

- a number of administrative and other measures to ensure that members of the foreign service abroad are adequately housed;
- much greater attention to personnel management in the foreign service, including appointment of an Assistant Deputy Minister with full responsibility for personnel questions and an undertaking to improve foreign service training with particular emphasis on the development of management skills;
- substantial improvement and expansion of foreign language training within the foreign service to enhance the ability of employees to fulfil their responsibilities abroad and to accelerate the adaptation of employees and their families to foreign language environments;
- development of a substantially enlarged program of secondments between the Department of External Affairs and other Government departments and agencies;
- improvement in the administration of the foreign service benefits and compensation system;
- delegation of greater authority to heads of posts abroad; and
- major changes in the management and organization of the Department of External Affairs designed to strengthen its ability to identify priorities and to allocate its resources efficiently and effectively.