

Common Services Governance – Committees and Workgroups*

DFATD Executive Council

The DFATD Executive Council is mandated to provide strategic direction and oversight to support the achievement of DFATD's strategic outcomes. It is DFATD's highest governance body.

Deputy Minister Sub-Committee on Representation Abroad

The Deputy Minister Sub-Committee was created on August 2, 2007, at the request of the Clerk of the Privy Council. It is made up of federal deputy ministers from client departments of the International Platform. It provides orientation and ensures coordination to support the Government of Canada's international operations and overarching foreign policy. The Sub-Committee also promotes the coordination of policy, programs and the use of common services among federal departments abroad.

Assistant Deputy Minister Council on Representation Abroad

Established in late 2003, the Assistant Deputy Minister (ADM) Council provides advice to the deputy ministers on program integration and planning coordination from a whole-of-government perspective. The ADM Council also promotes resource allocation alternatives for more cost-effective delivery of common services. Its membership is comprised of assistant deputy ministers from all partners.

Operations Committee

The Operations Committee replaced the Missions Board in February 2011. The Committee is responsible for providing strategic direction to, and oversight of, the management of the mission network, and external and core services. It is comprised of assistant deputy ministers, heads of missions and directors general from DFATD and Passport Canada.

Missions Committee

The Missions Committee replaced the Mission Operations Committee in February 2011. This Committee is made up of stakeholders in policy, program and common services from DFATD, CIC, CIDA and Passport Canada. Its mandate includes making decisions related to operations and the configuration of missions. It provides strategic direction and oversight for broad resources and policy issues concerning the mission network.

Locally Engaged Staff Governance Committee

The Locally Engaged Staff Governance Committee includes senior public servants from DFATD and other main partners. It is mandated to provide strategic direction and oversight regarding broad human resource issues concerning locally engaged staff.

Locally Engaged Staff Pension and Benefits Governance Committee

The Locally Engaged Staff Pension and Benefits Governance Committee provides advice and serves as a focal point for management policies and strategic advice related to the pension, insurance and social security program. Members include senior officials of both DFATD and partners.

Information Management and Information Technology (IM/IT) Strategy Committee

Formerly known as the IM/IT Investment Committee, the IM/IT Strategy Committee (ISC) is the principal IM/IT governance body and is comprised of senior managers from across DFATD. The committee oversees strategic IM/IT investment through Canada's international network of offices at home and abroad. The ISC reviews, ranks, approves and oversees the delivery of IM/IT investment strategies, projects and plans. The ISC reports to the Operations Committee on DFATD IM/IT investments and projects, and provides recommendations to DFATD's Resource Management Committee concerning investments in unfunded and partially-funded initiatives.

International IM/IT Guidance Board

The International IM/IT Guidance Board (IIGB), previously known as the Technical Advisory Committee, includes members from DFATD's partners in the International Platform. The IIGB provides leadership and business perspective related to infrastructure, policies and services to the working relationship between the International Platform Branch (IPB) and Shared Services Canada (SSC). Committee members provide direction on future IM/IT investments in infrastructure and services, ensuring that IPB stakeholders receive the best possible value.

Interdepartmental Working Group on Common Services Abroad

In place since May 2004, the Interdepartmental Working Group on Common Services Abroad (IWGCSA) is a forum comprised of representatives of partners and co-locators to exchange information, consult, and provide guidance on common-services policy and delivery.

Committee on Representation Abroad

The role of the Committee on Representation Abroad (CORA) is to facilitate a structural and comprehensive assessment of all position-change requests presented by partners and co-locators, and to make recommendations (see Section 3 for more details on CORA's activities and statistics on position changes).

* The governance structure was modified in 2011-2012. In 2012-2013, several committees had their names and mandates modified to better meet operational requirements. This table does not reflect changes which occurred after March 31st, 2013.