



THE TELECOM INITIATIVE STATUS NOVEMBER 2011

PER DÖFNÄS
TELEFONAKTIEBOLAGET LM ERICSSON

UNECE TELECOM INITIATIVE - STATUS

- › No expressed interest regarding the application of 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
- › There are proposals in the WTO addressing Non Tariff Barriers for the products under the Telecom Initiative

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)

NTB WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF ITA

- › The WTO Information Technology Agreement (ITA), established 1996, currently 73 members

- › Removes tariffs from a number of Information and Communications Technology goods

- › Proposal to expand the ITA
 - EU: More products, more countries joining, possibly inclusion of NTBs
 - US: USTR support for expansion of ITA to cover more products, and more countries joining

COOPERATION UNECE - WTO

- › [Example](#) of application of EU's NAMA proposal (version from Sept 2009) to products within the Telecom Initiative
- › Telecom Initiative is equally relevant for addressing NTBs under an expanded ITA
- › As a positive outcome of NAMA negotiations is in doubt, the ITA expansion becomes increasingly of interest