Mutual Recognition Agreement or Arrangements (MRAs)

 Mutual Recognition Agreement or Arrangements (MRAs) is about mutual recognition of conformity assessment procedures between two countries.

MRAs eliminate the cost of retesting and re-certification, and shorten time-to-market for partner countries' manufacturers and exporters of telecommunication equipment

- MRA reduces technical barriers to trade in telecommunications equipment by allowing equipment to be tested in the exporting country and accepted in the importing country with minimal further regulatory action
- Under the MRA, companies enjoy significant cost savings from not having to re-test and recertify their equipment in the importing countries. They also gain immediate entry into the markets by saving several weeks of re-testing.
- There will be two phases in the MRA.
- Phase I is the mutual acceptance of test reports.

This means equipment that has been tested by our MRA partners will not require retesting in MRA partner country

• Phase II is the mutual acceptance of equipment certification.

This means equipment that has been certified by our MRA partners can enter directly into Indian market without the need for re-certification. The same principle applies to export from India to MRA partners.

Benefits from the MRAs

All manufactures and vendors of telecommunications equipment can take advantage of the MRA. For example, if a vendor in India wants to export a new piece of telecommunication equipment to MRA partners country, he can have the equipment tested in India and export directly into to MRA partners country without re-testing. The same principle applies to import to India from MRA partners.

It provides an opportunity for industry and telecommunications regulatory agencies in the region to explore opportunities for new business, for cost savings, and for efficiency gains through implementation of such an arrangement hence it provides a significant step forward in trade liberalization.

Scope of Telecommunications Equipment that is Covered in the MRA

Generally, the equipment scope may include network terminal attachment and other equipment subjected to telecommunications regulations, including wire and wireless equipment, which may or may not be connected to a Public Telecommunications Network. For such equipment, the MRA covers electromagnetic compatibility ("EMC") and electrical safety aspects, as well as purely telecommunications aspects of the conformity assessment requirements.