

The Cabinet Liaison and Co-ordination Secretariat continued to serve as the focal point for the co-ordination and management of foreign policy and trade initiatives through the Cabinet system. The Department's relations with Parliament and individual MPs, of increasing importance in view of the expanded role of parliamentary committees, were co-ordinated by the Secretariat. It provided support to the Department's deputy ministers and the Executive and Management Committees, the two senior policy making bodies in the Department. In addition the Secretariat managed the international conference allotment and co-ordinated approval and scheduling of both ministerial travel abroad and high-level visitors to Canada.

Management Improvement Program

The External Affairs' Management Improvement Program (EAMIP) was conceived in 1983 as the Department's

response to critical observations on its management structures, processes and systems made by the Public Accounts Committee of the House of Commons, the Auditor General, and the Office of the Comptroller General.

EAMIP consists of a number of projects designed to provide the Department with management practices suitable to its needs and those of the central agencies. A number of important projects have been completed; meanwhile the new financial management and communications systems being developed in the Department have incorporated several of the key EAMIP projects. As the original EAMIP is drawing to a close, its secretariat is focusing on defining the Department's needs for further management improvement, particularly in the context of a possible agreement with the Treasury Board to give the Department more managerial control over its own administration and resources.

USE OF FINANCIAL RESOURCES BY PROGRAM (Percentage Distribution)

