

REPORT OF THE

**Held in Rome, Italy
16-18 May 1983**

**THIRTEENTH SESSION OF THE
COMMISSION FOR CONTROLLING
THE DESERT LOCUST IN THE NEAR EAST**



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

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Plant Production & Protection Division
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

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INTRODUCTION

According to the recommendation of the Twelfth Session of the Commission for Controlling the Desert Locust in the Near East and due to ensuing difficulties to hold the Thirteenth Session in one of the countries in the Region, the Director-General of FAO, in agreement with Member Countries, invited the Commission to hold its Session in Rome from 16-18 May 1983.

The Session was opened by Mr. Salah Jum'a, FAO Regional Representative, on behalf of the Director-General. He welcomed the participants wishing them every success and expressed his regrets for convening the Session for a second time in Rome when it was hoped that it would be held in one of the countries of the Region as this would have been both an affirmation of regional cooperation and an expense-saving arrangement.

Mr. Jum'a pointed out that for reasons beyond the control of FAO, neither the Twelfth nor the Thirteenth Session could be held in any of the countries of the Region and expressed the hope that circumstances would be different in the future. He also reviewed the major achievements which have been accomplished in the interregnum.

The Regional Representative commended the various locust control efforts undertaken by the member countries and the great attention they give to maintaining the present recession of the Desert Locust urging them to establish sufficient quantities of insecticides and necessary equipment for control operations and emphasizing the importance of training, research and exchange of information between the members of the Commission.

SESSION PROCEEDINGS

Organization of the Session

In accordance with past procedures adopted since 1980, the Executive Committee did not hold any separate prolonged meetings prior to the Session and confined itself to a single short meeting at the beginning of the Session as part of the deliberations and the Agenda of the Session.

Officers of the Session

Chairman: Mr. Ibrahim Abdalla Madini (Kingdom of Saudi Arabia)
Vice-Chairman: Mr. Samir Naseem Gerges (Egypt)

Drafting Committee:

Sudan, Iraq, the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Commission and the FAO Secretariat.

Obituary

The delegates expressed their deep regret at the passing away of Mr. Samah Imam Ibrahim of Egypt who had been trained in locust control techniques on a scholarship from the Commission and was known for his efficiency and devotion to work.

Acknowledgements

The participants expressed their appreciation to the Chairman for conducting the Session in an efficient manner and their appreciation of the assistance provided by the Secretariat. They also thanked the Organization and expressed their satisfaction with facilities provided for the meeting.

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SESSION

Participants from Member Countries

<u>Egypt</u> Cairo Samir Nasseem Gerges, Director-General, Locust Control and Agroaviation Dept., Ministry of Agriculture	<u>Iraq</u> Baghdad Ghazi Sabri, Assistant Director-General, Plant Protection Department,
<u>Jordan</u> Amman Shawkat Ghasim, Acting Director, Plant Protection Dept., Ministry Agriculture	<u>Saudi Arabia</u> Jeddah Ibrahim Abdalla Madini, Director-General of Locust Control, Agricultural Research Centre
<u>Yemen Arab Republic</u> Sana'a Nasser El Muafa, Adviser, Ministry of Agriculture	<u>People's Democratic Republic of Yemen</u> Ali Qmar Ahmed, Director, Locust Control Section, Aden
<u>Sudan</u> Khartoum Abdel Aziz Sa'ad, Director-General, Plant Protection	

FAO Staff:

Salah Jum'a, Regional Representative for the Near East, Rome
Rafik Skaf, Senior Officer,
Mrs. H. Niggemann, Agricultural Officer (Operations)
Jelle Hielkema, Technical Officer Remote Sensing

} Locusts, Other Migratory Pests
& Emergency Operations, Plant
Protection Service, AGP

Regional Staff (FAO)

Mr. A. Khasawneh, Regional Locust Officer, Jeddah
Mr. J. T. Awad, Locust Officer, Yemen AR
Mr. H. Haddadin, Locust Officer, Dubai
Mr. Shafi, Locust Officer, Yemen PDR

A G E N D A

1. Opening of the Session
2. Election of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman
3. Adoption of the Agenda
4. Election of the Drafting Committee
5. The Desert Locust Situation from September 1981 - March 1983
 - a) significant developments in 1981-83 and forecast
 - b) arrangements to strengthen locust survey and control activities to maintain recession
6. Special operations carried out in strategic areas during 1982 and future plans
7. Implementation of the previous Session's recommendations
8. Anti-locust survey and control potential available in member countries of the Commission and steps to strengthen it
9. Assistance to member countries in the Commission
10. Review of the verbal report of the Executive Committee
11. Election of members of the Executive Committee and its Chairman and Vice-Chairman
12. Any other business
13. Date and Place of next Session
14. Adoption of the report.

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

The Desert Locust Situation from September 1981 to March 1983

1. The Commission received a report on the locust situation in the Region from the Secretariat.

Saudi Arabia

2. The locust situation was quite calm and the kingdom was free from gregarious populations. The whole region was almost completely free from any solitary locusts during this period with the exception of a few scattered locusts which did not pose any danger or cause concern for the locust control teams. Nonetheless, survey operations were meticulously and regularly conducted during the period which made it easier to determine the areas where small numbers of locusts were found. The constant readiness of locust control teams to meet any emergencies was an ample guarantee against any external invasions of locusts that could have occurred.

3. The overall situation of solitary locusts varied considerably during different periods. In October 1981, a number of immature solitary individuals at estimated densities of 450 hoppers/ha were reported in an area of some 40 km x 40 km south of Jizan. Meanwhile north of Jizan during the same month, solitary hoppers were reported at densities of 350/ha covering an area of almost 100 km². During the following months - November/December 1981 and January 1982 these populations persisted while during February, March, April, May, June and July the locust situation was calm and numbers of solitary declined with most areas almost free from solitary individuals. These particular months were marked by high temperatures, dry vegetation and the unsuitability of most breeding areas.

4. On the other hand, during August 1982, especially on the 21st, a small swarm of locusts was sighted in the Najran area on the Saudi-Yemeni border and although reported to be heading south-east there was not enough information on the swarm. Around the same date, or a little after, another report came of the swarm being sighted near the Yemeni town of Saada. No further swarms were reported during September/October but on 6 November several swarms were reported in Sharawrah and Najran areas coming from the south and heading to the west. The Saudi survey units, however, found no trace of these locust swarms. By 23 December three other swarms were reported in the vicinity of As Sulaiyil and a number of hoppers were discovered. In addition, a number of solitary locusts were continually found at low densities of 250-300/ha in the Qunfidah area particularly in al Mudhailif. Aerial surveys of the Sulaiyil, Sharawrah and edges of the Rub'Al Khali during December revealed no locusts. The area between Sharawrah and Wadi al Dawasir and Sulaiyil was dry but between Sulaiyil to Al-Kharj was green. Due to suitable ecological conditions in the Qunfidah area during January-February 1983, densities of solitary locusts increased but no other locusts were reported in any other area.

Yemen Arab Republic

5. The locust situation was calm during this period and during the winter and spring 1981 and the summer of 1982, nearly all the strategic areas were free from solitary locusts. The first swarm in the Yemen Arab Republic was reported on 6 August 1982. However, concentrations of mature adults were reported in the vicinity of Sana'a on 21 August and a swarm was sighted near Marib heading north-west on 25 October. Surveys were undertaken in the Marib (1530N/4530E), Harib (1450N/4515E) and Jawf (1600N/4500E) areas where very few solitary locusts were found. Between August and November there were six reports of swarms of unknown size, density or maturity.

6. During December 1982 and February-March 1983 populations of solitary locusts were reported from the Tihama. Gregarization was recorded during February-March in the Bajil area north-east of Hodeidah.

People's Democratic Republic of Yemen

7. The locust situation fluctuated between relative recession and significant increases that necessitated control operations in areas where densities reached over 5000 locusts/ha. During September and October 1981 except for very low numbers of solitary locusts and hoppers in the fourth and fifth instar reported in cultivations in the areas of Ash-Shubaykah (1440N/4640E) and Am-Qaws (1353N/4609E), the locust situation remained calm overall.
8. On the other hand, numbers of immature locusts at densities of 57-120/ha in an area covering 30 kms were found in wadi Wajr (1351N/4609). In general the locust situation remained calm in most areas during December 1981 and January and February 1982 save for very few solitary locusts.
9. In March 1982 an increase in solitary locusts was recorded at Muqaybirah (1325N/4602E) and large populations were reported covering an area of 3 sq km. Hoppers in later instars were also noted at Bir Masal (1325N/4559E) and control operations were undertaken immediately.
10. Later, control operations were undertaken during May when large populations of locusts at densities of 3000/ha were reported in the areas of Am-Fajrah (1259N/4418E) and Shuqra (1321N/4542E) as well as hoppers in the fourth and fifth instars. A swarm measuring 10km² was sighted in the Shuqra area (1321N-4542E) heading north before it split up and settled in the northern interior. Control operations were conducted against populations of solitary adults and hoppers over 12 sq km in the Shuqra area using 830 litres 20% dieldrin and 650 kg Gammaxane. During August solitary adult and hopper populations were reported over an area of 70km² in Wadi Markhah (1449N/4630E). Successful control operations were undertaken using 20% dieldrin. Similar control operations were also conducted against solitary locusts and hoppers in Wadi Markhah during September and October 1982.
11. In November successful control operations were undertaken over a total area of 600 km² in the Ataq (1433N/4648E) and Nisab (1431N/4630E) areas. One thousand six hundred bands of hoppers and fledglings as well as mature locusts were destroyed.
12. During December 1982 and January, February and March 1983 those areas continued to be calm but solitary locusts at densities of 60/ha persisted in Am-Fajrah and Al-Harur.

Sudan

13. Small numbers of solitary locusts were reported in the Red Sea coastal areas during September and October 1981. During November, however, locust populations showed marked increases in the Toker delta and Red Sea coast reaching densities of up to 5000/ha with some instances of copulation, covering an estimated area of 6000/ha. Ensuing control operations lasted from December 1981 until April 1982 following which the region and other parts of Sudan were reported to be calm. In November 1982 increased locust activity was reported in the Toker delta and the northern Ethiopian coasts of the Red Sea, with densities of about 2400/ha over some 2100 km². Under the circumstances control operations were undertaken and are still continuing.

United Arab Emirates

14. The Emirates remained free from Desert Locusts until mid-May 1982 when a few scattered mature locusts were reported at Dhadnah in the eastern region. This situation lasted until 20 October 1982 when a swarm flying from the east invaded the whole eastern region from Kelba through Fujairah and including Khor Fakkan, Dhadnah and Dibba. A concurrent locust invasion was also reported in Hatta and Masfut in the central region. Control operations were undertaken using malathion 57% on 22 October 1982. The western region reported scattered mature gregarious locusts in Yarah and Wudil along the edge of the Rub al Khali.

15. Surveys conducted during the post-invasion months revealed that the swarm, which entered on 20 October scattered in various localities as some of its members were discovered in the central, northern and eastern regions. No control operations were undertaken and the situation remained unchanged until early May 1983 when gregarization of solitarious locusts were reported among swarms of local grass hoppers in the Manama and eastern regions. Ecological conditions during winter and spring months of 1982-83 were ideal for breeding and led to high densities of Desert Locusts in the United Arab Emirates.

Sultanate of Oman

16. Surveys undertaken in the Sultanate during the period from 25 May-6 June 1982 covering all agricultural regions with the exception of the southern region (Dhofar), revealed the presence of solitarious locusts in Ibri, Samayil, Bilad Bani, Bu Ali in the eastern region. However, despite suitable breeding conditions, surveys undertaken during September and October 1982 in the southern region (Dhofar) found no trace of Desert Locusts in the region.

17. Meanwhile, in October 1982 when a swarm invaded the eastern and northern regions of the United Arab Emirates, there were reports of dense concentrations in Muscat and Sakham in the area of southern Batena. The survey expert recommended that these and other strategic regions should be under surveillance whenever necessary.

Egypt

18. Surveys to determine ecological locations continued in an organized and regular manner during this period thus making it possible to ascertain the locust situation at various intervals. The situation was calm overall and the country was free from gregarious locusts except for a few solitarious locusts reported on different occasions in varying numbers which were immediately controlled.

19. In the period September 1981 to early January 1982, most of the regions were nearly free from solitarious locusts. During these months heavy rains fell in the areas of Abraq (2324N/3447E), Abu Ramad (2220N/3620E) and Daieb (2220N-3600E) and also all along the Egyptian-Sudanese border filling the wadis in these areas and turning most of the valleys in the south-eastern desert into green. However, locust populations increased only slightly.

20. During January 1982 hoppers at densities of 5/km² were reported as well as laying mature locusts some 40 km from Abu Ramad (2220N/3620E).

21. The green conditions of the valleys continued through February 1982 when a number of mature solitarious Desert Locusts at densities of 10-15/km² were reported in the Daieb region (2220N/3600E). Instances of copulation were also reported in the same region in the first half of February.

22. During the period from March-July 1982 the various regions were almost free from locusts except for very few at the rate of 1/km in the south-eastern desert where climatic conditions were unstable and most valleys were getting too dry.

23. During September 1982 a few solitarious at densities of 70-80/km² were reported in Toshka areas west of the High Dam Lake and other solitarious at densities of 30/40/km scattered over 20 km² in the Takhtiet and nearby Salaam and Shuhada farms.

24. Some solitarious Desert Locusts were also reported during October 1982-March 1983 in the wadi Daieb region.

Forecast

25. Populations of solitarius locusts in the Arabian Peninsula were very small during the period from the end of 1981 to the first quarter of 1983. Large populations of locusts were only reported in Yemen PDR and Sudan in the Foker delta region.

26. Meanwhile despite reports of a number of swarms in the areas bordering the Rub al Khali in Saudi Arabia, Yemen AR and Yemen PDR, no trace was found of these and it was assumed they limited their movement to the areas parallel to the Rub al Khali and did not head towards the Arabian coasts of the Red Sea. Most probably the swarms originated in the Rub al Khali regions which may have had some rains during the spring of 1982. It should be noted, however, that between the end of 1981 and mid-1982 the strategic regions in the Arabian Peninsula were dry and had very little rain and hence locust activity was minimal.

27. By the end of 1982 and the beginning of 1983, many parts of the Arabian Peninsula received recurrent heavy rains and a great improvement in the ecological conditions was noted. Nonetheless locust populations in the region were very small and did not constitute any danger; and would probably not pose any threat unless joined by locust populations or swarms from Eastern Africa, particularly from Sudan and Eritrea.

28. The probability of locust populations arriving from Eastern Africa can only be ascertained by the efficiency of survey and control operations undertaken in Eastern Africa. Survey and reconnaissance operations are also necessary in the strategic regions in the Arabian peninsula up to the end of May 1983.

Implementation of the Previous Session's Recommendations

29. In accordance with paragraph 23 of the report of the 11th Session, held in Jordan from 13-16 October 1980, the Government of the United Arab Emirates has approved the establishment of an FAO locust expert post as requested by the Commission. Dr. Hani Haddadin was appointed to this post for a period of one year commencing in October 1981 and required funding has been approved from the Commission's Trust Fund, 9409. In this light of delays in funding the project by the United Arab Emirates and delay in convening meetings of the Commission on the prescribed date, it has been decided to renew the agreement on this post and its funding for two additional months ending on 21 December 1983. This was decided following consultation with the Chairman of the Executive Committee who approved the decision after the United Arab Emirates had confirmed its approval to finance this project at the beginning of 1983. The post was consequently financed by the Emirates under other projects executed by the Commission in cooperation with the United Arab Emirates.

30. The radio communications consultant undertook a number of visits to Yemen AR, Yemen PDR, Jordan, United Arab Emirates, Iraq, Sudan and Syria where he also organized training courses in some of them.

31. The UNDP approved financing the two locust projects in the two Yemens for a period of two years: 1982 and 1983.

32. Various training activities and fellowships have been implemented, details of which appear in their respective paragraphs.

33. Equipment and materials have been procured as requested by Egypt for the Dokki Research Station.

34. Assistance in the amount of US \$20 000 has been provided to Yemen PDR for 1982 and 1983 but no assistance was extended for 1983 in the light of the Government's commitment to incur these expenses.

Special Surveys

35. The Commission did not undertake any special surveys per se. However, Mr. Hani Haddadin, the FAO Locust Officer in Dubai made two visits to the Sultanate of Oman, one from 25 May-6 June and the other from 12-25 September 1982 which covered all agricultural and strategic regions. Through ecological conditions during these two periods were generally favourable to breeding, the expert found very small numbers of Desert Locusts. Moreover, the expert ascertained that the Plant Protection and Locust Control Department pays great attention to control equipment and material, providing each agricultural unit with adequate numbers of vehicles, exhaust sprayers, pesticides and other spray equipment.

36. The Commission recommended undertaking special surveys of the strategic regions in the Sultanate, whenever necessary, considering the particular significance of the region as a Desert Locust breeding zone.

37. In this respect, the Commission requests FAO to send Mr. Skaf and Mr. Khasawneh to the Sultanate with the aim of establishing direct contacts with government bodies to investigate reconnaissance and control requirements, to study means for strengthening operations and determine the government's contribution in this respect. The Commission will then accordingly determine its position.

38. The Commission reviewed with concern the report on the locust situation prevalent on the perimeter of the Rub al Khali during the summer of 1982 when a number of swarms were reported. Such developments will necessitate future preventive measures by the Commission such as undertaking, in consultation with concerned countries, seasonal aerial surveys of the regions bordering the Rub al Khali to be financed by the Commission.

Anti-locust Survey and Control Potential in the Member Countries

39. Appendix I gives the situation of total potential available at present in the member countries of the Commission. The Commission noted little change in the potential available recorded at the previous meeting.

Training, Fellowships and Exchange Visits

40. The document prepared by the Secretariat was reviewed (Appendix II) and the Commission took note of the progress achieved.

Future Training

41. The Commission recommended the organization of regional and local training courses on locust control and spraying techniques, the promotion of short-term training courses and fellowships and to continue the support of training in the various fields of surveys, control and research.

42. The Commission recognized the importance of fellowship visits to the various institutions, countries and international organizations and has, therefore, recommended that individuals on fellowships should prepare reports on their visits, impressions and proposals.

43. The Commission recommended sending Mr. Ali Shahien and Mr. Shahata Bekri, both of Egypt, for a one-month training course on reporting and forecasting at FAO Headquarters in Rome as soon as training facilities are available.

44. The Commission recommended sending Mr. Nabil Majam, Yemen AR, for a two-month training course on locust control in Sudan.

45. The Commission noted the development programme undertaken by Iraq in the field of Desert Locust control and recommended granting Iraq those short-term training courses it has requested pending the list of names of the trainees.

The requests include:

- a) Agricultural pilot: one month training on survey and control techniques;
- b) Locust officer: three months training in aerial survey and control operations;
- c) Technical officer: two months training in anti-locust research;
- d) Laboratory technician: training in Desert Locust techniques;
- e) Radio officer: three months training in maintenance of radio communication equipment;
- f) Organization of one-month training course for ten workers on radio equipment maintenance.

46. The Commission recommended sending Mr. Mamdouh Abdel Hamid Ibrahim of Egypt to India and Pakistan for one month's training in anti-locust research and control techniques.

47. The Commission recommended sending Mr. Elssa Abu Sana'a Chief of Plant Protection in the United Arab Emirates to both India and Eastern Africa for 20 days in order to become acquainted with their locust control institutions.

48. To send Mr. Samir Neseem Gerges, Director-General of Locust Control and Agroaviation, Egypt, to India, Pakistan and Eastern Africa for one month to anti-locust stations and institutions; and Mr. Sahkat Shasim Beshmaf, Jordan, to Eastern Africa for a 15-day visit to the Desert Locust Control Organization for Eastern Africa (DLCO-EA).

Research

49. Research at Jeddah concentrates on the effects of ecology on gregarization as well as studies on alternative chemicals to dieldrin and experiments are conducted using pyrethrins and their derivatives.

50. Research at the Dokki station in Cairo included the following:

Research on the toxicological action of some pesticides and evaluation of alternative chemicals - cumulative effect of sub lethal doses of some pesticides in use against Desert Locust and testing of some alternative chemicals - studies on the possibilities of using some modern pesticides as alternatives to currently used pesticides - studies on effects of sub-lethal doses on fifth instars and on adult Desert Locusts.

Ecological Studies

- studies on modern anti-locust methods using hormones;
- biochemical studies preliminary to biochemical testing of some modern insecticides proposed for use in Desert Locust control;
- studies on relation between hormones and sexphormones in Desert Locusts.

51. The Commission recommended the continuation of research on less toxic alternatives to the organo-chlorine chemicals, particularly dieldrin. At present, each country will, according to its economic and financial situation, decide on insecticide selection.

Application of Remote Sensing in Locust Survey and Research

52. The Commission reviewed with interest the memorandum by the Secretariat on this topic and the summary of the project activities in 1982 which made it possible to accomplish the following:

- continued meteorological forecasts;

- determining effects of rain on the growth of green vegetation mass (estimated from experimental imagery - NOAA/AVHRR);

- undertaking surveys of vegetation and moisture using Landsat satellite, as well as organizing a training course in Rome in November 1982.

The Secretariat also gave a summary of the second phase of the project which the Dutch government has been requested to finance.

53. The Commission approved a contribution of \$20 000 from the Commission fund to support research in the field of remote sensing in the Near East Region.

Locust Control Project in the Yemens

54. The Commission noted that the two locust projects financed by the UNDP in the Yemen Arab Republic and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen would be terminated by 31 December 1983 and that possibilities of extension of the projects are very slim. The Commission, therefore, emphasized the importance of the two projects and the need for their continuation in the light of their significant contribution to locust control activities, benefitting this region and other regions. The Commission stressed the need to give these projects first priority within the development priorities in both countries.

Assistance to Member Countries of the Commission

55. The Commission considered a request from Iraq for 12 transmitters to be placed in desert areas. Since Iraq did not receive any assistance from the Commission since its establishment and considering the strategic importance of the areas to be covered by these sets, the Commission agreed to provide Iraq with 12 transmitter sets at a cost of \$50 000.

56. The Commission considered a request by the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen to re-establish previous assistance of \$20 000 for the project operations. The Commission decided that this matter would be discussed at the next session since available funds to the project are sufficient to cover expenses up to December 1983, and would then be considered in the light of future UNDP projects at the end of December 1983. FAO provided \$150 000 in assistance under TCP.

57. Egypt presented a proposal for a regional project for ecological surveys of strategic areas parallel to the Red Sea in Egypt and Sudan. The Commission asked the two countries to prepare a joint study for possible assistance by the Commission in its implementation and the Commission will incur the travel expenses of the representative of either country to the other for the purposes of the study.

Programme of Work and Budget (Annex III)

58. The Commission expressed its appreciation of the Government of Saudi Arabia for providing 10 radio sets to the Sudan Government in early 1983.

59. The Commission reviewed the programme of Work and Budget for the period 1978-82 as well as the Commission's statement of expenditures ending 31 December 1981 and 31 December 1982, and approved them.

60. The Commission approved the financial statement up to 31 December 1983.

Contributions

61. Appendix III shows the annual scale of contributions to the Trust Fund 9409, i.e. the annual contributions of member countries and the position of arrears.

62. The Commission requested the member countries to fully settle their arrears and asked the Secretariat to continue follow-up with the members. The Commission also approved the continuation of reduced contributions by both People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and the Yemen Arab Republic for the year 1983-84, subject to annual review of this matter.

Elections of Members and Chairman of the Executive Committee 1983-84

63. The Commission elected Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Jordan, United Arab Emirates and the Yemen Arab Republic to be members of the Executive Committee. It also elected Saudi Arabia as Chairman and the Yemen Arab Republic as Vice Chairman of the Committee.

Organization of Future Sessions of the Commission and of the Executive Committee

64. The Commission saw the Arabic translation of the convention establishing the Commission which had been distributed to the member countries and expressed its appreciation of FAO for undertaking it.

65. Considering the noted absence of a large number of countries from the previous sessions of the Commission (the tenth, eleventh and twelfth sessions), the Commission, therefore, requested FAO to consider the possibility of covering travel expenses of all Commission members for future sessions from the Trust Fund.

66. The Commission reviewed the difficulties that impeded the convening of the 13th Session on a previous date and pointed out that, in other similar circumstances, the Executive Committee should hold its meetings at such dates as determined by the FAO Secretariat to review the situation and take necessary decisions accordingly. The Commission also recommended that the Executive Committee should be given powers to take quick decisions on emergencies in the Region.

Other Business

67. The Commission studied with great concern the report prepared by the Secretariat on control strategy in the Near East Region. The Commission recognizing the importance of the Red Sea coastal areas in both the Arabian Peninsula and Eastern Africa in terms of locust breeding and migration, as well as the importance of the eastern parts of the Arabian Peninsula, particularly the Sultanate of Oman and the United Arab Emirates, similarly a strategic area for locust breeding, recommended that the Region be given special attention in terms of surveys and monitoring. The Commission recommended that the Secretariat contact the Government of Oman with the purpose of strengthening the present anti-locust organization.

68. The Commission noted that the locust expert post in the United Arab Emirates is now financed under a development project in the Emirates. The Commission expressed its appreciation to the Government of the Emirates and recognized the significance of continuing this project and its impact on the Region, particularly since the expert, during his presence in the Emirates, had undertaken intensive surveys and reconnaissance operations for locust and indigenous grasshoppers, as well as conducting ecological studies and training of personnel during his field activities. The expert had also prepared regular reports and forecasts for the Emirates region.

69. The Commission, therefore, recommended that FAO continues its communications with the Government of the Emirates with the purpose of ensuring that the locust project receives due attention and its continuation within the current development projects.

DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT SESSION

70. The Government of the Yemen Arab Republic had invited the Commission to hold its present Session in Sana'a but due to the earthquake disaster, the arrangement was cancelled. At the request of the Commission, the delegate of the Yemen Arab Republic promised to take up with his Government the prospect of convening the next session in Sana'a in the Spring 1984.

ANNEX I

ANTI-LOCUST SURVEY AND CONTROL POTENTIAL AVAILABLE
IN THE MEMBER COUNTRIES OF THE COMMISSION

<u>Country</u>	<u>Insecticides (tons)</u>	<u>Equipment</u>	<u>Vehicles</u>	<u>Aircraft</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Bahrain	Malathion 96% ULV 8	Power dusters 2 sprayers 32	Light 8		Gen. 16
Egypt	Dieldrin 20% 3 Fenitrothion 96% ULV 2 BHC 15% Gamma liq. 10 BHC dust 25% 13 BHC bait Gamma 200	Ex.nozz.sprayers 3 Power sprayers 70 Power dusters 2 Dusters 40	Light 25 Medium 20 Heavy 2	Chartered	Tech. 80 Gen. 190
Iraq	Malathion 96% ULV 6 Sumithion 50%	Ex.nozz.sprayers 20 Power sprayers 20 Knapsack spr. 1000	Light 50		Helicopter
Jordan	Dieldrin 20% 2.5	Ex.nozz.sprayers 2 Power dusters 2 Hand dusters 10 Power sprayers 50	Light 8 Medium 2		Tech. 15 Gen. 50
Kuwait	Dieldrin 20% 13 BHC dust 10% 59	Power sprayers 32 Power dusters 9 Hand dusters 15	Jeeps 3 Light trucks 7		Tech. 33 Gen. 120
Lebanon	BHC solution 12 Others 5	Hand sprayers 14	Light 5	Helicopter 1	Tech. 22 Gen. 20
Oman	Dieldrin 20% 1 Fenitrothion 5.5 BHC dust 10% 2 Others 4	Ex.nozz.sprayers 4 Power sprayers 130 Power dusters 1	Light 4		Tech. 12 Gen. 160
Qatar	Dieldrin 20% 4		Heavy 1		Gen. 2
Saudi Arabia	Dieldrin 20% 150 Malathion 96% 75 Fenitrothion 100% 22.5 BHC dust 5% 225 Gammatox 25 Others 75	Ex.nozz.sprayers 80 Power dusters 142 Sprayers 80	Light } 120 Medium } Lorries 15	Chartered	Tech. 10 Gen. 119
Sudan	Dieldrin 20% 4200 gall. Fenitrot. 96% 5300 gall. BHC dust 2.6% 150 Poisoned bait 4300	Ex.nozz.sprayers 20 Hand dusters 700 Knapsack spr. 1000 Power dusters 40	Light 43 Heavy 50		Fixed wing 6 Helicop. 1
Syria	Dieldrin 20% 4.2 BHC dust 25% 400 BHC solution 9.5 Aldrin 5 DDVP 2.5	Ex.nozz.sprayers 13 Power dusters 204 Hand dusters 230 Hand sprayers 256		Fixed wing 8	
United Arab Emirates	Dieldrin 20% 20 Malathion 96%/57% 15 BHC dust 10% 3 BHC solution 1 Others 3	Ex.nozz.sprayers 15 Power sprayers 40	Light 10	Fixed wing 2	Tech. 4 Gen. 15
Yemen AR	Dieldrin 20% 38 Fenitrothion 96% 5 BHC dust 25% 107 Dimethoate E.C.40% 66	Ex.nozz.sprayers 35 Sprayers 133 Hand dusters 136 Power dusters 8	Light 17 Heavy 1		Tech. 3 Gen. 14
Yemen PDR	Dieldrin 20% 17 Fenitrothion 96% 4 BHC dust 25% 87 Acrodel 15% 9	Ex.nozz.sprayers 22 Hand dusters 46 Power dusters 8	Light 11 Heavy 1		Tech. 4 Gen. 12

Training, Fellowships and Exchange Visits

Following the recommendations of the last Session of the Commission and at specific countries requests the following activities were undertaken in 1981 and 1982.

I. Group Training Courses

1981

1. Regional Training Course in Desert Locust Survey and Control and Radio Maintenance held in Hodeidah, Yemen Arab Republic, 1-23 April 1981, for 17 participants from Saudi Arabia, People's Democratic Republic of Yemen. The training was provided by the FAO Regional Locust Officer, Jeddah, the FAO Radio Communications Consultant and the FAO Locust Officer, Hodeidah.
2. The Second National Radio Training Course on Radio Operation and Maintenance was held in Cairo, Egypt from 17 August to 10 September 1981 for 12 participants. The training was provided by the FAO Radio Communications Consultant.

1982

3. First National Radio Training Course on Radio Operation and Maintenance held in Khartoum, Sudan from 20 January to 9 February 1982 for 12 participants. The training was provided by the FAO Radio Communications Consultant.
4. Regional Training Course on Locust Survey and Radio Communications held in Khartoum and Port Sudan, Sudan from 3 to 22 April 1982 for 19 participants from Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, PDR Yemen, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, the United Arab Emirates and the Yemen Arab Republic. Training was provided by the FAO Regional Locust Officer, Jeddah, the FAO Radio Communications Consultant and the FAO Locust Officer, Hodeidah

II. Short-Term Training Courses

1. The Short Course on Aerial Application of Pesticides at Cranfield Institute of Technology, U.K. was attended by the participants listed below:

1981 : 7 to 18 September

- Mr. M.F.M. Negm from Egypt

1982 : 6 to 17 September

- Mr. G.Z. Taha from Egypt
- Mr. I.A. Sultan from Iraq
- Mr. M. Hamidi from Syria

2. The International Application Course in Ground and Aerial Application for Plant Protection and Biochemical Products at CIBA GEIGY, Vouvry, Switzerland from 18 to 30 July 1982 was attended by:

- Mr. M.S. El Garhy from Egypt

3. The Remote Sensing Trainign Course, held in FAO HQ, Rome, from 8 to 19 November 1982 was attended by:

- Mr. M. Ashani from Jordan
- Mr. Yacoub from Saudi Arabia

III. Fellowships

Mr. F.M. Bahakim from the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen is working for his B.Sc degree at Khartoum University. His studies should be completed by end May 1983. The Fellowship is financed from the UNDP project "Desert Locust Survey and Control Project" (Yemen A.R. and PDR Yemen) RAB/75/010.

IV. Short-Term Training

1981

Mr. Yagoub from Saudi Arabia attended a three month Pest Management Course at Imperial College and visited other research stations and manufacturers in the U.K. (5 May to 2 August).

1982

Mr. Ahmed from the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen attended a three month course on Locust Control and Plant Protection at Hyderabad, India. (1 September to 30 November).

V. Exchange Visits/Study Tour

1981

An Exchange Visit to India and Pakistan was granted to:

- Mr. A. Audhali from the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen
- Mr. A. Refaat from Egypt

Another Exchange Visit to India, Pakistan and Ethiopia was granted to:

- Mr. M.S. El Garhy

VI. Training Activities Planned, being Undertaken in 1983

1. A National Training Course on Radio Communications is planned to take place in Baghdad, Iraq from 21 February to 11 March 1983.
2. A two month training programme at DLCO-EA is planned for Mr. M. A. Harb from Egypt, to start after 1 August 1983.
3. An Exchange Visit to DLCO-EA is planned for Mr. M.S. Simary from Egypt to start on 23 February 1983 for two months.
4. A Regional Training Course on Locust Control and Radio Operation for three weeks is planned to take place within the Region, Cairo, Egypt. Its preparation will be finalised as soon as the official government approval to host the course has been received.
5. As in 1982, we are planning to grant attendances at the short courses on aerial and ground application of pesticides at the Cranfield and CIBA GEIGY Institutes.
6. A Study Tour to India, Pakistan and Ethiopia is planned for Mr. Samir Nessim Gerges from Egypt to take place after April 1983.
7. A Study Tour to DLCO-EA (Ethiopia) is planned for Mr. Kasim from Jordan after April 1983.

ANNEX III

PROGRAMME OF WORK AND BUDGET

Programme of Work and Budget for 1978-1982

1. The Seventh Session of the Commission in October 1976 approved a programme of work and budget for the five-year period 1978-1982, which was endorsed by the FAO Finance Committee at its 39th Session, 25 April - 9 May 1977. The budget (shown in Appendix I column 1) is reviewed at the annual Sessions of the Commission. Savings under any of the expenditure headings can be utilized to meet shortages under any other headings and, similarly, unspent surpluses at the end of any one calendar year are available to supplement allocations under the same headings or any other headings as may be required.

Expenditure for the Year Ending 31 December 1981 and Estimate of expenditure for the Year 1982

2. A statement of expenditures for the years 1981 and 1982 are shown in Appendix I, columns 5 and 6, and a breakdown of these expenditures is given in Appendix II.

3. The total expenditure in the year 1981, amounting to US\$145 738, remained within the approved annual budget, while the total estimated expenditure for 1982, amounting to US\$350 222, exceeded the yearly budget by US\$150 222. However, this overexpenditure was absorbed by the reserve funds.

4. The overall end-of-year position for 1981 showed a balance of US\$414 398 and for 1982 showed an estimated balance of US\$385 694, which can be held as a reserve.

Estimated Expenditure for 1983

5. A breakdown of commitments incurred in 1983 up to 7 February 1983 is given in Appendix II, last column.

Contributions Received and Outstanding

6. Appendix III shows the original and new annual scale of contributions to the Trust Fund 9409 and the position of contributions outstanding as at 31 January 1983. Member Governments are requested to arrange for payment of outstanding contributions.

7. The new scale of contributions incorporating an increase of 25% approved by the Commission at its Eleventh Session held in Amman, October 1980, has been operative from 1 July 1981, as recommended by the Commission.

Programme of Work and Budget for 1983-87

8. The new five-year budget, as recommended for implementation by the last Session of the Commission (para 59 of the Report of the Twelfth Session) is given in Appendix IV based on current expenditure estimates.

APPENDIX I

Statement of Account (expressed in US dollar equivalent)

<u>Receipts</u>	Approved budget <u>1978-82</u>	Actual Costs				Estimate (including commitments) <u>1982</u>
		<u>1978</u>	<u>1979</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1981</u>	
Balance brought forward from previous year	-	53 363	137 380	176 788	348 968	414 398
Contributions	200 000	218 675	151 079	229 623	154 821	292 639
Interest	-	5 011	12 882	32 306	56 347	28 879 ^{3/}
	<u>200 000</u>	<u>277 049</u>	<u>301 341</u>	<u>438 717</u>	<u>560 136</u>	<u>735 916</u>
<u>Cash Expenditure</u>						
<u>Personal Services</u>						
Short-term experts, local assistance	35 000	31 020	48 297	16 971	39 290	151 795
<u>Travel</u>						
Delegates, teams, consultants	15 000	5 698	17 368	4 264	18 267	23 817
<u>Contractual Services</u>						
Printing reports	5 000	3 495	3 118	15 740	8 688	2 361
<u>Supplies and Materials</u>						
For field surveys, POL, vehicle maintenance	20 000	13 130	6 447	15 585	6 114	11 030
<u>Equipment</u>						
For field projects	60 000	68 229	24 165	7 428	24 719	39 696
<u>Fellowships and Grants</u>						
Individual and Group training	20 000	-	626	12 136	23 600	67 287
<u>General Operating Expenses</u>						
Misc., rent, communications	15 000	7 368	11 653	8 420	9 598	24 631
	<u>170 000</u>	<u>128 940</u>	<u>111 674</u>	<u>80 544</u>	<u>130 276</u>	<u>320 617</u>
Project Servicing Costs (5% on Supplies and Equip. 14% on the other items) ^{1/}	16 600	10 729	12 879	9 205	15 462	29 605 ^{2/}
	<u>186 600</u>	<u>139 669</u>	<u>124 553</u>	<u>89 749</u>	<u>145 738</u>	<u>350 222</u>
Reserve	13 400	137 380	176 788	348 968	414 398	385 694

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

^{1/} From 1982 onwards Project Servicing Costs on the other items reduced to 13%

^{2/} As at December 1982 on expenditures only

^{3/} As at June 1982

APPENDIX II

	<u>1981</u> <u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Estimate 1982</u> <u>(including</u> <u>commitments)</u>	<u>1983</u> <u>Commitments</u> <u>(7.2.1983)</u>
10. <u>Personal Services</u>			
Locust Expert, U.A.E. (Haddadin)	22 012	75 898	-
Consultant (Moukarzel - radio)	2 727	46 250	7 899
Temporary Staff, Session of Commission	3 711	-	-
Local costs, PDR Yemen	10 540	28 511	-
Sudan, Regional Training Course	-	844	-
Various	300	292	-
	<u>39 290</u>	<u>151 795</u>	<u>7 899</u>
20. <u>Travel</u>			
Session of Commission, delegates	9 597	-	-
Staff travel to Commission	1 249	-	-
Yemen Arab Republic Training Course	7 421	-	-
Staff travel in the Region	-	14 911	-
Study Tour of Locust Officer, Egypt	-	2 366	-
Sudan, Regional Training Course	-	6 540	-
Exchange Visit of Locust Officer, Egypt	-	-	4 670
	<u>18 267</u>	<u>23 817</u>	<u>4 670</u>
30. <u>Contractual Services</u>			
Printing, reports	8 688	2 361	-
	<u>8 688</u>	<u>2 361</u>	-
40. <u>General Operating Expenses</u>			
Session of Commission	436	-	-
PDR Yemen operating expenses	7 442	7 558	-
Yemen Arab Republic Training Course	1 382	-	-
Sudan, Regional Training Course	-	6 778	-
Radio spares (training course and technical visits)	-	295	-
Operating expenses (Regional and Locust Officer)	-	10 000	-
Various	338	-	-
	<u>9 598</u>	<u>24 631</u>	-
50. <u>Supplies and Materials</u>			
Yemen Arab Republic Training Course	407	-	-
Qatar, BHC dust	2 707	-	-
Egypt, laboratory supplies	3 000	-	-
Sudan, radio antenna and crystals	-	1 254	-
Jordan, radio antenna spares	-	2 436	-
U.A.E., operating expenses of Locust Officer	-	5 000	-
Various radio spares for Egypt, Jordan, PDR Yemen, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Yemen Arab Republic	-	2 340	-
	<u>6 114</u>	<u>11 030</u>	-

APPENDIX II (cont'd)

60. Equipment

Egypt, radio accessories & spares, lab. equipment, projector, sprayers	19 471	9 003	-
PDR Yemen, radio accessories, office equipment	5 191	-	-
U.A.E., vehicle	-	11 796	-
Yemen Arab Republic, Land Rover & spares	-	10 655	-
Sudan, radio spares, generators, lab. equipment	-	5 093	-
Jordan, generators	-	3 100	-
Various	57	49	-
	<u>24 719</u>	<u>39 696</u>	<u>-</u>

80. Fellowships and Training

Training Course, Yemen Arab Republic	12 263	-	-
Regional Training Course, Sudan	-	42 480	-
Exchange Visits:			
Audhali, PDR Yemen to Pakistan, India	615	-	-
El Garhy, Egypt to Pakistan, India, Ethiopia	100	3 777	-
Refaat, Egypt to Pakistan, India, Ethiopia	1 408	-	-
Short-term Training:			
Yagoub, Saudi Arabia to U.K.	5 498	590	-
Yagoub, Saudi Arabia to Rome (Remote Sensing)	-	1 744	-
Negm, Egypt to U.K.	2 046	-	-
Taha, Egypt to U.K.	-	2 932	-
El Garhy, Egypt to Switzerland	-	926	-
Harb, Egypt to Ethiopia	-	-	3 600
Saad, Sudan to U.K.	632	-	-
Hamidi, Syria to U.K.	-	2 932	-
Ghani, Jordan to Rome (Remote Sensing)	-	1 444	-
Sultan, Iraq to U.K.	-	2 932	-
Various travellers to U.K.	-	2 830	-
Ahmed, PDR Yemen to India	-	4 700	-
Various	1 038	-	-
	<u>23 600</u>	<u>67 287</u>	<u>3 600</u>

TOTAL	<u>130 276</u>	<u>320 617</u>	<u>16 169</u>
	*****	*****	*****

APPENDIX III

Pledge Position at 31 January 1983 (US dollars)

	New Scale of contri- bution from 1.7.1981	Annual scale of contri- butions. up to 30.6.1981	O u t s t a n d i n g							Total outstanding contri- butions. due	
			1977/78	1978/79	1979/80	1980/81	1981/82	1982/83	1983/84		
Bahrain	8 750	7 000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8 750	8 750
Egypt	32 540	26 032	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	32 540	32 540
Iraq	28 750	23 000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	28 750	28 750
Jordan	14 357.50	11 486	-	-	-	-	-	-	14 357.50	14 357.50	28 715
Kuwait	25 000	20 000	-	-	-	-	25 000	25 000	25 000	25 000	75 000
Lebanon	11 212.50	8 970	-	-	-	5 414.18	11 212.50	11 212.50	11 212.50	11 212.50	39 051.68
Oman	10 000	8 000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10 000	10 000
Qatar	12 500	10 000	-	-	-	-	12 500	12 500	12 500	12 500	37 500
Saudi Arabia	44 035	35 228	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	44 035	44 035
Sudan	18 667.50	14 934	14 934	14 934	14 934	14 934	18 667.50	18 667.50	18 667.50	18 667.50	115 738.50
Syria	16 687.50	13 350	-	-	-	13 350	16 687.50	16 687.50	16 687.50	16 687.50	63 412.50
United Arab Emirates	26 250	21 000	-	-	-	-	-	-	26 250	26 250	52 500
Yemen Arab Republic	800	640	-	-	-	-	(1 009.77)	800	800	800	590.23
Yemen PDR	450	360	-	-	-	-	-	-	450	450	900
	250 000	200 000	14 934	14 934	14 934	33 698.18	83 057.73	125 925	250 000	250 000	537 482.91

APPENDIX IV

Annual Budget for the Five Years 1983-87

	US\$
<u>Receipts</u>	
Yearly Contributions of Governments	250 000
<u>Cash Expenditure</u>	
<u>Personal Services</u>	
Short-term experts, local assistance	35 000
<u>Travel</u>	
Delegates, teams, consultants	15 000
<u>Contractual Services</u>	
Printing reports	15 000
<u>Supplies and Materials</u>	
for field surveys, POL, vehicle maintenance	20 000
<u>Equipment</u>	
for field projects	60 000
<u>Fellowships and Grants</u>	
Individual and Group Training	25 000
<u>General Operating Expenses</u>	
Misc., rent, communications	15 000
	<hr/>
	185 000
Project Servicing Costs (5% on supplies & equipment, 13% on the other items)	17 260
	<hr/>
	202 260
Reserve	47 740
	<hr/>
	250 000
	<hr/> <hr/>

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

