

AMNT-WTSA'04



International
Telecommunication Union

World Telecommunication
Standardization Assembly

Florianópolis, Brazil

October 5-14, 2004



WTSA Facts



- WTSA:
 - Held every four years to approve priorities of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector
 - 500 delegates
 - 75 countries and companies
 - 100 contributions from countries and regions (Africa, Americas, Asia-Pacific, Arab States, Europe and CIS)

- U.S. Delegation:
 - 45 Member U.S. Delegation led by Ambassador David A. Gross
 - Government Agencies: State, NTIA, FCC, DoD
 - U.S. Industry: AT&T, BellSouth, Cable Labs, Cisco, Lucent, MCI, Nortel, Verizon





The ITU Today

- ITU, like regulators around the world, is confronting the impact of new technologies
- Specific concerns voiced by Member States allow us to extrapolate the larger issues which face the ITU today
- At the WTSA, tension exists between:
 - Those who want to embrace the benefits of new technologies
 - Those who are concerned about the disruptive impact of new technologies



Many ITU Members Concerned About Disruptive Effects of New Technologies

DEVELOPING COUNTRIES VOICED CONCERNS AT WTSA:

- Many felt left out of the standards making process
- Many desired more technical expertise
- Many feared losing revenue to new services like VoIP



ITU Embraces New Technologies

- Creation of Next Generation Networks (NGN) Study Group at WTSA
 - Capturing the benefits of new technology in an era of digital convergence
 - ITU becoming a place for industry-led network standards development

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Going Forward



- Engage developing countries
- Capture momentum for NGN
- Focus on network security
- Ensure Internet not subject to inappropriate regulation