

Department's library (eg. copies of the most relevant items) was seen as being very useful indeed, especially if the subject involved was something "off the beaten track".

One officer abroad stated, in almost emotional terms, that in this day and age any organization such as the Department of External Affairs should have a readily available data base (regardless of the form) to provide access to publicly available information on its operations and activities. While this is perhaps a difficult view to defend in objective terms, it does have some merit and was implicit in the statements of many officers interviewed.