Canada itself, neither alone or in cooperation with the provincial governments, has properly integrated and planned its strategy for citizen and resident identification and immigration. For example, the intrinsic passport security features built into the current passports issued by Canada have for the most part been designed through ICAO MRP committees and discussions, as well as by the PPO itself, but with little evident operational participation of other government sources. The features are rarely if ever used by Immigration at border posts, and in fact Canada still has a Customs orientation at its borders, undoubtedly facilitating fraudulent entry.

There is also little attention paid to passport authentication by Canada, even though Canadian passports have a machine readable zone (MRZ); the US government uses passport readers and an on-line systems access to identify undesirables and to track travel by citizens and foreigners. (Ironically, the readers used by the Americans at many border points to read the MRZ are devices manufactured by a Canadian company, AIT Advanced Informantion Technologies Corp. of Nepean, Ont.) At the present time, the government, with the recent recommendations made by the PPO, are focusing on reducing application fraud. As was pointed out in section 7, this will only deal with one side of the Passport Fraud Cycle; to counter the problem properly attention must also be paid to counterfeiting and usage fraud detection.

These do not appear to be integrated in the strategic concrns of the gavernment at present, but it is unreasonable to assume that this situation will exist for long. The Passport Office must therefore forsee this eventuality in its internal planning process.

The needs and benefits of long-term strategic planning for informatics can be summarized as follows.

Rationale for Strategic Planning for Informatics

1. Deliberately focuses the attention of an organization on its objectives, opportunities, priorities, and resulting informatics (and other) plans for the future. Provides a framework for detailed planning and budgeting.