Promoting Regulatory Cooperation in Conformity Assessment

Market access for ICT using Recommendation L

Per Döfnäs
Information and Communications Technologies

› Benefit the society
  - Economy – increase of mobile phone penetration linked to increase in annual GDP growth in developing economies
  - Society – e-health, e-government

› Enabling a sustainable future
  - ICT can help reduce CO2 emissions in other sectors by a factor 5
    › E-health, e-government, travel substitutions (virtual meetings), smart grid/buildings

› Easy global market access should be facilitated
Market access of ICT products

› Non-Tariff Barriers (NTBs) still increasing
› Low but increasing priority at WTO level to address NTBs
  – WTO NAMA discussions on Electronics
  – WTO Information Technology Agreement – possibly inclusion of NTBs in future discussions
› Opportunity to promote the UNECE WP.6 Recommendation L for market access
  – Use for agreements between Members
    › Example: Telecom Initiative
  – Use as a model for national regulations
    › Example: Implementing the Electronics proposal in WTO
Using UNECE Recommendation L

› The Recommendation contains elements for a trade-friendly regulatory regime
  – Promoting a system based on manufacturer’s full responsibility

› Supportive UNECE Recommendations
  – Recommendation M for combating counterfeit
  – Emerging Market Surveillance document for the critical aspect of market surveillance

› Important principle of Reference to (International) Standards – Recommendation D
  – Also for emerging product-related environmental legislation
Thank you!