

Membership in the WTO is likely to be broadened to include other countries that can meet WTO standards. This would include such important countries as Russia and China.

Singapore Ministerial Conference

Canada is working to ensure the success of the first ministerial conference of the WTO, in December 1996 in Singapore. Canada's objectives are to ensure full implementation of WTO agreements, the successful completion of negotiations in the services sectors, and to prepare the ground for further trade liberalization and rules-making, including in the area of trade and environment. The liberalization of trade and sound environmental protection are mutually supportive goals. It is important that WTO rules and international environmental protection concerns be complementary. The Singapore ministerial conference will provide an opportunity to make progress in that direction.