

GLOBAL SYMPOSIUM FOR REGULATORS

YASMINE HAMMAMET, 14-15 November 2005

Global Broadband Satellite Infrastructure (GBSI) Initiative

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GBSI Initiative – contribution from ITSO's Director General to World Summit on the Information Society.

Focus on "Broadband Divide".

GOAL: make benefits of broadband technology universally accessible, meaning:

- to as many people as possible,
- as soon as possible, and
- at the lowest cost possible.

GBSI Initiative

GBSI Initiative modeled on the European Initiative for GSM:

- Identification of frequency bands for consumer satellite broadband communications available worldwide and interference-free.
- Use of an open transmission standard for the end-user equipment; and
- Common regulatory principles to facilitate the establishment of a worldwide market.

KEY ELEMENT

- Public-Private Partnership with role of each partner clearly defined.

GBSI Initiative Role of Governments and Regulators

Develop attractive technical and regulatory framework

- Facilitate the use of frequency bands, free of interference, for consumer satellite broadband communications.
- Encourage the development of an open transmission standard for the end-user equipment.
- Establish harmonized and minimal regulatory regime.

GBSI Initiative Role of Industry

Contribute to develop attractive technical and regulatory framework

- Propose frequency bands, among spectrum already allocated to satellite services, for consumer satellite broadband communications.
- Agree on an open transmission standard for the end-user equipment.
- Identify and propose the regulatory components that would positively influence the creation of a worldwide market for consumer satellite broadband communications.

GBSI Initiative Developments

International Telecommunications Union – ITU

- Radiocommunications Assembly (RA-03) and World Radiocommunications Conference 07 (WRC-07).

World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS)

- Declaration of Principles and Plan of Action (“develop and strengthen national, regional and international broadband network infrastructure”).

“Connect the World” - effort launched by the Secretary General of the ITU on 16 June 2005

- GBSI Initiative included as a concrete project aimed at implementing the objectives of the WSIS.

GBSI MoU – facilitate coordination and cooperation

- Memorandum already signed and endorsed by significant number of key stakeholders.

GBSI Initiative Next steps

Effective support at national, regional and international level

- GBSI Initiative as a means to attain national and regional ICT objectives.

Consideration in the context of current and future review(s) of the regulatory regime applicable to (tele)communications, including the frequency and standardization aspects.

Consideration in the context of national, regional and international development policies.

Creation of a joint policy makers/regulators-industry working group to identify components where action is needed on a national and/or regional basis.

GBSI Initiative Conclusion

Initiative is a concrete means to overcome "Broadband Divide" by:

- low-cost, high-speed Internet access.
- particularly for developing countries and remote and rural areas.

Opportunity for governments to:

- Implement their ICT strategies in timely manner and at lowest cost.
- Contribute to efficient use of spectrum.
- Increase value of spectrum.

Opportunity for private sector to develop new businesses and obtain access to global market.