

Emerging Technology (recommendation 30)

The Government has been studying the impact of emerging issues such as electronic commerce on Canada's commercial relations with other countries and is developing national policies on telecommunication services, electronic commerce, and intellectual property.

The Government agrees with recommendation 30 that electronic commerce issues can be promoted within the context of existing WTO agreements. Work within the WTO should lead to further liberalization of the telecommunication services sector and identify measures that will ensure that appropriate protection is provided for intellectual property rights in a digital environment.

"I want to commend the Canadian government for its initiatives to create a winning environment for companies that strive to develop, manufacture and export high technology products from Canada to world markets. In addition, I want to thank Team Canada for all the help it has provided in positioning Harris Canada to receive a world product mandate from its parent company. This investment will create up to 320 jobs in Montreal – where we will also develop chip designs for our new wireless products – and close to 400 jobs in Calgary."

Richard Peabody,
President,
Harris Canada,
Montreal, Quebec



To facilitate the WTO's work in electronic commerce, the Government believes it would be useful to establish a horizontal working group that would advise WTO bodies and negotiating groups.