

In general terms there are two potential groups of major users of the system: members of the Department of External Affairs at home and abroad plus individuals or organizations outside the Department. "Outside use" might include:

(1) Other government departments -- especially those with international interests or involvement.

(2) Academics -- faculty, research staff, graduate students and potentially even senior under-graduate students would find the data base of benefit when doing research in related fields. Availability of such a data base could also be of considerable assistance in fostering the development of Canadian studies programs in foreign universities.

(3) Media organizations -- press, broadcasting, publishing and other similar groups frequently require rapid and comprehensive access to the types of material proposed for inclusion in this data base.

(4) The Canadian Institute of International Affairs and other public interest groups. Research and public information activities conducted by such organizations would be facilitated by the existence of the proposed data base.

(5) Political parties and pressure groups.

(6) Business and industry --- a wide range of potential uses from planning purposes to briefing company executives before going abroad on assignment.