may be identified during the course of the conceptual overview.*

(a) Clarification of Objectives and Review of Program Design

Given an assumed continued Canadian commitment to the United Nations, perhaps the most fundamental issues to be addressed by the proposed evaluation will be those relating to the current program design of the U.N. Affairs component, and to the conco- mitant questions of organizational responsibility and resource allocation. Clarification of the specific program-level objectives (e.g., to what extent should U.N. Affairs attempt to foster close relations with the public, the interested academic community and voluntary organizations?) would be the first step in this main thrust of the evaluation. Major activities or processes within the program (e.g., the formulation and the "marketing"of policies or positions respecting U.N. issues) would then be reviewed critically against these objectives, with a view to identifying possible changes that would lead to increased efficiency or effectiveness. This might involve relatively small changes in a given process (e.g., for coordinating representation at U.N. sponsored meetings), or consideration of fundamental alternatives such as not doing certain things at all, of transferring certain responsibilities to other organizational units, or perhaps even of assuming responsibility for additional tasks now performed by other Bureaux. At a conceptual level only, one would also assess the existing allocation of responsibilities and resources within the U.N. Affairs component (i.e., among the Bureau and the two Missions). Special consideration will be given to the effects of and opportunities offered by predictable, seasonal changes in the nature and volume of work.

(b) Coping with Changing Priorities

At any one point in time, the Bureau of U.N. Affairs has a set of priorities for the tasks that it has to

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*It should be emphasized that this set of issues is only a proposed one, based on a rather brief evaluability assessment. It is the prerogative of senior management to select from it or add to it.