaining the reasons for not making the award.

Publications:

15. Translation of the English Aerial, Survey and Control SOP in Arabic.	Translation, printing and distribution have been effected for the Aerial, Survey and Control SOP
16. The Commission is to produce more copies of the Arabic Ground Survey and Control SOP.	1500 copies of the Arabic Ground Survey and Control SOP have been printed and distributed.
17. The meeting has also recommended adding Mr. Said Ghaout's glossary to the glossary references.	On the Secretariat request, Mr. Said Ghaout has forwarded 2 copies of the glossary prepared by him to the Commission and it has been added to the glossary references.
18. The meeting recommended that a glossary of technical and scientific DL terms in English, French and Arabic be developed, provided that the explanations of the terms should also be in the three languages. It was also recommended that, two consultants specializing in the subject (one for the English speaking countries in the Central Region and the other from the French speaking countries) be contracted. Mr. Hafraoui was recommended to be the one of the consultants; the Secretary of the Commission was delegated to choose the other consultant.	An action plan has been drafted and the Secretary of the Commission recommends that Dr. Mahmoud Ahmed Fahmy Harb participates with Mr. Hafraoui to complete this task.
19. The Action Plan for the production of a Desert Locust Glossary in three languages (English, Arabic and French) approved, provided that the Western Region Commission agrees to meet the cost of the expert who will undertake the assignment of the French part of the glossary. Otherwise the glossary will be produced only in English and Arabic and the CRC covers the cost.	Dr. Mahmoud Harb has been contracted by the Commission to carry out the task of producing the glossary in English and Arabic only. The Commission will also finance the printing of the glossary. The Commission in the Western Region has agreed to cover the French part of the glossary.
20. The Secretariat of the Commission has requested FAO Rome to look at the possibility of financing the cost of the first phase of the glossary and in the	The Commission is financing the first phase of the glossary as FAO was unable to cover it from the available Desert Locust emergency funds.

negative case; the Commission will support the first phase itself.	
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Adherence of new member to the Commission:

21. Following the endorsement of Ethiopia by the Session as member No. 15 to the CRC, the meeting recommended that the Chairman of the Commission should follow up the subject with the Eritrean Embassy in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Embassy of Saudi Arabia in Eritrea through the usual diplomatic channels	The Chairman of the Commission has corresponded with the Eritrean Embassy in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Embassy of Saudi Arabia in Eritrea through the usual diplomatic channels, but with no positive results.
22. In view of the results out of the communication of the recommendation no. 12, the meeting recommended that the Chairman and the Secretary of the Commission should visit Eritrea to finalize the matter.	The Chairman and the Secretary of the Commission visited Eritrea and succeeded in finalizing the matter.
23. The Commission recommended electing five members in addition to further two members whose membership is subject to FAO final approval. Furthermore, the Commission unanimously recommended that the four DL breeding countries (Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Yemen and Egypt) should be permanent members of the Executive Committee and that the other three members to be elected from the second line countries during the Commission's sessions. Through a secret ballot Oman was elected as the fifth member, United Arab Emirates and Qatar were elected to be the additional two members in the Executive Committee pending finalization in the Legal Section of FAO. Yemen representative was unanimously elected to chair the 26 th Executive Committee Meeting.	<p>The issue has been addressed to the FAO Legal Section and the Secretary has discussed it during his visit to Rome to attend the DLCC meeting. As a result Article IX has been amended in three languages (Arabic, English, and French) and sent to all member countries and approved.</p> <p>This was addressed to the FAO's council and final approval granted and hence it is put into application.</p>

Recommendations related to the budget:

24. Endorsement of the expenditure of 2002, 2003 and 2004.	The expenditure for 2002/03/04 has been endorsed by the Commission and the Executive Committee.
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25. Approval of the budget and work plan for the year 2004 and 2005 as well as work plan for 2006 and 2007.	Budget and work plan for the year 2004/05 & 2006/07 has been approved by CRC & the Committee.
26. Endorsement of the recommendations of the Executive Committee regarding the cancellation of 50% contribution arrears of Lebanon and Sudan, on the condition that they pay their annual contribution in a timely manner, and provide schedule for payment of their remaining arrears	The recommendations have been approved and the issue was addressed to both countries to pay their annual contribution in a timely manner, and provide a schedule for the payment of their remaining arrears.
27. Since Sudan has started to pay its annual contribution again and Lebanon included the funds for those contributions in their national budget, the meeting recommended that the Secretary of the Commission should send messages to the two countries indicating the cancellation of the 50% arrears.	The Secretary of the Commission has addressed the issue to Sudan and Lebanon and as a result Lebanon has paid more than 50% of its arrears and Sudan has started to pay part of its 50% arrears.
28. The Commission and the Locust Group in Rome should check the Jordanian contributions to the Trust fund, as a payment was reported to have been made but was not recorded.	The issue has been discussed with FAO and a comprehensive report sent to the Government of Jordan (GoJ). The report has been approved by GoJ and timely payment program was agreed to settle the arrears.
29. The Secretary of the Commission should obtain details of the driver's salary from the accounts section of the organization.	The issue has been investigated and it was made apparent that two-thirds of the salary is deducted by FAO for pension and medical insurance. There are also other deductions such as social and administrative such that the net salary is not exceeding 2,000 LE.
30. The Secretariat of the Commission to send a letter to the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, Sultanate of Oman, requesting the settlement of US\$ 28,000, being the remainder of its arrears, after it paid US\$ 65,000 in 2002.	A request has been addressed to the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, Sultanate of Oman and settlement has been made. Correction is being made to the 18,000 US\$ that was credited by mistake to the account of DLCC.
31. The Executive Committee recommended that the next Commission Session should discuss the issue of those countries which do not settle their contribution for three	The issue is open for debate during this session.

consecutive years and to come up with a recommendation to address it to those countries	
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Other subjects:

32. The meeting approved the ceiling of US\$ 5,000 for each training course on condition that the proposed expenditure items should be sent to the Secretariat of the Commission for review and approval before the funds are released	It has been the practice now that the proposed expenditure is sent to the Secretary of the Commission to review, revise and approve.
33. Since Djibouti, Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait and Lebanon could not participate in the 24 th Session, although invitations were sent well in advance, the meeting recommended that the Chairman of the Commission send messages to those countries pointing out the importance of the participation and briefing them of the recommendations of the session. A copy of the final report should be attached with the message.	The Chairman and the Secretary of the Commission have sent a message to the concerned countries pointing out the importance of their participation. A copy of the final report of the 24 th Session held in Jeddah during April 2004 was attached with the message. During the Secretary's visit to Lebanon, the importance of their presence in the sessions was pointed out especially after the Desert Locust invasion to the region at the end of 2004. Equally, the same issue was pointed out to both Kuwait and Bahrain.
34. Since the Arabic language is not the spoken language of all participants, it was recommended that the Commission should investigate the possibility to purchase a remote wireless interpretation system in order to be used for the simultaneous translation during meetings.	This recommendation was investigated, information collected and it was found that the cost of a remote wireless interpretation system could reach up to 25,000 US\$. This required the approval of the Executive Committee which has been cancelled on the basis of its large size and high cost.
35. The host country of the Commission Session to provide all necessary facilities for the simultaneous interpretation and to cover any resulting costs. If the host country is unable to cover the cost, the Commission should meet it.	The recommendation is being implemented.
36. Transfer of Mr. Fuad Bahakim's post to the Commission to benefit from his 9 years experience in the field of Desert Locust as of January 2007,	The Commission will cover Mr. Bahakim's salary which amounts to US\$ 20,000 per year.

<p>37. The Commission to cover the salary of the National Professional Officer (NPO) from the Commission's fund with the post continuing its base in Sana'a, Yemen. FAO to cover the operational cost of the office which amounts to 20,000 US\$ yearly. In case of refusal the NPO is not be transferred.</p>	<p>The salary of the NPO was found to amount to 50,000 US\$ per annum, thus recommendation is made for FAO to cover the salary part and the Commission covers the operational costs, which amount to 20,000 US\$ per year.</p>
<p>38. Continuation of holding Commission Sessions and Executive Committee meetings in the same manner as they have been in the past years provided that the Commission documents should include updated information.</p>	<p>The recommendation is being implemented.</p>
<p>39. The Secretariat of the Commission to review and amend the Establishment Agreement to comply with the new membership, and to update it. The new version will be submitted to the next Commission Session for approval, where after, it will be submitted to FAO for approval procedures. The Secretariat of the Commission to print the new version of the Establishment Agreement after its amendment and official approval and distribute it to all member countries. The Secretariat of the Commission to advertise in Egypt for the design of the new CRC logo, taking into considerations its work nature and new members.</p>	<p>The Secretariat has revised the Establishment agreement and completed formalities with FAO, approving it in both languages (Arabic and English). Printing the amended agreement is pending the approval of the new CRC logo.</p>
<p>40. The Secretariat of the Commission jointly with EMPRES/CR should create its own website.</p>	<p>The website has been created and currently working on its being on the World Wide Web (www).</p>

Due to the fact that a number of recommendations are an integral part of the CRC routine activities, e.g. Recommendations No. 3, No. 5-14 and No.17 to 19 concerning locust situation and research in the 27th Executive Committee report, were not mentioned in the above implementation table.

Appendix No (4) Report of the Secretariat of the Commission

During the period from May 2004 to May 2006, i.e. the period after the 24th CRC Session in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Commission has taken up several activities summarized as follows:

A) Training:

1. Organization and preparation of a national training courses in Desert Locust survey and control in Egypt during the period of 07-16 August 2004 in Burg Al Arab and three training courses in Ismailia in 2005, 19-26 March 2005, 10-17 September, 26 November–01 December. Support was also given to 3 local training courses for farmers and labourers in 2005, in Quena during 12 -13 November, in Burg Al Arab during 16-17 November and in Ismailia during 19 -20 November.
2. Organization and preparation of the two national training courses in Oman, the first training was during the period of 17 July – 4 August 2004 which took place into two parts, from 17-21 July in Muscat in Desert Locust survey and from 30 July to 4 August in Alnagd in Desert Locust control. The second training was also held in Alnagd during the period of 01-04 May 2005.
3. Organization, preparation and participation in the national training in Doha, Qatar during the period of 08-23 September 2004 in the field of biology, survey and control aspects of Desert Locust.
4. Organization and preparation of several training courses in Desert Locust survey and control in Sudan, three national training courses in 2004, in Dongola during the period of 22-29 May, in Obeid during 03–09 July, in Suakin during the period of 11-16 December. Four national training courses in 2005, in Gedaref during 19-25 February, in Al-fasher during the period of 03-09 May, in Kosti during the period 01-07 August, in Aldamazeen during 12-18 November. Two other local training courses for farmers, laborers and scouts held in during December 2004, in Suakin during the period of 18–19 and in Damer during the period of 11-16.
5. Organization and preparation of two national training courses in Yemen in 2004, in Tihama (Hajja) during the period of 05-10 June for Desert Locust Officers to train them on new methods of Desert Locust control. Two Saudi Arabian Desert Locust Officers participated as co-trainers. The second was held in Hodaidah during the period of 27 November–02 December for Desert Locust Officers to be trained on the biology and new survey aspects of Desert Locust. A third training course took place in Mareb during 04 – 08 June 2005 for extension and technical officers to train them on Desert Locust control. The Commission previously supported a local training course during the period of 27–31 March 2004 on the biology and survey of Desert Locust for laborers in the governorates, who are responsible for collecting and forwarding Desert Locust information.

6. Support, organize and prepare of national training courses in 2005, in each of the following countries; Ethiopia during August, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia during the period of 17 – 28 September, Djibouti during the period of 27-29 September, Massawa, Eritrea during the period of 20 November to 01 December and Syria during 11-19 December. These training courses concentrated on the biology, survey and control of Desert Locust.
7. Organization, preparation and participation in the two sub-regional training courses on the biology, survey and control aspects of Desert Locust in Amman, Jordan during the period of 23 April – 2 May 2005 and in Doha, Qatar during the period of 09-19 April 2006.
8. Support was provided to Mr. Adel AlShaibani from Yemen, who has gained good experience on RAMSES Programme and eLocust for transmission of information from the field, to provide assistance to train Information Officers in Eritrea during the period of 21-29 June 2004, Sudan from 24 March to 1st April 2005 and Egypt from 01 – 08 July 2005.
9. Support was provided to Mr. Felege Elias from Ethiopia to install RAMSES in the Locust Centre in Egypt and train Information Officers on its use during the period of 26 March – 06 April 2004 and train the Ethiopian EMPRES Liaison Officer and his assistants on the use of RAMSES programme during the period of 23 -27 March 2005.
10. The Commission, in collaboration with the EMPRES/CR Programme, supported the academic Diploma study in Desert Locust management at the University of Khartoum. The fourth group graduated in the year 2003/2004 and the fifth group graduated in the year 2004/2005. The sixth group is expected to be graduated in September 2006.
11. Follow up on the nomination and acceptance of the enrollment of the Egyptian student for a Masters Degree in Desert Locust Survey at the University of Khartoum in Sudan in August 2004, funded by the Commission. He is expected to complete his postgraduate study in August 2006.
12. The Commission and the EMPRES/CR Programme has given support to the evaluation and assessment of the Diploma degree at the University of Khartoum to assess its benefits and to identify if there is any weakness. Also, to follow up on the performances of students holding this Diploma and their inputs to improve the operations during the Desert Locust campaigns. The evaluation was completed in July 2005 and the report was circulated to all concerned authorities. The Secretariat of the Commission is following up the implementation of the recommendations.
13. The Commission examined the second generation of new technology by organizing a workshop in Cairo, Egypt, during the period 19 -23 March 2006, to provide the users of RAMSES in countries like; Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Sudan and Yemen in addition to the Desert Locust Control Organization for East Africa (DLCO-EA) with the up-to-date technology in the RAMSES and eLocust2 and the overcoming of

problems faced by Desert Locust Information Officers in front line countries. They, in turn, will perform training in their respective countries.

14. CRC supported FAO and WMO (World Meteorology Organization) joint workshop organized in Muscat Oman in the period 08-12 April 2006. The purpose of the work shop was to bring together the appropriate experts from the National Meteorological Services and the Locust Units in the Desert Locust affected countries in order to discuss improvements to meteorological data requirements and provision for locust survey and control.

15. Certificates of Merits were sent to the students who graduated.

B) Research:

As agreed beforehand during the previous years and in collaboration with the EMPRES/CR Program, the research status can be summarized as follows:

1. In January 2004 the research at the University of Aden in Yemen was completed. Although the report did not meet the standard criteria for scientific reports, it has been approved by the Desert Locust Monitoring & Control Centre and hence the Ministry of Agriculture of Yemen. The financial statement was also approved and hence finalizing this file.
2. In May 2004 the research at the University of King Faisal, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia was completed, but also did not meet the standard criteria for scientific reports. In addition, the report contained only compiled data with neither analysis, nor summary nor recommendations. As the researcher did not respond positively to requests for amendments, it has been decided to close this issue, after the financial part is settled for the amounts already received by the National Center for Locust Control and Research, Ministry of Agriculture.
3. Two research proposals have been approved under the supervision of the University of Khartoum in Sudan; the first research was not completed and closed in October 2005. The second research was completed, final report submitted and approved in March 2006.
4. Another research proposal was approved under the supervision of the Research Institute in Egypt. This was completed at the end of 2005, final report submitted, except that it was not approved pending analysis, assessment and submission of the final financial report.
5. A research proposal was received and approved in April 2005 from the Desert Locust Control Organization for Eastern Africa – DLCO-EA. First progress report was received in November 2005 and research is continuing during 2006.

C) Joint survey:

- 1) In view of the collaboration between the Commission and EMPRES in the Central Region, the third joint survey of the Yemen/Saudi borders took place in January 2005 at the winter breeding areas. The fourth Yemen/Saudi borders joint survey was not conducted as planned due to internal change in the National Center for Locust Control and Research in Saudi Arabia and also the non availability of funds from the Ministry of Agriculture of Yemen in due time. Therefore, the fourth joint border survey in the year 2006 was postponed.
- 2) The fourth joint survey of the Egyptian/Sudanese border was conducted in February 2005 and the fifth during the first week of March 2006, for the winter breeding areas.
- 3) The first joint survey of the Djiboutian/Somalia border was conducted in March 2004; the second border survey is currently being organized to take place in April 2006 for regular breeding areas across the boarders. But due to changes in the Desert Locust staff in Somalia after the joining of the EMPRES-Link-Person to DLCO-EA and the appointment of a new Link Person from the Ministry of Agriculture in Somalia, the survey was not conducted.
- 4) Although there was an agreement to conduct a joint survey of the Egyptian/Libyan border, but due to administrative difficulties and the involvement of Desert Locust officers from both countries in the latest DL invasion did not permit it. It should be noted that the Desert Locust invasion in October 2004, took place across the Egyptian/Libyan borders, it is important to organize this border survey in the near future, for which the concerned countries are requested to follow up the issue. Unfortunately, to this date, the joint survey has not taken place.

D) Publications:

This can be summarized as follows:

- 1) The continuation of the translation of the monthly Desert Locust Bulletin from English into Arabic in PDF format and its circulation to member countries and concerned parties.
- 2) The Commission supervised the translation of the Guidelines on Minimum Requirements for Ground-based Locust and Grasshopper, volume 4 for Ground Sprayers used for Controlling the Desert Locust and Grasshoppers, and has been printed and distributed to concerned parties.
- 3) The Commission has prepared a work plan for the Glossary (English/Arabic/French) of technical expressions and terms used in the research field and in the control of Desert Locust. The Secretariat's suggestion of hiring Dr. Mahmoud Ahmed Harb for this task was approved for the English and Arabic languages. The Commission for

Controlling the Desert Locust in the Western Region will handle the translation into French.

- 4) Following the Commission's production and distribution of the SOP for Desert Locust Aerial Survey and Control in English in pocket size laminated cards, it has been translated into Arabic, printed and distributed to member countries and concerned parties. Also additional copies of the SOP for Ground Survey and Control were printed and distributed.
- 5) The Commission in collaboration with the EMPRES/CR program has produced and distributed the trainer's kit in English and Arabic to all concerned parties including the University of Khartoum. This is currently being successfully used in all training courses.
- 6) The Commission has prepared the final draft of check lists for Information Officers, survey and control to evaluate the training impact and to identify the actual training needs, after being sent to concerned parties for comments. The check list is now being used before conducting training courses to highlight the weak points and to ensure that all information is perceived.
- 7) In collaboration with EMPRES the Desert Locust Index Cards for Locusts and Grasshoppers was prepared, printed and distributed in October 2005.
- 8) The Commission in collaboration with EMPRES prepared the SOP for Radio Communication for Mobile teams and field stations, in English and Arabic in pocket size laminated cards and poster form, for its use by DL Officers and radio users. This will be printed and distributed to all concerned parties.
- 9) The Secretariat of the Commission jointly with EMPRES/CR created its own web site with information on the different activities of member countries, which will be placed on the World Wide Web (www.) as soon as administrative procedures are finalized.
- 10) As per the recommendation of the 27th Executive Committee Meeting in Khartoum, Sudan 2005, for a new logo design for the Commission. The Secretariat of the Commission has obtained several designs to select a new logo replacing the current logo during this session.

E) Budget:

- 1) The Commission has sent requests to all member countries to pay their contribution arrears and expressed its appreciation to those who pay their contribution in a regular manner. In this aspect, Sudan has started paying its annual contribution regularly and part of the arrears. Lebanon has paid its arrears in full. Iraq has started paying its annual contribution as of 2006.

- 2) An appreciation letter was sent to Saudi Arabia for its support of 2 million Dollars to the Desert Locust Centre in Sudan and 300,000 US Dollars to the Desert Locust Section in Eritrea.

F) Secretary's participation:

The Secretary of the CRC has participated in the following events:

- 1) Organizing and participating in the 24th Session of the Commission for the Control of Desert Locust in the Central Region and the EMPRES/CR Country Focus Program workshop, Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, 13 – 27 April 2004.
- 2) Participation in the Desert Locust Control Committee (DLCC) Technical Meeting, Nouakchott, Mauritania, 30 April -08 May 2005.
- 3) Participation in the 1st Executive Committee Meeting for the Commission for Controlling the Desert Locust in the Western Region (CLCPRO), in Niamey, Niger, 14 – 22 June 2004.
- 4) Organization and participation in the 2nd Ad hoc Planning Meeting for the winter breeding season for front line member countries (Eritrea, Saudi Arabia, Sudan and Yemen) held in Khartoum, Sudan, 05-10 September 2004.
- 5) Organization, preparation and participation in the National Training Course in Doha, Qatar in 2004 and in Ismailia, Egypt in 2005.
- 6) Participation in the 12th and 13th EMPRES/CR Liaison Officers Meeting held in Hurgada, Egypt, 08–14 October 2004 and in Sana'a, Yemen, 11-15 December 2005.
- 7) Participation with the Chairman of the Commission in the Extraordinary Session of the Desert Locust Control Committee in Rome and submitting the report of the 24th CRC Session to the Assistant Director General of FAO during the period of 28 November–04 December 2004.
- 8) Meeting with the Minister of Agriculture of Lebanon to clarify the DL invasion in the Central Region including Lebanon and to discuss other issues related to Desert Locust management, 25–27 January 2005.
- 9) Participation in the 3rd and 4th EMPRES/WR Liaison Officers Meeting in Dakar, Senegal, 06-13 February 2005 and in Algeria during the period of 24 February to 02 March 2006.
- 10) Participated in the Extended Locust Group Staff Meeting in Rome, 22–26 February 2005.
- 11) Organization and participation in the 3rd Ad hoc planning meeting for the summer breeding season for front line member countries (Eritrea, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Sudan and Yemen) held in Cairo, Egypt, 22-24 March 2005.
- 12) Accompanied by the Chairman of the Commission, a visit was paid to Eritrea to follow up on its adhesion to the CRC and to discuss the possibility of a bilateral support to Eritrea, 27 March–01 April 2005.
- 13) In collaboration with the Director General of the Desert Locust Centre of Egypt and EMPRES/CR Coordinator, a survey was conducted along the Red Sea, 4–8 April 2005.

- 14) Organization, preparation and participation in the two Sub-regional Training Courses on the biology, survey and control of Desert Locust held in Amman, Jordan, 23 April – 2 May 2005 and in Doha, Qatar, during 09-19 April 2006.
- 15) Accompanied by the Chairman of the Commission, the Secretary visited Bahrain and Kuwait to activate the CRC role, the involvement of these countries and the importance of their participation in the Commission Session 20 -26 May 2005.
- 16) Participation in the 3rd Session of the Commission for Controlling the Desert Locust in the Western Region, Tripoli, Libya, 12-16 June 2005.
- 17) Due to the increase in the membership of other countries to the Commission and after the adhesion of Djibouti and Ethiopia and anticipated adhesion of Eritrea, and according to the recommendation to revise the number of member countries in the Executive Committee, the Secretary has followed up the issue with the Legal Department at the FAO HQ in Rome. Amendment has been made to that effect and approved by FAO Council in June 2005.
- 18) Meeting with the Director of the Central Institution for Desert Locust Research and Control (CIDLRC) in Sudan to assist in assessing the Desert Locust situation in Darfur, especially after the invasion of what is known as, the Desert Locust southern movement Desert Locust swarms, which spread in Fasher then to Gedaref then to Ethiopia during 26 June – 02 July 2005.
- 19) Meeting with the Minister of Agriculture of Yemen, during the period of 25 – 27 January 2005, to clarify some aspects about the Commission for Controlling the Desert Locust in the Central Region, the contribution and arrears of Yemen. Also, some other points regarding the budget allocated to the Desert Locust Monitoring & Control Centre and workplans.
- 20) The organization and participation in the 27th Executive Committee Meeting of CRC in Khartoum, Sudan, during the period of 24 -28 July 2005.

G) Other activities:

- 1) The adherence of front line countries to the Commission is considered to be fundamental in controlling the Desert Locust in the Central Region, especially after the termination of the EMPRES programme. After the adherence of Djibouti in 2002, Ethiopia in 2004, Eritrea was the last one from the EMPRES countries to join. The Commission has recommended that the Chairman of the Commission follow up the issue through the Eritrean Embassy in Saudi Arabia and the Embassy of Saudi Arabia in Eritrea. This was done with no positive results. Hence, and according to the recommendations, the Chairman and the Secretary visited Eritrea on 26th March 2005 to conclude Eritrea's adherence to the Commission. After intensive discussions with the Minister of Agriculture of Eritrea that included highlighting the role of the Commission in controlling the Desert Locust in the Central Region, the Minister approved the adherence of Eritrea to the Commission and hence an official request was presented to the Director General of FAO through the official channels in May 2005. This will be raised during this session for approval and announcing Eritrea to become the member number 16 in the Commission

- 2) The Commission is preparing an updated detailed spread sheet on aerial spray companies in different countries so as to make this information available in case of emergency situations. This is updated on a regular basis.
- 3) The Commission sends and exchange Desert Locust bulletins and reports and information to member countries.

Appendix No (5) Desert Locust situation from May 2004 to May 2006.

Overview

Swarms invaded the Central Region from the west in October 2004 and, on a smaller scale, in June 2005. Although control operations were mounted, breeding could not be prevented and hopper bands and a limited number of new swarms subsequently developed. In both years, these infestations were successfully controlled and there were no reports of swarms emigrating from the Central Region during the period under report. In the Western Region, the upsurge declined and came to an end during the spring of 2005. In South-West Asia, two generations of breeding occurred during the summer of 2005 along the Indo-Pakistan border where gregarization took place and hopper bands and swarms formed. From May 2004 to April 2006, control operations treated nearly 300,000 ha in the Central Region, almost 11 million ha in the Western Region and less than 20,000 ha in South-West Asia. The majority of these operations had concluded by early 2005.

Central Region

(a) Summer 2004. Despite small-scale breeding in parts of the interior of Sudan and coastal areas of Yemen during the summer of 2004, locust numbers remained low and non-threatening. Limited control operations were carried out in Yemen against small groups of hoppers that formed at the end of the summer.

(b) Invasion from the Western Region. Numerous immature swarms originating from the summer breeding areas in Mali and Niger invaded the Central Region. The swarms arrived in northwest Egypt from Libya at the end of October 2004 and then gradually moved east across the northern coast to the Nile Delta near Alexandria. A few swarms invaded Cyprus on 30 October and adults appeared on the coasts of Lebanon the next day and in northern Israel on 3 November. Swarms continued to appear in the Nile Delta and reached Cairo and the Sinai Peninsula on 17 November, southern Israel and Jordan on the 19th and the northern Red Sea coast in Saudi Arabia on the 21st. A few adults reached the Syrian coast on the 22nd. Those swarms that were not detected or controlled moved into the northern Red Sea Trench and progressively moved southwards on the prevailing winds along both coasts.

(c) Winter 2004/05 breeding. The immature swarms that invaded Egypt and were not controlled in November eventually concentrated along both sides of the Egyptian/Sudanese border where they matured and laid eggs in December. Control operations were carried out against small bands and swarms that formed in February and March 2005, respectively. A few swarms crossed the Red Sea in April to the central coastal plains of Saudi Arabia where they laid eggs. The small hopper bands that developed were controlled in May 2005.

(d) Invasion from West Africa. Several immature swarms associated with the Southern Circuit migration arrived in the Darfur province of western Sudan from eastern Chad in late May and early June 2005. These swarms had formed the previous autumn in the western Sahel and over-wintered in the Guinea highlands. Most of the swarms remained in Darfur where they quickly matured and laid eggs, but a few swarms continued east across central Sudan and

reached the Ethiopian highlands in Tigray and Amhara provinces in mid June. Hoppers bands started to form at the end of June in Darfur where survey and control operations could only be undertaken in the relatively secure Government-controlled zones during the summer. Even though many areas were not accessible, there was only one report in November of a swarm forming in Darfur. Very little breeding occurred elsewhere in the summer breeding areas in Sudan in 2005. In Eritrea, ground control operations treated hopper bands on the northern Red Sea coast resulting from local breeding in September that was probably not related to the upsurge.

(e) Winter 2005/06 breeding. Only small-scale and very limited breeding occurred during this past winter on the Red Sea coast in Sudan, mainly in the Tokar Delta, and on the northern Red Sea coast in Yemen. Consequently, locust numbers did not increase significantly during the winter or the spring of 2006. By April, locusts declined on the Sudanese coast but unusually good rains fell on the other side of the Red Sea near the Yemen/Saudi Arabia border that may allow a generation of breeding to occur in the coming weeks.

Other Regions

Western Region

(a) Invasion of the Sahel. The Desert Locust upsurge continued in the Western Region where large-scale breeding occurred during the spring of 2004 within a large area south of the Atlas Mountains that extended from the Atlantic Ocean coast in Morocco to Tunisia and the Mediterranean Sea. Despite extensive control operations, numerous swarms formed and invaded the Sahel in West Africa and laid eggs from mid June to about mid August. Early arrivals over flew traditional breeding areas in the northern Sahel where it was dry and continued south, reaching agricultural zones in the central Sahel of Senegal, Mauritania, Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger and Chad. Ground and aerial control operations were carried out against hopper bands in the affected countries during the summer. Nevertheless, new swarms started to form in early September and, as rains were already ending in many places, they subsequently moved towards the autumn breeding areas in northwest Mauritania.

(b) Invasion of Northwest Africa. As late summer and autumn rains did not materialize in northwest Mauritania, the swarms continued to move northwards and reached the Atlas Mountains in Morocco and Algeria in October. Swarms from Mali and Niger moved northwards during October on strong southerly winds. Some of these swarms reached the Mediterranean coast of Libya and continued eastwards to the Central Region while others reached the Atlas Mountains in Algeria and Tunisia. Unusually cold temperatures during the winter in the Maghreb did not allow the swarms to mature nor to migrate to other areas. This gave control teams in Morocco and Algeria nearly six months to carry out spray operations before the temperatures began to warm up in March. Consequently, very few infestations remained at the beginning of spring 2005 and subsequent breeding was extremely limited due to poor rainfall. As a result, the Sahel was not invaded during the summer of 2005 and the upsurge had collapsed.

(c) Southern Circuit migration. Late-forming first generation swarms mixed with a smaller second generation of swarms moved west in the Sahel during November and December 2004. These swarms subsequently reinvaded northern Senegal and moved south through Gambia to Guinea Bissau and Guinea by January 2005. The scale of this invasion was much smaller than that of Northwest Africa. The swarms over-wintered in the central highlands of Guinea and then moved east in the southern Sahel during April and May 2005 from southern Mali to Burkina Faso to southern Niger, northern Nigeria, northern Cameroon, central Chad and eventually reaching eastern Chad and western Sudan where they matured and laid eggs in late May and early June.

(d) Post-upsurge situation. Only small-scale breeding occurred during the summer and autumn of 2005 in a few places in the Sahel, mainly in central Niger by local populations and in eastern Chad by Southern Circuit swarms. Control operations were carried out against a limited number of hopper bands. Since then, locust numbers have remained low and insignificant. Currently, scattered adults are present in a few places in northwest and northern Mauritania, in northern Mali, in eastern Algeria and perhaps in northern Niger.

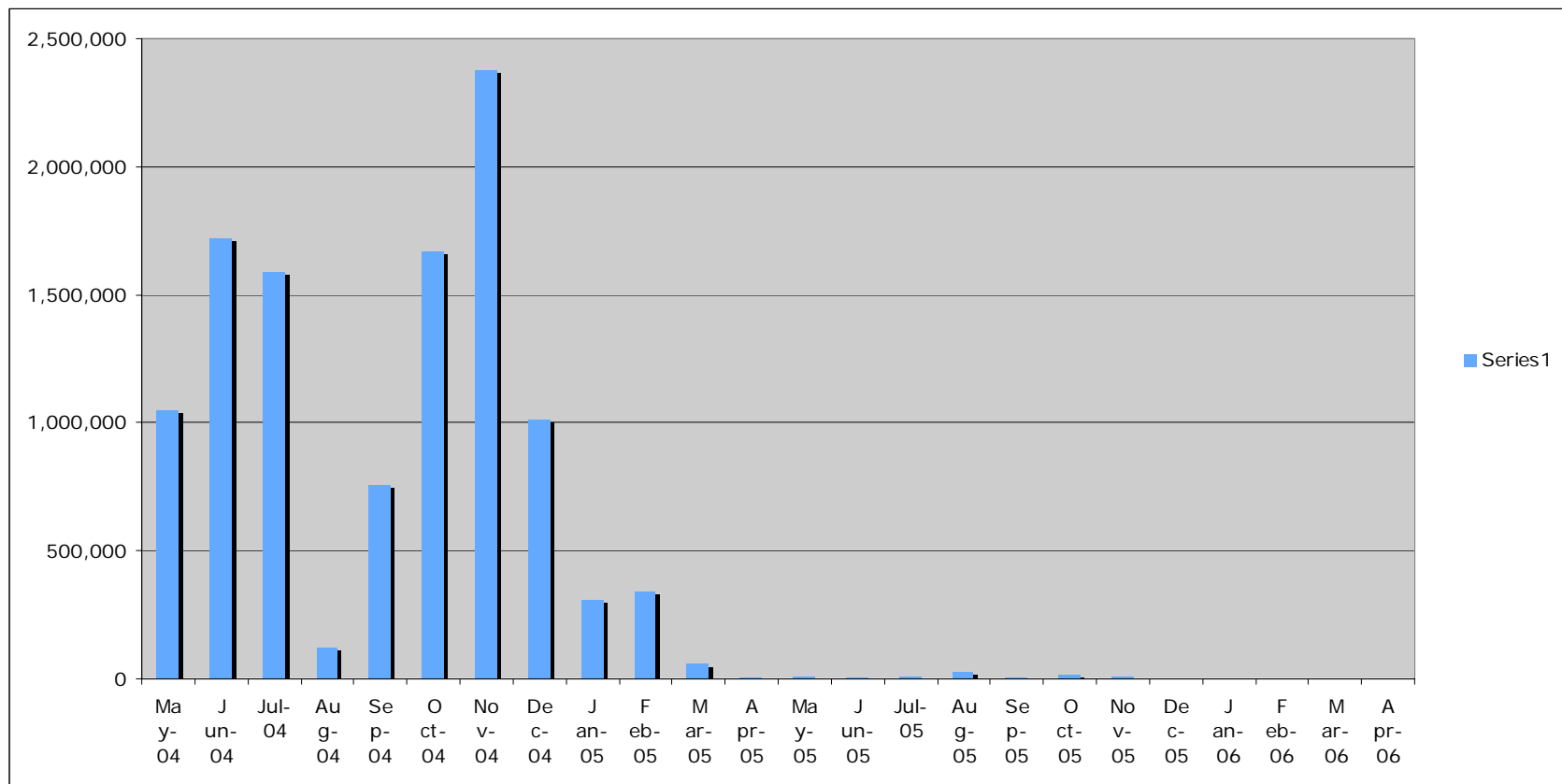
Eastern Region

South-West Asia was not affected by the 2003-05 upsurge and the situation remained calm until the summer of 2005 when good monsoon rains fell along the Indo-Pakistan border. Laying occurred in July 2005, hatching and gregarization took place in August and swarms started to form in September. A second generation of breeding took place with hatching and band formation in October and new swarms forming in mid-November. By then ecological conditions had dried out and the few adults and swarms that were not controlled moved east towards New Delhi while others moved west towards the Indus Valley in Pakistan. Some adults reached the spring breeding areas in Baluchistan, western Pakistan in mid-December. By the end of the year, the situation was once again calm along the Indo-Pakistan border. During the spring of 2006, no significant developments occurred in western Pakistan or in eastern Iran, the traditional spring breeding areas, due to poor rainfall.

	May-04	Jun-04	Jul-04	Aug-04	Sep-04	Oct-04	Nov-04	Dec-04	Jan-05	Feb-05	Mar-05	Apr-05	May-05	Jun-05	Jul-05	Aug-05	Sep-05	Oct-05	Nov-05	Dec-05	Jan-06	Feb-06	Mar-06	Apr-06	Total
Cyprus	0	0	0	0	0	462	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	462
Egypt	1,433	1,672	1,793	0	6	8,650	162,900	51,185	2,084	155	1,640	542	510	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	232,620
Eritrea	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8,933	11,117	85	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20,135
Ethiopia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	63	17	184	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	264
Israel	0	0	0	0	0	0	NR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NR
Jordan	0	0	0	0	0	0	4,520	2,003	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6,523
Lebanon	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
Saudi Arabia	0	0	0	0	0	60	1,100	20	0	0	0	2,707	5,155	600	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9,642
Sudan	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,320	2,685	4,776	0	0	0	1,726	12,289	159	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22,961
Central Region	1,439	1,672	1,793	0	6	9,172	168,530	53,208	3,404	2,840	6,416	3,249	5,665	713	10,676	23,590	244	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	292,617
Western Region	1,050,970	1,721,628	1,588,377	125,036	754,412	1,661,562	2,207,417	958,418	303,916	340,399	51,965	547	2,817	5,749	1,520	770	1,320	5,245	1,005	703	73	0	180	20	10,784,049
SW Asia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,456	8,306	7,364	643	0	0	0	0	18,769
	1,052,409	1,723,300	1,590,170	125,036	754,418	1,670,734	2,375,947	1,011,626	307,320	343,239	58,381	3,796	8,482	6,462	12,196	24,360	4,020	13,551	8,369	1,346	73	0	180	20	11,095,435

NR : not reported

Hectares treated against Desert Locust infestations as reported to FAO DLIS (May 2004 - April 2006)



Hectares treated against Desert Locust infestations as reported to FAO DLIS (May 2004 - April 2006)

Appendix No (6) Training

It is well known that technological development in all fields is fast, specifically in Desert Locust biology, survey and control and the equipment used. This, off course, assists in raising the capability of the locust staff to monitor and control the Desert Locust in an efficient way. Hence increasing national capacity and capability of the locust staff through training courses is a priority and placed by CRC in the first category and considered to be the most important activity of the Commission.

A number of activities and trainings were either equally financed between CRC and EMPRES/CR or solely by the Commission depending on the membership of the country in EMPRES/CR or CRC. Training activities during this period, after the 24th CRC Session, could be summarized as follows:

1. Short term national training:

National Trainings: covering subjects relating to biology, survey and control of Desert Locust.

Egypt

- a) A national training course was organized and conducted in Burg Al Arab, Egypt, during the period of 07–16 August 2004. Trainers were from the National Research Centre in Egypt, and the Desert Locust Control Centre at the Ministry of Agriculture. Twenty one Desert Locust Officers from different governorates participated in the training.
- b) Due to the Desert Locust activities in the Central Regional and the financial support provided by Technical Cooperation Project, three training courses were held in Ismailia, Egypt during 2005. The first national training was held from 19-26 March by trainers from the National Research Centre in Egypt, and the Desert Locust Control Centre at the Ministry of Agriculture, including the participation of the EMPRES/CR–NPO survey expert as a supervisor. Trainees were from different governorates. The second training course was held during the period of 10-17 September for 20 DL officers and was conducted, for the first time, solely by trainers from the National Research Centre in Egypt and without the assistance of the National Research Centre. The Secretary of the Commission participated as an observer and information source. The good achievement about this training course is that it was prepared, organized and conducted solely by the two qualified trainers that were trained in the sub-regional training course held in Jordan. The third training course was held during the period 26 November and 01 December to train 16 trainees from the Desert Locust Control Centre of MoA. This was also conducted by the previously mentioned trainers who will in future be responsible for all national training courses particularly because their ages lie between mid-twenties and mid-thirties.

Oman

- a) With the support of the Secretary of the Commission, two national training courses were organized in Oman. The first training was held during the period of 17 July–04

August 2004 which took place in two parts, from 17-21 July in Muscat on Desert Locust survey and from 30 July to 04 August in Alnagd on Desert Locust control. Training was given by national trainers with the assistance of the EMPRES/CR NPO survey expert. Ten Desert Locust Officers from different governorates received the training.

- b) The second training was also held in Alnagd during the period of 01-04 May 2005 performed by national trainers for 8 Plant Protection Officers.

Qatar

- a) The Commission organized a national training course in Doha, Qatar during the period of 08-23 September 2004, on biology, survey and control aspects of Desert locust. Sixteen trainees participated; the training was given by the Secretary of the Commission. This is considered to be the first training course to be held in one of the Gulf countries for a long time.

Sudan

- a) Also due to the Desert Locust activities in the Central Regional and the financial support provided by Technical Cooperation Project several training courses were held in Sudan during 2004 on Desert Locust biology, survey and control. The training carried out by national trainers, which had a positive impact on the Desert Locust control operations **a)** In Dongola during the period of 22-29 May for 20 trainees, **b)** In Obaid during the period of 03-09 July for 14 trainees and **c)** In Suakin during the period of 11-16 December for 15 trainees.
- b) As we all know that Sudan covers a large spread out area with a numerous Locust breeding habitats, in addition to the large staff number in the Plant Protection Directorate of the Ministry of Agriculture, who provide good assistance in emergency situations. Training courses continued to be held by national trainers during 2005, **a)** In Gedaref, during 19-25 February for 17 trainees, **b)** In Al-fasher during the period of 03-09 May for 15 trainees, **c).** In Kosti during the period of 01-07 August for 20 trainees and **d)** In Demazen during the period of 12-18 November for 20 trainees.

Yemen

- a) In Yemen two national training courses were held during 2004 **a)** Tihama (Hajjah) during the period of 05-10 June for 16 Desert Locust Officers to be trained on new methods of control of Desert Locust. Training was carried out by national trainers with the EMPRES/CR NPO survey expert as an observer. Two Saudis (Mr. Adnan Khan and Mr. Abdellatif Gholam) assisted in the training as co-trainers. **b)** In Hodaidah during the period of 27 November-02 December for 16 Desert Locust Officers to receive training on DL biology and new survey methods of Desert Locust. Training was carried out by national trainers and the EMPRES/CR NPO survey expert as an observer.
- b) National trainers have also conducted a training course in Mareb during 04-08 June 2005 for 18 extension and technical officers on Desert Locust control.

Saudi Arabia

- a) The Commission supported the national training course in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia during the period of 17-28 September 2005 on DL survey and control operations, attended by 25 trainees. The training was conducted by national trainees.

Syria

- a) The Commission supported the national training course held in Damascus, Syria, during the period of 11–19 December 2005 on DL biology, survey and control operations. It is expected that 20 trainees received the training given by national trainers, but no report has been received yet.

Ethiopia

- a) The Commission and EMPRES/CR supported the national training course held in Addis Ababa during August 2005 on DL survey and control operations. The report has not been received yet, so no information available on the number of trainees and other items. Hence the Secretariat requests training reports to be sent to the Commission Secretary during and after its termination, enabling the follow up of its performance.

Eritrea

- a) The Commission and EMPRES/CR supported the national training course held in Massawa in Eritrea in the period 20 November–01 December 2005 on DL biology, survey and control operations for 25 trainees. The training was conducted by national trainers.

Djibouti

- a) The Commission and EMPRES/CR supported the national training course held in Djibouti during 27–29 September 2005 on DL control operations for 16 trainees. The training was conducted by national trainers.

Sudan

So as to benefit all, two local training courses were held in 2004 for 19 farmers, laborers and scouts in Suakin, during the period of 18–19 December and in Damer, during the period of 11-16 December 2004 for 18 trainees.

Yemen

A similar national training course, to that of Sudan, was held in Yemen during the period 27–31 March 2004, on Desert Locust biology and survey, for 14 laborers in the governorates. These are relied up on for collecting and forwarding Desert Locust information.

Egypt

Three similar training courses were also held in Egypt for farmers and laborers in November 2005 during the periods, 12-13 in Quena, 16-17 in Borg Al-Arab and 19-20 in Ismailia.

Jordan

The Secretariat of the Commission organized and conducted the first sub-regional training course in Amman, Jordan, during the period of 23 April to 2 May 2005 on Desert Locust biology, survey and control for 20 trainees (9 from Jordan, 4 from Lebanon, 4 from Iraq, 2 from Egypt and 1 from Libya). Requests for training courses were received from Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq to carry out the training. In view of the unsettled situation in Iraq and the number of trainees was not sufficient in Lebanon, it was decided to conduct this sub-regional training course in Jordan. The Egyptians were included in this training to qualify them as local trainers in order to engage them in future national training courses in Egypt. Upon the request of the Secretary of the Commission for Controlling the Desert Locust in the Western Region, one Libyan trainee participated, due to the fact that training in their region is usually held in French and this is held in Arabic. The trainers were the Secretary of the Commission and one co-trainer from Lebanon and another from Jordan.

Qatar

After the success of the first sub-regional training course held in Amman, Jordan, during the period of 23 April to 2 May 2005, the Executive Committee held in Khartoum, Sudan recommended regular yearly sub-regional training courses to be held with the participation of two previously qualified national co-trainers as assistants to refresh their training skills and to be updated on new DL technical aspects. A sub-regional training course was held in Doha, Qatar during the period 9-19 April 2006, with the participation of 20 trainees (5 from Qatar, 4 from Iraq, 2 from Bahrain, 3 from Kuwait and 3 from United Arab Emirates). Two co-trainers from Oman and Sudan participated as assistants.

Various

In cooperation with EMPRES/CR, the Commission supported Mr. Adel Al-Shaibani from Yemen, who gained good experience in RAMSES and eLocust for sending information from field, to visit Eritrea during 21-29 June 2004, Sudan during 24 March to 01 April 2005 and Egypt during 01- 08 July 2005 to train the National Information Officers.

Support was also given to Mr. Felege Elias from Ethiopia to install RAMSES in Egypt at the Desert Locust Control Centre at the Ministry of Agriculture during the period 26 March to 6 April 2004, and to train Information Officers on its use.

Mr. Felege Elias also trained EMPRES/CR Liaison Officers and his assistants in Ethiopia on the use of RAMSES during the period 23 March to 27 May 2005.

2. Mid term training:

- a) For the sixth consecutive year, the Commission has taken the responsibility, and in complete coordination with the EMPRES/CR Program of financing the Desert Locust Diploma course which started in 2001. Six students (1 from each of Sudan, Yemen, Saudi Arabia and 3 from Egypt) were accepted from the Central Region since September 2005, and are now completing their diploma at the University of Khartoum. They are expected to graduate in September 2006. Six students (1 from each of Jordan, Syria, Oman, Yemen and 2 from Sudan) have graduated in September 2005.
- b) After 5 years of the Diploma course at the University of Khartoum, the Commission and the EMPRES/CR programme have decided to evaluate the course in order to assess its benefit and review its weak points if any. The evaluation will also look at the extent of the performance and support that previous students have provided to DL campaigns. A consultant, specializing in the training aspects, was contracted from the United Kingdom for two weeks in July 2005, assisted by a national consultant from Sudan. The report was reviewed, approved and circulated to all concerned authorities. The Commission is currently supervising and following up the implementation of the recommendations.
- c) An announcement for candidates to be enrolled for the academic year 2006/2007 will be circulated in June 2006, depending on the implementation of the recommendations, made by the consultant, by all concerned parties.

3. Long term training:

The Commission sponsored the Egyptian student to obtain his Master Degree in Desert Locust Survey from the University of Khartoum in Sudan, who started his study in September 2004. The research is focusing on Desert Locust survey in a more defined manner with more detailed emphasis on survey methodology and the possibility of practicing this in case of outbreak, upsurge and plague. The course duration is two years and expected to be completed by August 2006.

From the progress report received by the Commission in mid 2005, it is expected that the results of the study will be of great value in its application during Desert Locust surveys.

Appendix No (7) Research

Background on the research program in the Central Region:

In view of the agreement and collaboration with EMPRES/CR programme to conduct applied research on Desert Locust in the Central Region, to be financed equally by both parties for a total of 15,000 US\$ per each research study. The following is the research priority list:

Priority Areas of Research in the Central Region

The following are general areas of applied Desert Locust research that have been identified as priority under the CRC-EMPRES/CR Collaborative Research Initiative.

Population Dynamics

- *Identification and characterization of non-traditional potential Desert Locust breeding areas.*
- *Identification of biotic and abiotic factors that influence the Desert Locust behaviour and migration pattern;*
- *Determination of parameters that trigger Desert Locust gregarization and migration;*
- *Development of applied methods to identify and describe important vegetation types, plant communities and plant species in Desert Locust habitats in the Central Region;*
- *Field observation to investigate Desert Locust / host-plant relationship with regard to food preferences, shading, migration, egg deposition, protection, and roosting;*
- *Investigation on natural mortality factors and their impact on Desert Locust hopper populations;*

Improved Early Detection methods

- *Ground verification surveys for fine-tuning of satellite imageries;*
- *Investigation on survey techniques and methods to enhance the detection probability of Desert Locust populations;*
- *RAMSES based case studies to analyze outbreak and upsurge situations;*

Alternative locust control methods

- *Field-testing of the efficacy of bio-control products;*
- *Field-testing of the efficacy of Desert Locust pheromones such as Phenyl-Aceto-Nitrile (PAN) and mixtures of PAN with chemical and / or biological control products;*
- *Field-testing of Insect Growth Regulators (IGR) with regard to its effective mode of action;*

Improvement of Pesticide Application techniques and methods

- *Assessment of appropriate parameters for barrier treatment;*

- *Field-testing of the appropriateness of Insect Growth Regulators and phenylpyrazole group for barrier treatment;*
- *Testing and improvement of spray equipment;*
- *Testing of reduced pesticide doses and mixtures;*

Assessment of Environmental Impacts of Control Operations

- *Development / improvement of rapid environmental assessment methods;*
- *Identification of non-target key organisms to standardize the assessment of environmental impact of pesticide;*

Economic Impact of Desert Locust

- *Development of methodologies and models to estimate crop losses caused by Desert Locust infestations;*
- *Analyze the economic impact of Desert Locust campaigns.*

Status of research studies up to May 2006:

1. In January 2004, the research at the University of Aden in Yemen that started in 2000 was completed. The study covered the

Assessment of Environmental Impact of Control Operations under the title:

Impact of pesticides used in DL operations on the honeybee and other non-target organisms in Yemen.

Although the final report did not meet the criteria for scientific report, lately approval was given by the Desert Locust Monitoring and Control Centre (DLMCC) and hence the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation of Yemen. The Secretary of the Commission followed up the financial statement with the Head of the Desert Locust Monitoring & Control Centre (DLMCC) but with unfortunate results, as the researcher, on most occasions, did not respond to the correspondences of the DLMCC and on other occasions replied in an inappropriate manner to either the DLMCC or the Secretariat. This conduct is absolutely not accepted by the Secretariat. In any case, the financial statement was finally accepted and approved and hence closing this file for good.

2. In May 2004 the research at the University of King Faisal, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, which started in September 2002, was completed. The study covered the same subject as in 1), under the title:

Relationship between DL infestation, environmental factors and the impact on control measures.

This final report was submitted to the Secretary of the Commission, but it also did not meet the criteria for scientific reports. In addition, the report has only a collection of information without any analysis. It neither contained a summary, nor recommendations.

When this matter was addressed to the researcher, no response was made and hence it was decided to close this file, but after the financial statement of expenditure for the sum received by the National Center for Locust Control and Research of the Ministry of Agriculture of Saudi Arabia is settled.

3. A research proposal has been approved under the supervision of the University of Khartoum in Sudan, under the title:

Distribution of DL in relation to herbage quality in the Sudanese Red Sea Coast.

The study started in May 2003 and finished at the end of 2005. It concentrated on identifying the plant types and their contents of Nitrogen and its relationship with the behavior of Desert Locust especially in the solitary phase. The Secretariat received the final report, including the financial statement, and received approval. The final payment is in process, so as to close this file.

4. The second research, which was accomplished under the supervision of the University of Khartoum in Sudan, is under the title:

Effect of PAN on non-target insects.

The final report of the research, which started in August 2004, was submitted in April 2005. It has not been made clear to the Commission or EMPRES/CR of whether the report submitted was a progress or a final report. In any case, the researcher did not clarify this point and did not abide by the terms and conditions stated in the agreement. The report was not of scientific nature and did not consist of a financial statement requesting the next installment. After several correspondences addressed to the researcher from the Secretary of the Commission and the Director of the Central Institution for Desert Locust Research and Control (CIDLRC), and a meeting arranged with the researcher clarifying all these points, the researcher did not present any further clarification to the CRC or EMPRES/CR to continue pursuing this study and hence the file was closed in October 2005.

5. Another research proposal has been approved in August 2003 under the supervision of the Research Institute in Egypt, titled:

Effect of Green Muscle on Locust and Grasshoppers.

The reports presented on this study indicated positive results favoring the registration of the fungal pesticide Green Muscle in Egypt, which can also be used in DL control in vegetable and fruit fields prepared for export in Shark Al Ouienat Farms. The study was completed at the end of 2005 and the final report submitted to the Secretariat of the Commission, was not approved and under assessment. The final completed financial report has not yet been submitted. The Secretary of the Commission is following up this matter with the researcher, the Research Institute and the Desert Locust Centre at the Ministry of Agriculture to complete the file.

6. A research proposal was received from the Desert Locust Control Organization for East Africa–DLCO-EA and as per the collaboration and coordination with regional organizations stated in the Establishment Agreement and in the Memorandum of Understanding between CRC and DLCO-EA, which has been approved by the Director General of FAO and going through some legal procedures at the moment, was approved in April 2005 and expected to finish in 2006, under the title:

Filed Evaluation of Green Muscle (Metarhizium anisopliae) against Grasshoppers in Ethiopia

As with the study in 5), this study is expected also to assist in registering the fungal pesticide Green Muscle in Ethiopia for its use in the field in a large scale. The first progress report was received in November 2005 and approved. The study is still continuing in its second phase in 2006.

7. In collaboration with the EMPRES/CR Programme, the Commission has contributed in a workshop on DGPS in Ethiopia during the period from 20-23 April 2004. Participants came from the Desert Locust centers in Oman, Sudan, Yemen, Saudi Arabia, Ethiopia and staff from the air spraying companies in Sudan, Oman and Saudi Arabia. Participants appreciated the workshop and its technical coverage and pointed out the importance of the device in Desert Locust control operations. Participants from the Saudi and Ethiopian air companies will approach their departments with the recommendations of supplying the device to the spraying airplanes with the aim to achieve target spraying, save the environment and reduce the cost of control operations.
8. Although it is important and essential to encourage researchers in the Central Region universities and research centres to come up with research proposals covering all priorities prepared by CRC and EMPRES/CR, it was noticed that most of the presented proposal did not meet all the requirements. In addition the progress and final reports were not up to the scientific standards, which require time and efforts in reviewing and presenting them in the appropriate scientific format. It is therefore, important that researchers in the Central Region are encouraged to prepare and submit sound research proposals covering the priority areas as indicated above.
9. Although great efforts are being made by the EMPRES Liaison Officers, the Secretary of the Commission and Directors of Desert Locust Centres in the Central Region, no research proposals were submitted to the Commission or EMPRES/CR since 2004, except that of the DLCO-EA, which was approved in 2005. The Secretary of the Commission therefore suggests that a recommendation is made in this regard to encourage researchers to present proposals as per the criteria prepared by CRC and EMPRES/CR.
10. With regard to the CRC award for the outstanding research in the field of Desert Locust, the Commission received nine requests (5 from Egypt, 3 from Sudan and one from Saudi Arabia). None of these requests fulfilled the CRC requirements. The award of 5,000 US\$ is still available to be offered to the outstanding research based on criteria and requirements prepared by the Commission.

Appendix No (8) Publications

Since the last 24th Session of the Commission in Saudi Arabia in April 2004, the Commission has taken up several activities on publications that could be summarized in the following:

1. Translation of the monthly Desert Locust Bulletin:

As well known, the Desert Locust Information Service (DLIS) of the Food and Agriculture Organization in Rome issues a monthly bulletin on the Desert Locust situation in English on the 5th of every month. Since it is vital for this information to reach all concerned people in the field of Desert Locust, the Commission translates the bulletin into Arabic transformed into PDF format to coincide with the English version. The Arabic bulletin is distributed to all concerned authorities worldwide. In ensuring this, the commission has continued its contract with the same specialized translator in Desert Locust to perform this task. The Commission is also responsible for the translation and distribution of the Desert Locust Updates and Alerts about the Desert Locust situation and development.

2. Translation of the Guidelines on Minimum Requirements for Ground-based Locust and Grasshoppers Sprayers:

The Commission has translated the Guideline on Minimum Requirements for Ground-based Locust and Grasshoppers Sprayers into Arabic. This is the fourth volume that covers the spray equipment for ground use against Desert Locust and Grasshoppers. It is considered very important for this volume to reach all staff work in the Desert Locust field, as it provides instructions for testing the spraying equipment and hence helps them to make the right choice. The Secretariat has supervised the production and distribution of the booklet to all concerned authorities.

3. Publication of a Glossary (English / Arabic/French) of Technical Expressions and Terms Used in the Research Field and in the Control of Desert Locust:

After a draft proposal was prepared for a Glossary of technical expressions and terms used in the research field and in the control of Desert Locust in (English Arabic/French). The Commission prepared a work plan and Dr. Mahmoud Ahmed Harb was contracted to take up this task for the English/Arabic part as per the attached workplan. A draft of the glossary will be sent to all concerned parties for review/comments/additional/removal and then put into its final format and sent to the Western Region to be translated into French and any additional Arabic terms. The cost of the consultant will be covered by the Central Region Commission while the Western Region Commission covering the cost of the translation into French.

4. Production of the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for Desert Locust Survey and Control:

Following the production of the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for Desert Locust Aerial Survey and control in English in the form of laminated pocket size cards for the use of Locust Officers and Pilots, and according to the recommendation made by the member countries, the Commission has translated it into Arabic and distributed it to all concerned authorities, so it is equally beneficial to those who do not perfect the English language.

Following the information received from the field and LCUs on the benefit of the SOPs for Ground Survey and Control, the Executive Committee recommended further production of these SOPs. Accordingly the Commission produced 1500 copies and distributed them on member countries. Upon their request, some SOPs copies were sent to Libya and Morocco in the Western Region.

5. Production of English and Arabic Trainers Kit:

The Commission in collaboration with the EMPRES/CR Program has produced the Trainer's Kit in English, which is composed of three folders. The first containing transparencies for survey and training, the second containing transparencies for control and the third containing instructions on presenting the information and the time allocated for each lecture, with visual aides, such as transparencies, board, etc.

The Commission has translated the first two folders from English into Arabic. The folders and the required equipment in the training have been placed in cases and distributed to all concerned authorities as per the following table. It is well to note that these Kits are being used regularly and successfully in training courses.

Destination	Training kit		Destination	Training kit	
	Arabic	English		Arabic	English
Bahrain	1		Djibouti		1
Egypt	2*	2	Eritrea		2
Ethiopia		2	Iraq	1	
Jordan	1		Kuwait	1	
Lebanon	1		Oman	2*	2
Qatar	1		Somalia		1
Saudi Arabia	2*	2	Sudan	2*	2
Syria	1		Emirates	1	
Yemen	2*	2	DLCO-EA		2
Libya		1	Mauritania		1
Faculty of Agric. Univ. of Khartoum	1*	2	EMPRES/CR		1
RNE-Cairo	3*	3	DLIS-Rome	1*	1

* Arabic box contains Arabic translation of the transparencies files

6. Production of Campaign and Training Checklists and Summary Report:

The Commission has sent drafts of check lists for control operations and for the evaluation of the Desert Locust Information Officers to all concerned authorities for their review and comments. The Commission has incorporated the amendments received into the check lists.

The control operations check list is now being used before conducting training courses to highlight the weak points and to ensure that all information is perceived. The control check list can be used as well in campaign evaluation to identify errors in order to avoid them in future campaigns.

7. Production of Desert Locust Index Cards:

In collaboration with EMPRES the Desert Locust Index Cards for Locusts and Grasshoppers was prepared, printed, laminated and distributed widely, in October 2005, to all concerned institutions and organizations. It would be expected that these index cards will be of great benefit to the staff working in the field of Locusts and grasshoppers.

8. Production of Standard Operating Procedures and Poster for Radio Communication for Mobile Teams and Field Stations:

Due to the importance of transferring important information from field to the Information Office at the National Desert Locust Centres, the Commission, in collaboration with EMPRES/CR and FAO Information Services (DLIS), prepared the SOP and poster for Radio Communication for mobile teams and field stations, in the aim to simplify and improve the communication method for transferring data and to keep the Directors in constant contact with the field stations. It is well known that any faulty use of such equipment leads to worthless survey and control operations and lack of communication between field stations and mobile teams. Improper use of the correct linguistics could also lead to confusion, misunderstanding and bad comprehension of the information collected. It could also affect the appropriate timing of sending information.

Hence, it was vital that all personnel working in radio communication should be aware of the critical principles and standard operating procedures, which include operating high frequency radios. The Secretariat is in the process of producing English and Arabic pocket size laminated cards and posters, for its use by DL Officers and radio users. This will be printed and distributed to all concerned parties.

9. Issuing of the Brochure *FIGHTING THE LOCUSTS... SAFELY*:

The Commission issued and supervised in December 2005 the Arabic translation of the Environmental Brochure "*FIGHTING THE LOCUSTS... SAFELY Pesticides in Desert Locust control: balancing risks against benefits*". The brochure has been approved in May 2006 and printing in progress in Rome.

10. Commission New Logo:

As per the recommendation of the 27th Executive Committee Meeting in Khartoum, Sudan 2005, for a new logo design for the Commission. The Secretariat of the Commission has obtained several designs to select a new logo replacing the current logo during this session. Based on the approval of the Commission, the secretary will start producing stickers of different sizes of the logo which will be distributed to all member countries of the Commission.

Attachment. Encyclopedic Glossary of Scientific and Technical Terms used in Acridology



Subject: Encyclopedic Glossary of Scientific and Technical Terms used in Acridology English – French – Arabic With Illustrations

The Desert Locust spreads in a vast area extending from the Atlantic Ocean in the West to India and Pakistan in the East. This belt covers several countries that differ in ecological and geographical aspects as well as in the languages used. In view of that, the Desert Locust belt was divided into three regions, i.e. Eastern, Central and Western, in order to harmonize the Desert Locust management in each region and to coordinate activities with the neighbouring regions.

Because of the different languages used in the three regions (English, Arabic and French), and in spite of the availability of a number of DL glossaries, these glossaries are not, qualitatively and quantitatively, satisfying the DL experts in the three regions. As it is well known that the new and advance technology in the DL and related subjects have demonstrated the importance of producing an updated and comprehensive DL glossary in the three languages including terms, phrases and their explanations and acronyms/abbreviations/illustrations used in the DL fields.

The glossary, as discussed in the 24th Commission Session in Jeddah, April 2004, will be prepared based on the English Alphabetical order. It was recommended that two experts should share the responsibility of producing the glossary, one with English and Arabic and the other with French and Arabic background.

The following is the mechanism/terms of reference of preparing and producing the glossary by the two experts:

Duties to be undertaken by the English/Arabic expert:

The expert will divide the preparation of the glossary into four phases as the following:

a. First Phase

1. Determine and collect entries, phrases, definitions, and scientific terms in English language from letters **A** to **Z** in DL and related subjects. The following references are suggested for consultation:

- ⇒ FAO Desert Locust Guidelines
 - ⇒ Desert Locust monthly bulletins
 - ⇒ FAO guidelines for spray equipment, control techniques, pesticides and safety and toxicology
 - ⇒ Publications on meteorology, remote sensing, agro-aviation, computer science, etc
 - ⇒ Other documents related to Desert Locust such as extension manuals, reports, meeting minutes, workshops, etc
 - ⇒ Existing glossaries in Arabic, English and French, scientific references, encyclopedias
2. Add meanings, explanations, expressions and indications in English next to each term of every letter, the following should be considered:
 - a. Use of British English rather than American English
 - b. In combined terms follow the alphabet system by using the first letter of the first word e.g Rotary atomizer and Terminal velocity
 - c. It can also be arranged by using the first letter of the second word, but should be written Atomizer rotary and Velocity terminal, and should refer to the words Rotary and Velocity to avoid repetition.
 - d. Arrange combined words by using the first letter of the first word then first letter of the second word and so on e.g. Rotary brush atomizer comes first then Rotary cage atomizer and then Rotary disc atomizer.
 3. Add meaning/abbreviations/acronyms and explanation of terms in English in front of each term as necessary.
 4. Collect and add meanings of acronyms/abbreviations/symbols in Desert Locust and related subjects in English.
 5. It is expected that this glossary would contain 1,000 A4 pages.

The prepared document in Phase 1 will be circulated to all concerned parties for additional information/comments in order to be sent back to the expert within one month from the circulated date.

b. Second Phase

In case of additional information and/or comments, they will be incorporated and the following will be undertaken:

1. Meanings, synonyms, thesaurus and explanations will be added in Arabic to the English term, meanings and explanations for the letters A to E.
2. Add the meaning of acronyms/abbreviations/symbols in Arabic for the letters A to E.
3. If applicable illustrations will be provided.

The prepared document in Phase 2 will be circulated to all concerned parties for additional information/comments in order to be sent back to the expert within one month from the circulated date.

c. Third Phase

Same procedure as in phase 1 and 2 will be followed in Phase 3 but for the letters **F to P**.

d. Fourth Phase

Same procedure as in phase 1 and 2 will be followed in Phase 4 but for the letters **Q** to **Z**.

Each of the four phases is expected to take 4-6 months, and in order to facilitate the expert's job, a separate contract will be signed for each phase.

Duties to be undertaken by the French/Arabic expert:

The expert role will start in the second phase after the inclusion of English and Arabic terms, meanings and explanations. Therefore, his job will be to focus on the following:

1. Add terms in French next to each term of every letter in English.
2. Add meanings, explanations, expressions and indications in French that match with English and Arabic explanations.
3. Arrange, electronically, the French terms and meaning between the English and the Arabic versions.
4. Consider the addition of any local Arabic terms and meanings in the Western Region.
5. The expert should circulate the prepared document in each phase to all concerned parties for additional information/comments in order to be sent back to him within one month from the circulated date.
6. The expert should include a French index and terms in alphabetical order.

Estimated Cost of preparing the Glossary:

The cost of preparing the glossary is divided into four steps:

- ⇒ **Step one: 25,000 US\$** is to cover the cost of **First Phase:** Determine and collect entries, phrases, definitions, and scientific terms in English language from letters **A** to **Z** in DL and related subjects. This phase would include also adding of meanings, explanations, expressions and indications in English next to each term of every letter and collecting and adding meanings of acronyms/abbreviations/symbols in English.
- ⇒ **Step two: 7,000 US\$** is to cover the cost of **Second Phase:** Additional information and/or comments will be incorporated; meanings, synonyms, thesaurus and explanations will be added in Arabic to the English terms, meanings and explanations for the letters **A** to **E**; adding the meaning of acronyms/abbreviations/symbols in Arabic for the letters **A** to **E** and illustrations will be provided if applicable.
- ⇒ **Step three: 7,000 US\$** is to cover the cost of **Third Phase:** Same procedure as in indicated above for the letters **F** to **P**.
- ⇒ **Step four: 7,000 US\$** is to cover the cost of **Fourth Phase:** Same procedure as in indicated above for the letters **Q** to **Z**.

Total cost for the preparation of the Glossary in English and Arabic would amount to **42,000 US\$ which will be covered by the Commission in the Central Region.** Extra funds will be required for printing and production of the prepared glossary.

The Commission of the Western Region is expected to cover the cost of the expert of the Western Region in order to add the French translation to the English/Arabic terms and meanings.

Appendix No (9) CRC-EMPRES website

As per the recommendation made at the 12th EMPRES Liaison Officers Meeting in Hurghada, Egypt in 2004 and the 27th Executive Committee Meeting in Khartoum, Sudan in 2005, EMPRES/CR and the Secretariat of the Commission have created a website containing a brief overview, but in more details for front-line-countries, on member countries, EMPRES/CR Programme, CRC and Desert Locust Control Organization in East Africa (DLCO-EA), containing country maps, hierarchy of Desert Locust Centres, person responsible and contacts.

Due to the importance of this website, EMPRES and CRC have enhanced it with files containing member countries different activities; different reports including monthly bulletins, annual workplans and available Desert Locust resources. The website also includes other related Desert Locust website addresses. The website will be put on the World Wide Web (www.) as soon as administrative procedures are completed.

When visiting the website, one would identify the activities currently taking place, finished activities and future ones in all Desert Locust subjects, in either member countries or regional and international organizations.

The website was presented to the 6th EMPRES/CR Consultative Committee Meeting held in Cairo, Egypt, in October 2005 and to the 13th EMPRES/CR Liaison Officers Meeting in Sana'a, Yemen, in December 2005, and received the appreciation of all, recommending its placement on the World Wide Web as soon as possible for the benefit of all. The Secretary of the Commission is in the process of finalizing the administrative and financial procedures for this, noting that the cost per annum on the WWW is 200 US\$.

Appendix No (10) EMPRES achievements and progress in the Central Region

Introduction:

Since the 1986 – 1989 plague, the FAO Council endorsed a proposal in 1994 for the development of an Emergency Prevention System (EMPRES) for transboundary pests, with a major focus assigned to the Desert Locust. In 1997 the EMPRES Central Region (CR) Programme was initiated with the aim:

To reduce the risk of Desert Locust plagues emanating from the Central Region of the Desert Locust distribution area in order to mitigate food security, economic, and environmental concerns in the Central Region and beyond.

Since then, the major focus of the EMPRES/CR Programme was on:

- Developing the human capacity of locust control staff of the national Locust Control Units (LCU) to better perform survey and control operations;
- Developing more effective national and regional locust information and early warning systems which are linked to the Desert Locust Information Service (DLIS) at FAO HQ;
- Developing early preparedness and contingency planning mechanisms;
- Assisting the EMPRES/CR member countries in introducing novel control technologies which are likely to reduce the environmental risks of Desert Locust control.

Due to the fundamental continuation of the Programme activities, especially after the transfer of the EMPRES/CR Coordinator to the Western Region based in Dakar, Senegal; the Secretariat of the Commission has overtaken the responsibilities of following up the activities in the nine member countries since December 2005.

Status and Role of EMPRES/CR Programme (May 2006)

The EMPRES/CR Programme was able to benefit from the relatively calm period from 1996 to 2003 to fully concentrate on the **development and introduction** of various standard procedures, technologies and approaches as part of the operational system of the Locust Control Units in the Central Region with the aim:

*To enhance the **early detection** and **early reaction** capacities of the EMPRES/CR member countries in a sustainable way.*

As a result of the joint efforts the quality, frequency and timeliness of Desert Locust reports prepared by all EMPRES Central Region countries steadily improved over the years, and surveys are being conducted more targeted, with better results and hence more cost effective by systematically using NDVI (Normalized Difference Vegetation Index) satellite imageries, GPS (Global Positioning System), RAMSES (Reconnaissance and Management System of the Environment of Schistocerca) data management system and rainfall data. Recently the *eLocust system* for wireless transmission of field data has been introduced in two countries. The next generation of this new technology is currently being tested, after a workshop was held in Cairo, Egypt, during the period 19 – 23 March 2006 and countries operating RAMSES (Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Yemen and DLCO-EA) have been supplied

with eLocust2 to overcome all difficulties faced by Information Officers in front line countries.

Training standards and teaching methodologies on Survey & Control and Safety aspects have been developed and documented in a “Master-Trainers’-Training Manual”. This manual is based on the practical and participatory training principle “*learning by experience*”. Since the EMPRES/CR Programme became operational, more than 700 locust control staff, but also assistant staff and farmers were trained and re-trained by using this training approach, which is now more and more practised by the LCUs themselves under their own responsibility, with only limited assistance from the Commission and the Programme. In addition, there are sub-regional training programme funded by the Commission to train Plant Protection Officers in non-front-line countries threatened by Desert Locust invasion on survey and control operations; with the participation of previously trained co-trainers from front-line countries in order to receive re-training, to refresh their training skills and inform them of new developed technologies.

With regard to new technologies, the Differential Global Positioning System (DGPS) has been introduced for more targeted and more precise application of pesticides. Five DLCO-EA aircraft are being equipped with the system. It is expected that with the help of this technology the amount of pesticide used during aerial control operations can be reduced because of the more accurate track spacing. Thereby the costs of pest control operations will be reduced and unwanted contamination of un-infested areas with chemical pesticides can be avoided.

As a response to the efforts of introducing biological control means, Sudan, as the first country in the Central Region, registered metarhizium-based *bio-control product* “Green Muscle” for locust control. Other countries like Egypt and Yemen also showed high interest in following this example soon after the effects of the fungus *Metarhizium anisopliae* have been demonstrated in field trials and a regional field workshop.

Also the effects of the semio-chemical, Phenylacetonitrile (PAN) on gregarious hopper bands could be verified by ICIPE for the first time in 2004 and repeated in early 2005 on natural hopper bands. The results showed that when adding small quantities of PAN to chemical pesticides, the application rate of the pesticide could be reduced by 60 % by obtaining equal mortality of above 90 %. Similar results have been achieved when mixing PAN with Green Muscle by 50 % reduced application rate from the recommended one. Since PAN is freely available and applied in very small quantities of not more than 0.02 g per ha, this technology could potentially open up a new avenue for more economic and safer locust control.

All approaches developed under EMPRES/CR are designed to support and strengthen the national and regional early detection and early intervention capacities in order to prevent outbreaks from developing into an upsurge or even plague.

Key elements in this approach are the close collaboration in all strategic questions with the Commission for Controlling the Desert Locust in the Central Region (CRC) and Contingency Planning.

Since the beginning EMPRES/CR is in search of the most appropriate and practical mechanisms of advanced and well organized preparations in view of a possible threat and

underscored the difficulty of detecting early signs of gregarization and to plan for appropriate counteractions well ahead. The strategy followed by EMPRES/CR and the Commission is based on the following components:

⇒ **Close interaction:**

- Between EMPRES/CR, CRC and DLIS to obtain a more detailed analysis of the global locust situation and likely developments.
- Between the countries, EMPRES/CR and CRC in all organizational and technical questions and provision of information with regard to possible locust developments and movements at the national, regional and interregional levels.

⇒ **Functional Locust Information Offices and well organized national locust information systems.**

- The best example of an efficient early warning system at the moment in the Central Region is that of Yemen, Egypt, Sudan and Oman. The efforts in Saudi Arabia was improved since December 2006 and thus Saudi Arabia is joining the best example of an efficient system in the Central Region.

⇒ **National Desert Locust Steering Committees**, involving different national institutions, FAO Representations and donor representatives.

- Such Steering Committees are currently in place in Egypt, Sudan, Eritrea, Ethiopia and Yemen.

⇒ **Regular updating of the available national resources** and informing EMPRES/CR and the Commission of the likely shortfall in order to organize necessary assistance well in advance.

⇒ **Ad Hoc Emergency Prevention Meetings** with the immediately concerned countries.

- During these meetings the predicted locust developments are being jointly analysed, discussed and appropriate countermeasures (Regional Action Plans) defined in order to face the threat more effectively.
- So far three of meetings have been conducted: in 2004 for the preparation of the summer campaign and the winter campaign 2004/2005, and in March 2005 for preparation of the summer campaign 2005.
- Based on the Regional Action Plans, more detailed National Action Plans are being prepared and brought to the attention of the national authorities and local donors.

⇒ **National Locust Bulletins** to inform the national authorities and the local donor community and the Commission of the locust situation, of actions taken and the control capacities of the LCU.

- Locust Bulletins are recently being prepared on a monthly basis by the LCUs and PPDs in all EMPRES/CR countries.
- If properly prepared, these bulletins have proven its efficiency to alert the national authorities and to mobilize additional resources in advance.

⇒ **The CRC-EMPRES Website** was presented to the 6th EMPRES/CR Consultative Committee Meeting held in Cairo, Egypt, in October 2005 and to the 13th EMPRES/CR Liaison Officers Meeting in Sana'a, Yemen, in December 2005, and

received the appreciation of all, recommending its placement on the World Wide Web as soon as possible for the benefit of all. The Secretary of the Commission is in the process of finalizing the administrative and financial procedures for this while updating the information presented on it.

The system of warning and alerting has for the first time been tested during the simultaneous Desert Locust outbreak in Western and Central Region in autumn 2003. Alerts have been issued immediately after first signs of a developing outbreak became obvious. Survey and control operations in Egypt, Sudan and Eritrea were rapidly mounted and forces mobilized in Saudi Arabia and Yemen. The following operations were conducted in a more systematic and coordinated manner, and succeeded in preventing a developing upsurge situation in the Central Region.

However, since then, the Central Region remains at risk of being invaded by swarms from the Western Region as it happened in October/November 2004. Swarms arriving from West Africa moved rapidly into the winter breeding areas of the Red Sea and succeeded to produce a second generation of gregarious populations, which affected later Saudi Arabia. A second invasion just recently happened in West Darfur in Sudan.

The threat remains, and the LCUs have to keep their capacities on full alert (1) in order to prevent a possible second outbreak, and (2) defend their countries against locust invasions. In the latter case preventive measures are no longer suitable, but pre-positioning of enough resources at strategic places and swarm control by using aircraft before they enter the agricultural areas is the only appropriate choice under these circumstances. The current situation underlines the necessity of closer inter-regional collaboration in developing and introducing preventive Desert Locust management strategies also in the Western Region.

The EMPRES/CR programme was evaluated for the 4th time by an evaluation mission that concluded by stating that the programme has succeeded in a lot of its goals to achieve preventive control strategies, which should be included in national workplans. The mission concluded also that in some countries this achievement was not attained due to their non-use of new technological equipment provided by the EMPRES/CR Programme. This should indeed be supported and followed up by the Commission. The mission recommended that a technical officer be appointed to assist the Secretary of the Commission in his responsibilities.

Appendix No (11) Accounts for 2004 & 2005, contribution and arrears of member countries

Summary of Expenditures of CRC MTF/INT/007/MUL for the year 2004 in US\$

Budget line	Activities	Budget Year 2004	Final Expenditure 2004
5012	Salaries-General Service Staff	29,024	29,285
5013	Consultants	25,000	
5014	Contracts	64,000	23,525
5020	Over Time	1,000	369
5021	Travel	43,000	33,021
5023	Training	115,000	117,340
5024	Expendable Procurement	112,000	29,019
5025	Non-expendable Procurement	7,000	141
5027	Technical Support Services		7,439
5028	General Operating Expenses	20,000	4,772
5040	General Overhead Expenses		
5050	Chargeback		1,510
5029	Support Cost	54,083	29,703
Total		470,107	276,124

Summary of Expenditures of CRC MTF/INT/007/MUL for the year 2005 in US\$

Budget line	Activities	Budget Year 2005	Final Expenditure 2005
5012	Salaries-General Service Staff	29,024	38,233
5013	Consultants	25,000	25,000
5014	Contracts	64,000	5,726
5020	Locally contracted Labour	1,000	847
5021	Travel	25,000	40,970
5023	Training	115,000	84,928
5024	Expendable Procurement	112,000	(14,509)
5025	Non-expendable Procurement	7,000	1,315
5027	Technical Support Services		4,739
5028	General Operating Expenses	20,000	8,588
5040	General Overhead Expenses		
5050	Chargeback		1,127
5029	Support Cost	51,743	26,660
Total		449,767	223,624

Summary of Expenditures of CRC MTF/INT/007/MUL for the year 2006 in US\$

Budget line	Activities	Budget Year 2006	Expenditure up to May 2006	
			Spent	Committed
5012	Salaries-General Service Staff	29,024	14,013	
5013	Consultants	25,000		
5014	Contracts	64,000	5	9,016
5020	Over Time	1,000		
5021	Travel	25,000	17,091	43,667
5023	Training	115,000	65,056	5,000
5024	Expendable Procurement	112,000	3,325	
5025	Non-expendable Procurement	7,000		
5027	Technical Support Services			
5028	General Operating Expenses	20,000	116	5,000
5040	General Overhead Expenses			
5050	Chargeback			
5029	Support Cost	51,743	12,683	
Total		449,767	112,289	62,683

FINAL EXPENDITURE OF THE COMMISSION ACCOUNT MTF/INT/007/MUL FOR THE YEAR 2004			
Account	Description	Cost US \$	Total Cost US \$
5012	Salaries-General Service Staff		29,285
	Lidia Naguib, G-5, administrative assistant Driver G-2 Nofal Abdalla Ahmed Abdal	17,616 11,669	
5014	Contracts		23,525
	Harb-Translation of the Sprayer Testing Workshop into Report (PO148495)	1,000	
	Cairo-Training manual – ElBatawy Hashim-Editing/designing (PO153877)	16,750	
	Report on Testing Sprayers for ULV pesticides application 500 copies of the Arabic translation	1,100	
	Harb- Translation (50% CRC and 50% INT/817-PO153026) University of Khartoum-LoA support investigations into the effect of PAN on non target insect species exposed to chemicals during DL control in Sudan (PO155652)	350 4,325	
5020	Locally Contracted labour		369
	Lidia Naguib	369	
5021	Travel		33,021
	- Butrous-Rome: 14.2-19.2.04: Rome for technical discussions (AHQ0075788)- Ticket <i>The officer did not attend the meeting. Ticket was reimbursed in year 2005</i>	539	
	- Butrous- Dec 2003 to Khartoum to discuss current Locust situation –TEC claim (AHQ0073602)	(217)	
	Emergency Meeting in Khartoum, 14-18.3.2004:		
	- Hawari Ghazi Abdallah (SAU)-AHQ0077170	1,309	
	- Al Romaih Abdu Farea (YEM)-AHQ0077176	1,500	
	- Butrous,Secretary CRC-ANE0077160	1,117	
	24th Session CRC, Jeddah, SAU, 17-21.4.2004:		
	- Fikre Markos (ETH)-AHQ0077520	1,399	
	- Hafraoui (Invited as Observer)-AHQ0077523	1,736	
- Hajjar Mohamed Jamal (SYR-Chaiman CRC)-AHQ0077767	1,606		
- Al Romaih Abdu Farea (YEM)-AHQ0078246	1,297		
- Abdel Rahman Mohamed (EGY)-AHQ0078250	1,438		
- Naguib Lidia, G-5-AHQ0078238	1,940		
- Al Khotoum,Mahmoud Mustafa(JOR)-AHQ0078249	1,745		
- Bereke Ogbamichael(ERI)-AHQ0078328-	2,021		
- Sharaf Eldin Hassan Daoud(SUD)-AHQ0078327	1,150		
DGPS Demonstration Lake Zeway,Ethiopia,20-23.4.04:			
- El Din Maatouk Ahmed Selim (SAU)-AHQ0078041	1,365		
- Al Darmaki Abdallah (Oman)-AHQ0078009	1,220		
- Rabie Khalil (SUD)-AHQ0078042	1,232		

	To participate in the National Training Course from 2/6- to 11/6/2004 as a trainer, in Yemen: - Adnan Suliman Khan-AHQ0080951 - Abdullatif Gholam Abdulsalam-AHQ0080947	1,249 1,249		
	Fellow for 12 months study University of Khartoum, EOD Aug.2004: - Ibrahim Essam (EGY)-AHQ0084546 - Aldurra Subhi (SYR)-AHQ0084848 - Al-Mamary Abdullah (Oman)-AHQ0084852 - Al Serhan, Setan (JOR)-AHQ84850	300 247 604 247		
	Fellow 12 month study, Univ.Khartoum, 09.03-08.04: Return tickets on 31/8/2004 for: - Olma Mohamed (EGY)-AHQ83175 - Abu Bakr Ahmed Othman (YEM)-AHQ83177 - Alrabghi Eissa (SAU)-AHQ83172 Reimbursment mission Ould Babah(AHQ0058455) Feb.2003, debited on INT/670	864 (1,592)		
	Contingency planning meeting in Khartoum, 5-9.9.2004: Ghazi Hawari (SAU)-AHQ0084506	1,550		
	12th ELO Meeting,Hurghada, EGY,9-13/10/2004: - Mamoon Al-Alawi (Oman)-AHQ86794 - Hawari,Ghazi Abdallah (SAU)- AHQ86797-TICK - Abdel Rahman Mohamed (EGY)-AHQ86808DSA only - Al Romaih,Abdu Farea (YEM)- AHQ86802	2,276 1,544 660 1,426		
5023	Training - Refund fellow 2002-2003 Esaan Ibrahim Mahmoud - Oman-National Training on locust survey and control Workshop, 17-28.7.2004(contact point Al-Alawi) University of Khartoum, 12 months training on Desert Locust control; enrolment September 2003-September 2004: - Abou Bakr Ahmed Othman (YEM) - Olma Mohamed (EGY) - Olma Mohamed (EGY)-medical fees - Alrabghi Eissa (SAU) University of Khartoum, 24 months training on Desert Locust control; enrolment August 2004-August 2006: - Ibrahim Essam (EGY)-PO 155741 - Fees Univ.Khartoum University of Khartoum, 12 months training on Desert Locust control; enrolment September 2004-September 2005: - Aldurra Subhi (Syria)-PO 15611 - Al-Mamary Abdullah (Oman)-PO 156115 - Setan Al-Serhan (Jordania PO 156113) Registration fees University of Khartoum: - Aldurra Subhi (Syria) - Setan Al-Serhan(Jordania) - Al-Mamary Abdullah (Oman)	(960) 3,000 12,584 12,584 48 12,584 11,228 5,000 9,516 9,516 9,516 5,000 5,000 5,000		117,340

	Egypt: Locust and Agro-aviation Affairs, for national training course on survey and control operation during the period 07-16.8.2004 in Burg Al-Arab. On USD 4,000, \$2,500 are paid by CRC and the rest by EMPRES/CR (PO 155407)	2,500	
	SAU, Organization 24 th Session CRC in April 2004:	8,000	
	Sudan: National training course in Dongola (as agreed During meeting in Khartoum 15-17.3.04)	3,000	
	Yemen: In-service training Abdu Farea to support planned activities 2004. Two trainings to prepare the summer campaign. On a total of USD 5,000 50% were financed by CRC and 50% by the DLCC.	2,224	
	Qatar -To conduct a national training course on Desert Locust survey and control operations in Doha, Qatar, 23 to 28 September 2004.	2,000	
5024	Expendable Procurement		29,019
	Micron Sprayers –PO 152932 for: Vibratak rpm counter for ULVAS Droplet counting templates Water sensitive paper Oil sensitive paper	4,300	
	Ben Meadows company-PO 154708 Spirit Fluid Psychrometer Lead-Time Dwyer Windmeter ,handheld +Key Chain Timer Spirit Filled Sling Psychrometer Compass Suunto	18,301	
	Planson International -PO 155409 30 GPS Garmin 12xl Handheld Receivers	6,418	
5025	Nonexpendable Procurement		141
	PO 136130-Year 2003-Forestry suppliers Bahrain Cancellation difference Commitment	(512)	
	JOR- local DSA	653	
5027	Technical support services		7,439
	Session progr. July 03-Ex.Com.Lebanon	2,700	
	Butrous secondment report 18/4-26/4/04	4,739	
5028	General Operating Expenses		4,772
	Cairo: Vodaphone/Fax	536	
	Insurance Ordering equipment	99	
	Ethiopia: Claim Seyoum Tesfa	56	
	Yemen: In-service training Abdu Farea to support planned activities 2004.	1,482	
	El Batawy Hashim Ibrahim –to produce 1000 Arabic Pocket size aerial standard operation cards	1,300	
	JOR-IT supplies-ordering computers	1,299	
5050	Chargeback		1,510
	Report printing English/Arabic 24 th CRC Session DPR 159856	1,510	
5029	Support costs		29,703
	(5% on accounts 5024 and 5025)	1,458	
	(13% on all other accounts)	28,245	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR 2004			276,124

FINAL EXPENDITURE of THE COMMISSION			
ACCOUNT MTF/INT/007/MUL FOR THE YEAR 2005			
Account	Description	Cost US \$	Total Cost US \$
5012	Salaries-General Service Staff		38,233
	Lidia Naguib, G-5, administrative assistant Driver G-2 Nofal Abdalla Ahmed Abdal	23,608 14,625	
5013	Consultants		25,000
	Harb Mahmoud -6.5 months-21/10/05-30/4/06- scientific glossary of scientific/technical terms used in acridology-PO 175619	25,000	
5014	Contracts		5,726
	University of Greenwich (NRI) in support of assessing the DL Management Diploma Course at the Univ.of Khartoum for improving curriculum of Diploma course in view of new technologies for preventive DL control- PO 170436-co-finance 50% with SWI funds(GCP/INT/817/SWI)	11,915	
	Training course Jordania	798	
	Ministry of Agric.& Land reclamation Egypt-closure PO 138748	(3,000)	
	Univ.Khartoum-closure PO 131143	(4,900)	
	Cairo: In sight graphics-Ref.Recommendation 27th Ex.Com.Meeting in Khartoum,reproduction 1500 arabic standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for Ground Survey-PO 177559	913	
5020	Locally Contracted labour		748
	Lidia Naguib El-Husseini Inaam, G-3	116 731	
5021	Travel		40,970
	Butrous-AHQ75788-cancelled-02/2004,Rome Butrous-Oct 01- -DSA	(567) (2,435)	
	ToT Course, Amman, Jordania,23.4-2.5.05:		
	Tamer Abdel Hamid (EGY)AHQ95139	2,235	
	Emad Kamel Abd Elsayed (EGY)-AHQ95140	2,235	
	Aki Khalil (LEB)-AHQ96213	1,980	
	Nahal Imad (LEB)-AHQ96482	1,980	
	Moussawi Mouhamed (LEB)-AHQ96206	1,980	
	Nouwaihed Samir (LEB)-AHQ96204	1,980	
	Itani Halima (LEB)-AHQ96217	1,980	
	Ali Akilani (Lybia)-AHQ96555	-	
	Laftah,Mageed Hameed (Iraq)-AHQ96592	2,040	
	Awad Kannoosh Khaleefa (Iraq)-AHQ96615	2,040	
	Hassan Mahdi Salih Rabee (Iraq)-AHQ 96613	2,040	
	Shib Taha Ali (Iraq)-AHQ 96614	2,040	

	Hawari Ghazi Abdallah (SAU)-Chairman CRC- to Cairo and Eritrea 21.3-2.4.05 for follow-up adhesion ERI to CRC-AHQ94876	1,655	
	Hawari Ghazi Abdallah (SAU)-Chairman CRC- to visit Bahrain/Koweit jointly with the CRC Secretary to activate the CRC role from 20 to 26.5.05-AHQ 96879	2,434	
	Executive Committee,Khartoum,24-28 July 2005:		
	Mamoon Al-Alawi (Oman)	2,038	
	Hawari Ghazi Abdallah (SAU)	2,102	
	Rahman Mohamed Abdel (EGY)	2,029	
	Al Romaih Abdu Farea (YEM)	1,883	
	Abdel-Shahid,Lidia Naguib	2,304	
	6th EMPRES/CR Consultative Committee, 13-15/11/2005:		
	Fhed Bin Mohamed Bin Abdin (SAU)	-	
	Al Toubi, Bin Mahfoudh (Oman)-Cancelled DSA	1,262	
	Al-Zidjali,Khalid Mansour (Oman)	1,265	
	Sharaf Eldin Hassan Dawoud (SUD)	437	
	13th ELO Meeting, 11-15/12/2005,Yemen:		
	Hawari Ghazi Abdallah (SAU)-Chairman	780	
	Mamoon Al-Alawi (Oman)	1,668	
	Fellows 12 months study Univ.Khartoum,DL control, Year 2005/2006:		
	Megally Mohamed (Yemen)	189	
	Al Sayegh Abdul (SAU)	293	
	Fellows 12 months study Univ.Khartoum,DL control, Year 2004/2005/Return ticket Home country:		
	Al-Serhan Setan (JOR)	578	
	Al-Mamary ,Abdullah (Oman)	291	
	Aldurra Subhi (SYR)	234	
5023	Training		84,928
	AFFC Imp rec clearing accounts 2002-	(100)	
	Fellow for 12 months study Univ.Khartoum, 2003/2004:		
	PO 138835-Abou Bakr Ahmed Othman-cancellation difference on PO	(1,740)	
	PO 138896-Olma Mohamed-cancellation difference on PO	(1,740)	
	PO 138899-Alrabghi Eissa Abdulghani-cancellation difference on PO	(1,740)	
	Fellow for 12 months study Univ.Khartoum, 2004/2005:		
	Ibrahim Essam (EGY)-PO 155741/PO 170048	19,344	
	Ibrahim Essam (EGY)-PO 169880/PO 173411	187	
	Aldurra Subhi (SYR)-PO 156111	10,784	
	Aldurra Subhi (SYR)-PO 169882/PO 173111	99	
	Al-Serhan Setan (JOR)-PO 156113	11,074	
	Al-Mamary Abdullah (Oman)-PO 156115	10,784	
	Al-Mamary Abdullah (Oman)-PO 169887	64	

	Fellows 12 months study Univ.Khartoum,DL control, Year 2005/2006: Mohamed Ali Elhadi(SUD)-PO 173765 Megally Mohamed (Yemen)-PO 173767 Al Sayegh Abdul (SAU)-PO 173775 National Training Course in Najad,Oman,1/5-4/5/05 JOR -Mahmoud Al-Khotoum (Sub-Regional training) SYR : National training on DL survey and control,Damascus, 11-20.9.05 SAU : National training course on DL survey and control,Jeddah,17-28.9.05	8,004 8,004 8,004 1,000 5,000 4,000 3,900	
5024	Expendable Procurement		(14,509)
	Reimbursement 50% ordering made in 2004 for: PO 152932-Micron Sprayers PO 154708-Ben Meadows PO 155409 Planson	(14,509)	
5025	Nonexpendable Procurement		1,315
	Cairo : 2 Acrobat Read Write Version 7 Prof. (PO 170690)	1,315	
5027	Technical support services		4,739
	Butrous sec.report 10/9-11/10/05 and 15/9-12/10/05	4,739	
5028	General Operating Expenses		8,588
	Cairo : Vodaphone/Fax	682	
	SUD: Organization Executive Com.Meeting,24-28.7.05	5,000	
	SARF UNDP JOR-Sub-Regional training course on DL survey and control operations,Amman,23.4-2.5.05	2,906	
5050	Chargeback		1,127
	Internal printing-Feb 05	562	
	Printing 100 copies 27th Ex.Com.Report,June 05 (DPR-190529) and 200 copies arabic	565.42	
5029	Support costs		26,660
	(5% on accounts 5024 and 5025)	(659.7)	
	(13% on all other accounts)	27,320	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR 2005			223,624

FINAL EXPENDITURE of THE COMMISSION			
ACCOUNT MTF/INT/007/MUL FOR THE YEAR 2006 up to May			
Account	Description	Cost US \$	Total Cost US \$
5012	Salaries-General Service Staff		14,013
	Lidia Naguib, G-5, administrative assistant	8,697	
	Driver G-2 Nofal Abdalla Ahmed Abdal	5,316	
5013	Consultants	-	
5014	Contracts		9,016
	PO 177559- In sight graphics-difference on printing SOPs	5	5
	Final payment-unmatched-LoA Univ.Khartoum ref PR 26076/PO 141443-approval Nelson 7/3/06	3,900	
	Final payment Ref.research with Univ.Aden (Yemen) on the impact of alternative pesticides used in DL operations on honeybee and other non-target organisms in Yemen -FDA sent 23/3/06	5,116	
5020	Locally Contracted labour	-	
5021	Travel		43,667
	RAMSES NDVI Workshop, 19-23.3.06:		17,091
	Co-financed CRC+SWI/817+967/USA		
	In-service training for RAMSES NDVI Workshop, Cairo, Egypt, 19-23.3.06 -FDA-RNE (\$ 2,500)		
	Fahed Bin Mohamed Bin Abdin (EGY) Steer Comm	796	
	Al-Zidjali Khalid Mansour (EGY) Steer Comm	796	
	Sharaf ElDin Hassan Dawoud (EGY) Steer Comm	796	
	Mamoon Al-Alawi (Oman) NDVI	1,757	
	Al Harrasi Khalid (Oman) NDVI	1,757	
	Khan Adnan (SAU) NDVI	580	1,134
	Gholam Abdullatif (SAU) NDVI	580	1,134
	Sub-Regional Training Course, Doha, Qatar, 9-19.4.06:		
	Abd-Alhlih Mohammed (Iraq)	3,601	
	Essam Qasim Fadhil (Iraq)	3,841	

	Hatam Mohammad (Iraq)	3,841	
	Zaid Khalil Mohammed (Iraq)	3,841	
	Abdul Nabi Ahmed (Bahrain)	1,693	369
	Mohammed Jaffer Alaaraj (Bahrain)	1,693	369
	Ahmed Youssef Boushahri (Kuwait)-Cancelled	-	
	Abdallah Abdel Salam (Kuwait)	1,836	383
	Abdel Hamid Ali Hussein Heider (Kuwait)	1,836	383
	Fahd Rashed Al Azmi (Kuwait)	1,836	383
	Saiid Mesbah Maged (UAE)	1,836	562
	Eissa Bou Samra (UAE)	1,836	562
	Mamoon Al-Alawi (Oman)	1,693	747
	Abdel Moneim Khidir (Sudan)	532	1,836
	Harith Abdullah Ahmed (EAU)	1,836	576
	FAO/WMO (World Meteorological Organization) Meeting, Muscat, Oman, 8-12.4.06 (co-financed 007/001/006/MUL)		
	Mohamed Mohamed Abdel Rahman (EGY)	1,527	254
	Abdu Farea Al-Romaih (Yemen)	1,824	
	Ato Lema Gebeyehu (Ethiopia)	2,041	
	Rabie Abdel Hamid Khalil (Sudan)	1,787	
	Matoug Ahmad S.Munshi (SAU)	2,577	
	Yohannes Beyene Kidane (ERI)-Cancelled	-	
	Fund for K.Cressman Organize the meeting C.Rosi,G-5 (paid 007/Mul-001/RAS/2CP04)	1,000	2,497
5023	Training		5,000
	Sub-Regional training course, Qatar, 8-18.4.06 (handcarried by M.Butrous)-FDA-RNE	5,000	65,056
	Fellow for 12 months study DL Control, Univ. of Khartoum, Year 2005-2006:		
	Mohamed Ali Elhadi (SUD)-fees-PO 180426		5,000
	Megally Mohamed (Yemen)-fees-PO 180426		5,000
	Al Sayeh Abdul (SAU)-fees-PO180426		5,000
	Mohamed Ali Elhadi (SUD)- PO 180455		12,632
	Megally Mohamed (Yemen)- Po 180456		12,632
	Al Sayeh Abdul (SAU)-PO 180454		12,632

	Fellow for 24 months study DL Control, Univ. of Khartoum, Year 2004-2006: Ibrahim Essam - PO 180877 YR: Mohamed Hajjar-National training course DL, 2005-Claim	11,278 882	
5024	Expendable Procurement	-	
5025	Nonexpendable Procurement		3,325
	PC Flybook for DL Centre Muscat (Oman)-Mamoon Al-Alawi –EVERCOM SPA-Win XP Home ed. En.,Arabic keyboard,WAN,80GB Hard Disk,Extra battery,mouse,DVD Burner,512MB RAM,Display 8.9"Wide view 16.9,carrying case-PO 182069-financed by CRC and RP RA2CP04	1,170	
	PC Flybook for M. Butrous-FB Computers-WinXP Home ed.in En., Arabic keyboard,WLAN,80GB HD, Extra battery, Mouse DVD burner-PO 183528	2,155	
5027	Technical support services		
5028	General Operating Expenses		5,000
	JOR-SARF: In-service training/material map production/training staff to organize Cairo: Vodaphone M.Butrous	5,000 116	116
5050	Chargeback		
5029	Support costs (5% on accounts 5024 and 5025) (13% on all other accounts)	166 12,517	12,683

TOTAL EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR 2005 up to May		62,683
		112,289

Expenditure as at 30/4/06: USD 112,289

Committed but not yet reflected in the Exp. As at 30/4/06: USD 62,683

Contribution and Arrears of Member Countries

TRUST FUND No. 9409.00 - MTF/INT/007/MUL Status of Contributions as at 31 December 2004 (Expressed in US\$)

<i>Member Governments</i>	<i>Outstanding 31/12/2003</i>	<i>Contribution due for 2004/05 *</i>	<i>Received up to 31/12/2004</i>	<i>Outstanding 31/12/2004</i>
BAHRAIN	22,119.50	8,750.00	0.00	30,869.50
DJIBOUTI	2,200.00	1,100.00	0.00	3,300.00
EGYPT	32,540.00	32,540.00	0.00	65,080.00
ETHIOPIA	0.00	8,000.00	0.00	8,000.00
IRAQ	603,750.00	28,750.00	0.00	632,500.00
JORDAN	99,960.00	14,357.50	28,715.00	85,602.50
KUWAIT	15.47	25,000.00	25,000.00	15.47
LEBANON	185,719.89	11,212.50	1,992.06	194,940.33
OMAN	28,000.00	10,000.00	9,995.00	28,005.00
QATAR	93,806.04	12,500.00	106,250.00	56.04
SAUDI ARABIA	0.00	44,035.00	44,035.00	0.00
SUDAN	458,480.42	18,667.50	37,320.67	439,827.25
SYRIA	33,206.57	16,687.50	16,663.44	33,230.63
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	0.00	26,250.00	26,250.00	0.00
YEMEN	3,508.27	1,250.00	1,228.96	3,529.31
TOTAL	1,563,306.16	259,100.00	297,450.13	1,524,956.03

* Fiscal Year begins in July

TRUST FUND No. 9409.00 - MTF/INT/007/MUL Status of Contributions as at 31 December 2005 (Expressed in US\$)

<i>Member Governments</i>	<i>Outstanding 31/12/2004</i>	<i>Contribution due for 2005/06 *</i>	<i>Received up to 31/12/2005</i>	<i>Outstanding 31/12/2005</i>
BAHRAIN	30,869.50	8,750.00	39,619.50	0.00
DJIBOUTI	3,300.00	1,100.00	0.00	4,400.00
EGYPT	65,080.00	32,540.00	0.00	97,620.00
ERITREA	0.00	4,000.00	0.00	4,000.00
ETHIOPIA	8,000.00	8,000.00	0.00	16,000.00
IRAQ	632,500.00	28,750.00	28,647.75	632,602.25
JORDAN	85,602.50	14,357.50	21,930.59	78,029.41
KUWAIT	15.47	25,000.00	25,015.47	0.00
LEBANON	194,940.33	11,212.50	141,095.37	0.00
OMAN	28,005.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	28,005.00
QATAR	56.04	12,500.00	12,500.00	56.04
SAUDI ARABIA	0.00	44,035.00	44,035.00	0.00
SUDAN	439,827.25	18,667.50	50,334.12	218,621.05
SYRIA	33,230.63	16,687.50	16,688.00	33,230.13
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	0.00	26,250.00	0.00	26,250.00
YEMEN	3,529.31	5,000.00	0.00	8,529.31

TOTAL	1,524,956.03	266,850.00	389,865.80	1,147,343.19
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* Fiscal Year begins in July

Lebanon and Sudan: Referring to the recommendations 17 and 18 of the 24th Session CRC, Jeddah, April 2004:

- Cancellation of 50% contribution arrears of Lebanon and Sudan.
- Sudan is paying regularly its annual contribution since December 2002 and part of the arrear consequently, the arrears will be reduced of 50% as at 31/12/2004 $(439,827.25/2=219,913.68)+18,667.50$ (due 2005/2006)-19,960.08 (paid in 2005) = **218,621.05**
- Lebanon has settled more than 50% of the arrears in 2005, and its annual contribution 2005, consequently the remaining arrears are cancelled.
- Eritrea – is a new member since 2005

TRUST FUND No. 9409.00 - MTF/INT/007/MUL Status of Contributions as at 21 April 2006 (Expressed in US\$)

<i>Member Governments</i>	<i>Outstanding 31/12/2005</i>	<i>Contribution due for 2006/07 *</i>	<i>Received up to 21/04/2006</i>	<i>Outstanding 21/04/2006</i>
<i>BAHRAIN</i>	0.00	8,750.00	0.00	8,750.00
<i>DJIBOUTI</i>	4,400.00	1,100.00	0.00	5,500.00
<i>EGYPT</i>	97,620.00	32,540.00	0.00	130,160.00
<i>ERITREA¹</i>	4,000.00	4,000.00	0.00	4,000.00
<i>ETHIOPIA</i>	16,000.00	8,000.00	0.00	24,000.00
<i>IRAQ</i>	632,602.25	28,750.00	0.00	661,352.25
<i>JORDAN</i>	78,029.41	14,357.50	0.00	92,386.91
<i>KUWAIT</i>	0.00	25,000.00	0.00	25,000.00
<i>LEBANON</i>	0.00	11,212.50	0.00	11,212.50
<i>OMAN</i>	28,005.00	10,000.00	^a 10,500.00	27,505.00
<i>QATAR</i>	56.04	12,500.00	0.00	12,556.04
<i>SAUDI ARABIA</i>	0.00	44,035.00	44,035.00	0.00
<i>SUDAN</i>	218,621.05	18,667.50	0.00	218,621.05
<i>SYRIA</i>	33,230.13	16,687.50	0.00	49,917.63
<i>UNITED ARAB EMIRATES</i>	26,250.00	26,250.00	26,250.00	26,250.00
<i>YEMEN</i>	8,529.31	5,000.00	0.00	13,529.31

<i>T O T A L</i>	1,147,343.19	266,850.00	80,785.00	1,310,740.69
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* Fiscal Year begins in July

^a Transferred from MTF/INT/008/MUL

¹ Eritrea – is a new member since 2005

Lebanon and Sudan: Referring to the recommendations 17 and 18 of the 24th Session CRC, Jeddah, April 2004:

- Cancellation of 50% contribution arrears of Lebanon and Sudan.
- Sudan is paying regularly its annual contribution since December 2002 and part of the arrear consequently, the arrears will be reduced of 50% as at 31/12/2004 (439,827.25/2=219,913.68)+18,667.50 (due 2005/2006)-19,960.08 (paid in 2005) = **218,621.05**
- Lebanon has settled more than 50% of the arrears in 2005, and its annual contribution 2005, consequently the remaining arrears are cancelled.

Balance available as at 21 April 2006 is US\$ 2,222,558.00

Appendix No (12) Workplan for 2006 and 2007

Proposal for Biennial Budget of CRC MTF/INT/007/MUL for the years 2006 & 2007			
Budget Line	Activities	2006	2007
5012	Salaries-General Service Staff		
	Secretary	23,608	23,608
	NPO Yemen salary for 6 months 1 st of January 2007-30 June 2007		30,000
	Driver	14,625	14,625
	Total	38,233	68,233
5013	Consultants		
	DL Glossary, Vegetation Index Card, etc		
	Total	25,000	25,000
5014	Contracts		
	Research	15,000	15,000
	Publication	15,000	15,000
	Translation	3,000	3,000
	Copying	1,000	1,000
	Annual fees for eLocust2 transmission	19,000	19,000
	Annual contribution for Remote sensing	3,000	3,000
	Total	56,000	56,000
5020	Over Time	1,000	1,000
	Total	1,000	1,000
5021	Travel		
	25 th CRC Session	25,000	
	29 th Ex Committee		15,000
	Five scientific exchange visits	10,000	10,000
	Chairman travel, Rome	3,000	
	Chairman travel, various	5,000	5,000

	Total	43,000	30,000
5023	Training & joint survey		
	National and sub-regional	60,000	60,000
	Diploma Scholarship (Three)	75,000	75,000
	M. Sc. Scholarship (One)	25,000	25,000
	Joint Survey	10,000	10,000
	Total	170,000	170,000
5024	Expendable Procurement		
	Spare parts	3,000	3,000
	Pesticides for Emergency only	100,000	100,000
	Support to member countries	10,000	10,000
	Total	113,000	113,000
5025	Non-expendable Procurement		
	Books, publications and survey equipment	14,000	2,000
	Unforeseen	5,000	5,000
	Total	19,000	7,000
5028	General Operating Expenses		
	Meetings, reception, equipment, communications, stationary	20,000	20,000
	Total	20,000	20,000
5040	General Overhead Expenses		
	Total		
5029	Support Cost (13%)		
	5% on accounts 5024 & 5025	6,600	6,000
	13% on all other accounts	45,920	48,130
	Total	52,520	54,130
Grand Total		537,753,963	544,363

Appendix No (13) EMPRES/CR Liaison Officers future meetings:

Reference is made to EMPRES/CR phase III strategy stating that the Commission and member countries would continue in the implementation of the Programme's different activities for Desert Locust preventive control in the Central Region, after the completion of this phase in December 2006. In this regard, intensive discussions took place during the 13th EMPRES Liaison Officers Meeting (ELOM) in Sana'a, Yemen in December 2005, in the presence of FAO Headquarters Desert Locust Group representatives, regarding the continuance holding of the EMPRES Liaison Officers and the Consultative Committee meetings (CCM).

Since the ELOM and the Commission's meetings are similar in reviewing and implementing preventive control strategies for example regional workplans, the participants of the 13th ELOM recommended holding the ELOM with that of the Commission's after referring the matter to the 25th CRC Session for approval. Hence, participants agreed that the 14th ELOM would be the last one to take place in its usual set-up. Since there is only one donor remaining to fund the Programme, it was also recommended to terminate the CCM, which was mainly held for Heads of Departments at the Ministries of Agriculture and Donors for assessing the implementation of the workplans and recognizing the difficulties encountered. It was suggested to invite the remaining donor to attend the next ELOM.

As a follow up to the previously stated recommendations made for the Commission, a suggestion is to be raised to the 25th CRC Session for inviting EMPRES member countries who are not in the CRC Executive Committee to attend the Executive Committee meetings as observers.

Appendix No (14) Contribution to the cost of EMPRES/CR-NPO

As it is well known that the employment of Mr. Fuad Bahakim, who was recruited as EMPRES/CR-NPO survey expert since 1997, of a Yemeni nationality, will be terminated by end of its Phase III in December 2006.

In recognition of his good experience gained from his 9 years work in the field of survey, a recommendation was made by the Executive Committee Meeting to benefit from his technical expertise in the Central Region by transferring his job to the Commission to assist the Secretary of the Commission in technical aspects as of January 2007. This is on the condition that the Commission covers the cost of his salary that amounts to 20,000 US\$ per year from the CRC Trust Fund, with his office remaining in the Desert Locust Monitoring and Controlling Centre (DLMCC) in Sana'a, Yemen. FAO would cover his operational cost, amounting to 20,000 US\$ per year.

Following further investigations regarding the finances of the NPO, it was made apparent that his salary amounts to 50,000 US\$ per year and not 20,000 US\$. Upon that, it is suggested that FAO covers the NPO's salary and the Commission covers his operational cost in Sana'a, amounting to, as previously mentioned, 20,000 US\$ per year.