

and Missions program to compile and share data with the provinces on their activities. To assist the Department in analysing shifts in world markets and establishing priorities for marketing activities a study will be undertaken to determine which existing data banks and economic forecasting services would meet the needs of the Trade Development Policy, Planning and Liaison Bureau and the best means of making them available.

4.4.5 OBJECTIVE D

To improve the operating efficiency and effectiveness of program delivery of the Social Affairs Program, and the Passport Program both in Canada and at Posts.

- (1) Projects under this heading support the Social Affairs Programs Planning Element and the Passport Office Revolving Fund Planning Element.
- (2) The major project involving the immigration program is discussed later in this chapter in the section on Posts. Plans are in hand for the Passport Bureau to acquire equipment to improve the efficiency of its operations in Headquarters, in offices across Canada and at certain posts abroad which are required to handle a large volume of passport applications. Work is underway to prepare a project to support the Public Affairs and Cultural Bureau at Headquarters.

4.4.6 OBJECTIVE E

To improve the operating efficiency and effectiveness of those systems supporting the Department's financial, personnel, physical resources and other administrative operations at Headquarters and at Posts

- (1) Projects under this heading support not only the Administration and Operational Support and Protocol planning elements but also all of the other elements in the OPF. Data produced from the systems falling under this heading is essential information to meet the needs of managers throughout the Department.
- (2) The proposed acquisition by the Department of a new general purpose computer in FY 1985/86 will be submitted to the Treasury Board for approval. It is intended that a number of systems now located with the Information Storage and Retrieval System will be moved from the existing DEC-20 to the new equipment. This will mean that a planned expansion of the DEC-20 will not be necessary.
- (3) In anticipation of the acquisition of the new equipment a number of existing programs now accommodated on the DEC-20 will be re-written and, indeed, a study is already underway for the design of a new Financial Management System. The Personnel Management Information System is also to be accommodated on the new computer and planning for its re-writing has just begun. Systems are also being planned for the Department's Physical Resource activities and it is anticipated they will be accommodated on the new Headquarters computer.
- (4) It is expected that systems for the new computer will incorporate "friendlier" designs which will make them more responsive to the needs of senior managers in the Department. The Committee should take a direct interest in all phases of this project.

4.5 PART II - POSTS

4.5.1 INTRODUCTION

Although limited in scope the pattern of development of the EDP component of Informatics Systems at Posts is consistent with that followed by many other organizations both in the private and in the public sector. At the few posts where systems have been introduced they have been applied to those routine,