



In April 1998, the Executive Committee considered a policy paper on ethics and values presented by the Legal Advisor. The Committee decided to pursue the following course of action:

1. an ethics committee will be established this fall, to be chaired by an ADM;
2. the ethics committee will develop and publish a statement of principles that will govern the conduct of all employees in the discharge of DFAIT business; and
3. these principles will be incorporated as a fundamental element in employee training programs and will shape future recruitment and performance management efforts.

The ethics committee will not become involved in the resolution of individual problems that may arise, but rather will be responsible for articulating, promulgating and championing the statement of principles.

We want our treatment of employees to reflect the values we express in our services to, and on behalf of, Canadians. As we noted last year, it is critical for this culture change that our departmental leaders manifest these values in their day-to-day performance.

4.1.3 COMPTROLLERSHIP

In late October 1997, the Independent Review Panel on Modernisation of Comptrollership in the Government of Canada submitted its report to the Secretary of the Treasury Board. The report sets out an integrated set of proposals for a new modern comptrollership system for the federal Government. As described in the Panel's report, modern comptrollership will increase the "effectiveness of the government in fulfilling its mission and achieving its objectives". It "represents better management which will produce:

- balanced excellence in policy development and administration,
- an enhanced ability to adopt new approaches to conducting public business,
- an enhanced ability to achieve the government's policy agenda – to define and attain public objectives,
- a better administrative capacity to serve the public interest, and
- support for the governance responsibilities of elected officials."³

Here are the key elements of the new philosophy:

- comptrollership is a management responsibility,
- comptrollership needs to be put into harmony with the overall management direction of government,

³ Modernization of Comptrollership in the Government of Canada, Report of the Independent Review Panel, October 1997.