



i2010 hearing
Brussels, 23. September 2010

Ladies and Gentlemen

First of all let me thank you for giving me the opportunity to contribute to this hearing.

We at Deutsche Telekom firmly believe that modern high speed networks are a crucial enabler for almost all industries, essential for leading the way to a low carbon society. We are convinced that sustainability is fundamental for long term economic growth and competitiveness.

As shown by the recent SMART 2020 study, ICT has a significant and growing impact on the world's climate. The report's supporting analysis, conducted independently by business consulting firm McKinsey & Company, indicates that while ICT's own sector CO2 emissions will nearly double by 2020, the application and diffusion of ICT in other business sectors can reduce total global CO2 emissions by 15%. These savings are five times larger than the total expected emissions from the entire ICT industry. In addition to these reductions, potential energy savings can be achieved from the capacity of ICT to enable dematerialisation – replacing high carbon physical products and services with virtual low carbon equivalents.

We at Deutsche Telekom take these figures seriously. Therefore we not only want to be the most highly regarded service company in the industry but also a major driving force for sustainability and carbon emissions' reduction.

To this end, all our Group's activities are based on economically, socially and environmentally sustainable criteria.

In this regard, we have been constantly adapting our Sustainability Strategy. One of the three focus areas of our new Corporate Responsibility Strategy is Climate Change.

For Deutsche Telekom, climate protection is an obligation vis-à-vis employees, customers, shareholders and the society as a whole.

We have been strongly committed to fighting climate change since 1995 when we started advocating for a convincing climate protection policy at the global, European and national levels.

Our Company declared its commitment to fight climate change as early as negotiations took place in Berlin in 1995, two years before the Kyoto conference led to the ratification of the Kyoto protocol.

Luis Neves
Deutsche Telekom
Vice-President
Corporate Responsibility



Since then, we have systematically been examining our processes over the years and have embraced the principles of sustainability.

Internally, we are focusing on energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy sources. For example, all the electricity used by DT in Germany is already gained from renewable sources - through the acquisition of certificates.

Climate Change is embedded across the Company and has become a relevant part of the daily business of many of our units.

Being “green” internally is important, but only one side of the medal. Even greater opportunities for emissions’ savings exist in applying ICT to the global infrastructure and industry. There are in particular four major opportunities where ICT can make further radical cuts to global CO2 emissions. These are basically smart building design and use, smart logistics, smart electricity grids and smart industrial motor systems.

Deutsche Telekom is actively pushing these processes with the development of specific applications and solutions. Let me just mention traffic management as one example: Building on experiences from the German Toll Collect project, we offer tailored solutions based on state-of-the-art ICT know-how and mobile technologies, and are breaking new ground in the implementation of road traffic projects that reduce congestion and carbon emissions.

Furthermore, among other measures, we just started an 18th month sustainability communication initiative at the national level in order to engage our customers and raise awareness on the role of ICT as a driver to a low carbon economy. Here as well, we are also ready to take leadership and make things happen.

But Ladies and Gentlemen, one note of caution does apply: In order to be able to fully utilize the positive impact of ICT, reliable and capable high-speed broadband networks are of the utmost importance. Without a world class state-of-the art telecommunications infrastructure, Europe will definitely not be able to realize the ICT related CO2 emissions’ reduction potential. This makes the implementation of an investment friendly framework, which effectively fosters the roll-out of high-speed Next Generation Access Networks, an even more pressing issue. Unfortunately, the current proposals of the European Commission are not the needed breakthrough.

Without the super highways built we will not be able to foster social inclusion and enhance the competitiveness of Europe’s industry in the information age. These Investments are also a prerequisite for effectively tackling climate change and achieving the agreed upon CO2 emissions’ reduction targets.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Luis Neves
Deutsche Telekom
Vice-President
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Now is the time to forge new alliances. Climate change is too big an issue to be tackled alone.

At present, many of the actors in society are still hesitant. Such hesitation seems unsustainable as well as short term oriented and could even be irresponsible. Every lost day in the effort towards stabilizing global warming will cost us years of hard work later.

We can still shape the future, but to do so we must engage ourselves and develop new business models. Now it is up to us to act for the climate with determination.

The results of scientific research on climate change are extremely alarming. We at Deutsche Telekom take this very seriously. It is therefore time to move from words to real action. It is “time to act now”, if Europe wants to achieve the agreed upon emissions reduction target.

Let me finalise by quoting a brief passage of the SMART 2020 Global report, in which Deutsche Telekom played a fundamental role: *“The ICT sector can’t act in isolation if it is to seize its opportunity to tackle climate change. It will need the help of governments and other industries. Smart implementation of ICTs will require policy support including standards implementation, secure communication of information within and between sectors and financing for research and pilot projects”*.

We have already engaged in a fruitful discussion with the European Commission and we would be glad to be able to take this dialogue even further – for the benefit of our companies, our customers and all of Europe.

Thank you for your attention