



Regional Development Forum 2008
“Bridging the Standardization Gap in Developing Countries”
Brasília, May 20, 2008

Mutual Recognition Agreements

Haroldo Motta
Anatel - Brazil

Brasília, May 20, 2008

Summary

- Basic Purpose.
- Principles.
- Benefits.
- Standards.
- Implementation.
 - Main Players.
 - Activities Involved.
 - Phased Implementation.
- Current Status of MRAs.

Basic Purpose

Streamline conformity assessment procedures for telecommunication and telecommunication-related equipment to facilitate trade among the Parties.

Principles

- Use of international references and concepts.
- Permanently observe parties' national regulations.
- Trust among participating parties.
- Respect individual interests, needs and possibilities of participants.
- Does not create legally binding obligations.
- Does not indicate acceptance of standards or regulations of a Party by the other Parties.
- May have two or more participants.

Benefits

- Facilitate trade among participants.
- Elimination of unnecessary duplication of laboratory testing.
- Uniform use and correct interpretation of standards.
- Increased credibility that products comply with national and international standards.
- Interchange of technical and regulatory experiences.
- Elimination of technical barriers and increased difficulty for trade of non-compliant products.

Standards

- Significant differences in national standards may lead to difficulties in implementation of MRAs.
- Harmonization of standards among participants is usually hard to achieve.
- Some countries may not have national standards.
- Use of internationally accepted standards or recommendations issued by Regional or Worldwide organizations may facilitate participation in MRAs.

Implementation

Main Players

- **Regulatory / Designating Authorities.**
 - ➔ Establish regulations and technical requirements.
 - ➔ Designate or recognize Conformity Assessment Bodies.
 - ➔ Recognize or issue the authorization for marketing.

- **Accrediting Bodies.**
 - ➔ Responsible for accrediting Conformity Assessment Bodies or Laboratories for certifying or testing telecommunication products.

Implementation

Activities

- Notification of intention.
- Establishment of the scope of the agreement.
 - Types of products.
 - Coverage (EMC, Electrical Safety, Telecom/Radio).
- Interchange of regulatory documents.
- Interpretation of the regulations.
- Assessment of available infra-structure.
- Designation of the Agents involved.
 - Conformity Assessment Bodies (CAB).
 - Laboratories.
- Start.

Implementation

Phased Approach

- Focus on two main activities: Testing and Certification.
 - Products are TESTED by exporting country, according to requirements of the importing country.
 - Products are CERTIFIED by exporting country, according to requirements of the importing country and certification is accepted by the importing country.

Implementation

Phased approach.

- PHASE 1: Mutual recognition of laboratory test reports.
- PHASE 2: Mutual recognition of equipment certifications.
- Phases 1 and 2 are independent of each other.

Current Status

■ CITELE.

- ➔ Approved by PCC.1 in November 1999.
- ➔ Endorsed by COM/CITELE in December 1999.

■ Mercosul.

- ➔ Draft is almost ready, with no significant technical differences from CITELE MRA.
- ➔ Legal particularities, due to regional agreements.



Thank You

hmotta@anatel.gov.br

Phone: +55 61 2312 2336