

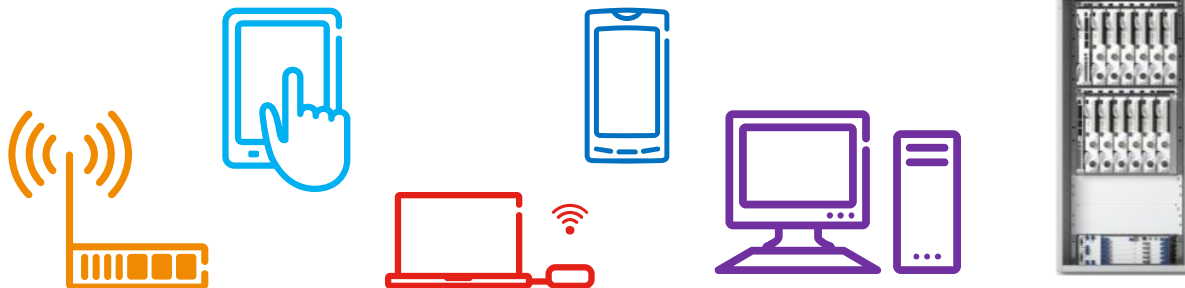
THE TELECOM INITIATIVE STATUS NOVEMBER 2013

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UNECE TELECOM INITIATIVE - STATUS



- › Draft Common Regulatory Objectives for Telecom and IT equipment were drawn up by industry delegates during 2004 for some typical product groups (PC, peripherals, PSTN terminals, Bluetooth, WLAN, GSM, IMT-2000)
- › However, there has been little interest expressed from Members to apply the [International Model](#) to the ICT sector
- › The proposed Common Regulatory Objectives under the [Telecom Initiative](#) provide practical examples of good regulatory practice, suitable for wider use



NTB PROPOSALS FOR ICT IN WTO



- › EU: NAMA contribution [TN/MA/W/129 Rev.1](#) (dated 23 June 2009)
“Understanding on the Interpretation of the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade as Applied to Trade in Electronics”,
 - Introduces possibility of a gradual simplification
 - The Telecom Initiative does not fully correspond to the proposed suppliers’ declaration route (differences regarding provision of test results)

- › US: NAMA contribution [TN/MA/W/125](#) (dated 4 December 2009)
“Negotiating Text on Non-Tariff Barriers Pertaining to the Electrical Safety and Electromagnetic Compatibility (EMC) of Electronic Goods”
(including Compendium of Questions and Answers)

- › No further progress within the framework of NAMA is expected

NTB WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF WTO ITA



- › The WTO Information Technology Agreement (ITA), established 1996, currently 78 members
- › Removes tariffs from a number of Information and Communications Technology goods
- › Expansion of the ITA during 2013, in its final stages
 - Focusing on additional products, more countries
 - Hoping to be ready for the WTO Ministerial December 2013
- › NTBs discussed within the 'Non-Tariff Measures' work
 - Call for more result-oriented work on NTB (raised in WTO Public Forum October 2013)
 - Workshop on NTB being discussed, following the conclusion of expansion negotiations -> mid-2014 ?

POSSIBLE COOPERATION UNECE - WTO



- › [Example](#) of application of EU's NAMA proposal (version from Sept 2009) to products within the Telecom Initiative
- › Dialogue with the WTO ITA Committee, to promote the use of the International Model as a tool to apply results of NTB discussions





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