12. Getting There - A Strategic Planning Framework

In order to evolve towards a future PPO operation of the kind suggested, the PPO will be required to institute more formal and detailed planning exercises with its internal management, including review and agreement on its potential future role, mandate, and resulting informatics goals. This section is intended to provide a high-level framework for tasks and time frames that are suggestive of the possible results of such a planning exercise. The tasks and milestones are all expressed in a generic manner, since the study team could not attempt to provide a definitive statement to the PPO of its proper direction over the next several years.

The plans or implementation alternatives in this section are shown in the format of activity flow charts, showing basic precedence of major tasks to others and suggesting a time frame within fiscal years. A useful plan for the PPO, resulting from internal meetings on this subject, can also begin at this level to aid overall understanding and be subsequently fleshed out in much more detail as a result of further detailed planning and budgeting.

12.1 Implementation Strategies

Two possible implementation strategies are presented in the following material. The first and recommended strategy, strategy A, assumes that the PPO will advance to an informatics structure of the type described elsewhere in this report in a reasonable time period over the next 4 fiscal years. Biometrics capture for data base universality in the same time period would begin early, for later use with the integrated system. Strategy B, on the other hand, shows a more evolutionary path to a similar but more limited end point over a period of 5 years or more.

12.1.1 Strategy A

The aim of this strategy would be to provide an integrated approach and centralized control to the security, application processing, and archiving functions, on an