

Canada also has an extensive technical assistance program for the countries of Central and East Europe, most of whom are still in the process of implementing their TRIPs obligations. As a result, some of this technical assistance has already been earmarked for developing intellectual property regimes. These efforts are likely to continue in the years ahead.

The Canadian government also actively participates in the TRIPs Council National Implementation Review Process, which includes assessing the legislation of individual developing members.

RECOMMENDATION 23:

That in order to significantly strengthen bilateral economic relations between Central and Eastern European countries and Canada while assisting our high-technology community, the federal government, through multilateral organizations, encourage and assist these countries in developing and especially enforcing intellectual property rights in the region.

The Government of Canada is committed to ensuring that all Members of the World Trade Organization comply with the standards for intellectual property protection that are prescribed in the WTO's Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPs). As part of the obligation, Canada is already providing technical and financial assistance, including the training of personnel to many WTO developing country members to assist them in bringing their intellectual property laws and regulations into compliance with TRIPs. The Government of Canada will continue to support these efforts to ensure that all Members of the WTO are able to benefit from the economic growth and innovation that can be achieved through the enforcement of intellectual property rights.