Why does the Profile reference ITU-T X.1254?

The REFEDS Multifactor Authentication Profile references ITU-T X.1254 as it references four different factors for authentication in a well described way. Other frameworks define 3 factors, which is more limiting for implementors. These four areas are:

- something an entity has (e.g., device signature, passport, hardware device containing a credential, private key);
- something an entity knows (e.g., password, PIN);
- something an entity is (e.g., biometric characteristic);
- something an entity typically does (e.g., behaviour pattern).

Please note that this reference is purely to the good definitions used by ITU-T X.1254 for authentication factors - there is no other relationship between the MFA Profile and this, or any other, assurance framework at this time.