

RECOMMENDATIONS

This report proposes and makes the following recommendations:

1. The federal government departments involved in various aspects of environmental labelling should establish an interdepartmental committee to develop common federal government positions relating to the various standards under development or review. This committee should include, at a minimum, Environment Canada, Industry Canada (Competition Bureau), Natural Resources Canada, and Public Works and Government Services Canada. The participation of Health Canada and Industry Canada (Office of Consumer Affairs) should also be considered.
2. The Canadian Standards Association (CSA) should be requested to delay the portion of their committee restructuring that would put environmental labelling under the chairmanship of the LCA committee until the review of the labelling documents is complete.
3. The federal government should work with industry associations to create life cycle inventory data similar to that being established in Europe and make this data freely available to enable businesses of all size to access the information necessary to support credible environmental claims and declarations.
4. All Canadian stakeholders currently involved should encourage Canadian industry to participate in the Canadian Advisory Committee to TC207/SC3 during the upcoming review of the ISO 14020 series of standards. If effectively managed, with substantive participation, this will ensure that Canadian positions taken to the international table are truly representative of a Canadian consensus.