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strategic planning, operational planning and work planning, leading to the production of the strategic overview and multi-year operational plan. An important lead project deals with the development of the DEA operational plan framework followed by Part III of the Estimates. The program evaluation component profiles and multi-year evaluation plan are also the topic of a project. Separate projects have been structured to address management of the ongoing resource allocation process and reporting against plans, as well as to address specific program evaluation projects.

8. The committee structure at the corporate level is now in place, and the management improvement program is concentrating on information to support the executive decision-making process. Among the management information projects, a number are specifically intended to improve the quality of information available to senior management. An initial survey of management information needs will lead to the formulation of an MIS strategy for DEA. The production of a corporate management calendar and a policy document checklist will help to order the business of Executive and related committees.

Support for Geographic Branches

9. A major part of the September 6, 1983 reorganization at DEA was the creation, for the first time, of five geographic Branches responsible for their respective regions, the posts in those regions and for policy and program design and delivery, country planning and resource allocation and control. The Branch and Post Management Procedures Project focuses on providing branch managers with the systems and resources necessary to carry out their management responsibilities. Completion of the 1983 initiative on delegation to Heads of Post is a separate project here, though consideration of any further delegation to HOPs would take place in the context of the branch and post management project.

10. Establishing a model of the way in which policy and resource reviews can be conducted of regions or parts of regions is the topic of another project, to be detailed in the new year. A prime focus is also on determining the information needs of managers in the geographic branches, and this is initiated through a pilot project in the United States Branch. Other projects in the MIS section of the EAMIP also focus on the requirements of headquarters managers and posts. Using communications satellites to provide immediate access to Canadian television programming to demonstrate the cost-effectiveness of Canadian high-technology and as an alternate method of transmitting public information for public affairs is the topic of another project. Again, this is structured as a pilot at two U.S. posts with the possibility of extending to other posts in that region or possibly other regions, after assessment.