Positioning and Utility of the Information

The type of information contained in the International Trade Business Plan was of general interest to participants. However, most viewed it as a document they would *"stick in my brief case and glance through it if I get a chance"*.

Most people suggested that the size of the document was "intimidating" and did not meet their need for quick information.

"They could have sent a letter and included a contact name and telephone number. It would have been a lot less expensive than this."

In most cases, the sectors were too broadly defined to provide readers with the business-specific information they need.

"I guess it's trying to cover different areas...of course you have to pinpoint the area that applies to you. Generally, it's pretty broad. I bet no one here has even read through all this."

"I read it but it's very, very general. It covers all the different sectors, many of which I have no interest in. It's provides a general policy spectrum. If a potential client from Timbuktu called me, I wouldn't go to this...it would be filed somewhere."

As an annual publication, the International Trade Business Plan does not meet the needs of users for current information on activities.

"If you put out an annual publication, it will be out of date within three months."

PHASE 5