Preface

This research project was undertaken from a social science perspective and, as a result, the analysis presented in Parts II and IV relies heavily upon social science methods. However, after having used these methods to establish our findings, we then go on, in Part III, to present a system of application which may be implemented without the use of social science methods, if this is viewed as a more desirable approach. For example, the principal dimensions of priority which are derived statistically in Part II are reproduced in definitional form in Part III and may be employed in this form, with graphic representation, thus avoiding the need for any additional statistical analysis on the part of External Affairs.

Although this report in its entirety is addressed to PAG, we point out in Part I that its various sections will be of interest to different audiences in addition to PAG. Part II will be of greatest interest to those who participated in the general objectives questionnaire. Part III is addressed primarily to senior management within the Department of External Affairs, especially those concerned with forward planning and coordination. Part IV will be of interest to food experts in a number of government departments and agencies, as well as to those concerned with inter-departmental coordination on specific policy issues. Parts I and V, respectively, introduce and summarize the project in its entirely.

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