SELF-ASSESSED PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING RECOMMENDATIONS

IT Continuity Planning in Government

Released: April 2010
1st Follow-up: April 2011
2nd Follow-up: October 2011
3rd Follow-up: March 2012   Discussed by the Public Accounts Committee: February 9, 2011

Self-assessment conducted by Emergency Management BC

SSBC and EMBC continue to address the recommendations of the Office of the Auditor General and are pleased to report on our status.

Work on recommendations 2 and 3 is currently under way with an anticipated conclusion in the fall of 2012. Please see below for details.

Recommendations addressed in previous follow-up(s):

RECOMMENDATION	SELF-ASSESSED STATUS
Recommendation 1: Preparation of a business impact analysis and risk assessments annually, as outlined in government policy.	**Fully or substantially implemented**
Recommendation 4: Assessment of risk associated with alternate arrangements being in the same geographical area as the primary operations and data centre facility, and feasibility of relocation.	**Fully or substantially implemented**
Recommendation 5: Finalization of business continuity plans for all mission-critical business functions.	**Fully or substantially implemented**
Recommendation 6: Preparation of disaster recovery plans to support the availability of significant operating environments and network infrastructures within the timelines required.	**Fully or substantially implemented**
Recommendation 7: Inclusion, in contracts with third-party providers of critical services, of provisions regarding both the preparation and testing of business and IT continuity plans and the assessment of risks where inclusion of these provisions is not feasible.	**Fully or substantially implemented**
Recommendation 9: Updating of business continuity plans for all mission-critical business functions annually.	**Fully or substantially implemented**

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Outstanding Recommendations

RECOMMENDATION AND SUMMARY OF PROGRESS	SELF-ASSESSED STATUS
Recommendation 2: Prioritization of the recovery of mission-critical applications at the ministry level and across government.	**Fully or substantially implemented**

Actions taken, results and/or actions planned

EMBC maintains the Government Mission Critical Services List which identifies provincial service priorties. EMBC periodically forwards an updated list to Shared Services BC to facilitate priority based application recovery.

Recommendation 3: Establishment of realistic and achievable recovery timelines for shared systems and program applications.	**Partially implemented**

Actions taken, results and/or actions planned

SSBC and EMBC have launched Information Sessions which are designed to assist ministries with the development of realistic and achievable recovery timelines. SSBC has established and communicated recovery times to assist Ministries to clarify their own.

Recommendation 8: Regular testing of continuity plans and restoration procedures for all mission-critical applications and supporting systems.	**Partially implemented**

Actions taken, results and/or actions planned

The testing of restoration procedures for mission critical applications is a ministry responsibility, for their own managed apps and data sets. This may require the ministries to develop DRP (procedures) where none exist. Testing of supporting systems (SSBC managed infrastructure) is dealt with through existing contract language for DRP.