

Management acknowledged that while the implementation of COSICS was a Departmental priority, COSICS will also be looked at as part of the corporate review process. Additionally, with respect to the issue of the decentralization of CIDA, Management indicated that some adjustments might be required but decentralization would continue. This issue would be the subject of ongoing discussions with CIDA officials. On another issue, the Staff Side received Management's assurance that the simplification of the Foreign Service Directives would be done in consultation with the Staff Side through the appropriate channels.

In conclusion, Management indicated that at this point in the process all options for expenditure reductions would have to be considered and that the Staff Side would be kept informed of progress in this area through regularly scheduled EAJC meetings or ad hoc meetings as required.