

INTRODUCTION

The technological innovation process

In order to acquire foreign technology, it must be understood:

- a. to what sectors it applies
- b. in which countries it is to be found;
- c. who are the producers/proprietors;
- d. who are the Canadian clients.

2. It is already known that:

- a. The OECD has drawn attention to the rapid evolution of the following high technology sectors:

Bio-technology and genetics;
Mico-electronics, communications and robotics;
Space, aeronautics and transportation;
Chemistry and plastics, ceramics and new materials.

The OECD has identified the following characteristics:

- heavy dependence on a sound technical base and R&D efforts;
- strategic importance for governments;
- long delay between R&D and industrial applications, short delay for marketing, rapid obsolescence as a result of fierce competition for new products and processes;
- high risks and costs;
- high level of international R&D cooperation and competition for production and marketing.

- b. Technological innovation is today found in the advanced countries of the OECD (approximately half):

- Those in which we already have a foreign mission with S&T resources: USA, Japan, Benelux, Great Britain, FRG, France.