CONCLUSION: INNOVATION AND EFFICIENCIES IN THE NETWORK

As we move forward, we can anticipate that there will continue to be significant movements—increased or decreased program footprints, and redeployment of resources to meet shifting priorities and to address regional issues and business flows. Consequently, creating an environment that fosters innovation and modernization of business processes will become increasingly valued.

To create efficiencies, DFATD is partnering with like-minded countries as an alternative means to establish and operate missions abroad in challenging environments, allowing the department to move quickly and with lower up-front investments in infrastructure and operational support. The department will also continue to utilize its network of highly-trained professionals at missions to improve the way it does business, for example the integration of missions into regionalized network.

The International Platform Branch (IPB) will continue to leverage new technologies and tools to develop modern and creative business processes. Currently, the automation of the costing tool for position changes, an electronic identification system for mission inventories and the expansion of the mission online service request system are being implemented. These tools will improve our service offerings, our reporting capacity, and our ability to measure performance.

The IPB is also rolling out Workplace 2.0 at our missions abroad, promoting innovative design, better use of natural light, increased common spaces (e.g. quiet rooms, meeting rooms, collaborative spaces, kitchens), and more flexibility to adapt space to changing program needs. Workspace 2.0 was fully implemented at the mission in the Hong Kong in June 2014.

More details on these and other improvements will be featured in the 2014–2015 edition of the Report.

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