8. The process followed to produce the draft program has included a
    project identification and a project planning stage. During the
    month of October, work was concentrated on discussions with ADMs,
    DGs and Directors to identify and briefly describe tasks that can
    be suitably represented as projects in the management improvement
    program. The total list was reviewed by the Steering Committee,
    and approved in principle by Executive Committee in November.
    Since that date, detailed plans have been prepared for the majority
    of the projects that are now underway or will commence in 1984-85.
    The project plans have been compiled, and an analysis has been
    undertaken of implementation considerations and costs related to
    the program. Some projects will still need to be further detailed
    before the end of the fiscal year while others will be included at
    later dates.

CURRENT SITUATION AND NEXT STEPS

9. The management improvement program is now in draft form, ready for
    review by the Steering Committee and approval in principle by
    Executive Committee. Subsequent to consideration by the two
    committees, there will be some further consultation, where
    required, within the Department. The program will also be reviewed
    in draft with the OCG at this time. Following further revisions,
    as necessary, the program will be submitted to Executive Committee
    for final approval of the projects and the resource plan. Sign-off
    of the program by the Comptroller General is expected by the end of
    February, latest.

10. While the management improvement program is termed a "draft", some
    of the projects in it are in fact already underway. Others need
    only approval before they begin, some must be described with
    greater precision before action can be taken, and others still
    require resources if they are to proceed at all. New projects can
    be added as they emerge, and the entire program will be updated
    annually. The extent to which the EAMIP, reviewed in January and
    February, will remain a draft will be determined out of that review,
    discussion and approval process.