

such as the loss of genetic diversity, trade and the environment, and medical treatment for humans and animals. Canada should prepare for future international trade negotiations on biotechnology by developing negotiating positions in this specialized area. Canada could, for example, host discussions on the broader issues of patenting genetic material and lead an international enquiry concerning the patenting of life forms.

**Recommendation 5. Canada Should Take a Lead on Defining Future IP Issues**

- **Other Proposals to Extend IPRs**

Canada should remain skeptical about new U.S. proposals (e.g., the further extension of patent terms; a prohibition of "grey market" imports) that extend IPRs further without careful evaluation of the broader social benefits of such changes, including their demonstrated impact on encouraging innovation in practice.

**Recommendation 6. Canada Should Take a Lead on Defining Future IP Issues**

- **IP and Competition Policy**

Canada should pursue further work, including through seminars/conferences involving the private sector, which explores the future balance between the protection of IP (i.e., a monopoly conferred to promote a public good) and competition policy constraints.

**Recommendation 7. Diffusion of Intellectual Property in Canada**

The Canadian government should review its intellectual property policy to ensure the widest possible transfer of technology to the Canadian private sector for commercial exploitation.

**Recommendation 8. Diffusion of Intellectual Property Information in Canada**

Increasingly, companies will need to insure through searching existing patent literature that their R&D does not violate existing intellectual property. The Canadian Intellectual Property Office (CIPO) has information on domestic and foreign patented technology on file and is responsible for disseminating patent information to the private sector. Foreign Service Officers should be made increasingly aware of CIPO and the role of patents, copyrights, trademarks and industrial designs as a trade policy and trade development tool.