

ERICSSON LM TELEPHONE CO  
Form 6-K  
April 20, 2005

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# **SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

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## **FORM 6-K**

### **REPORT OF FOREIGN ISSUER**

**Pursuant to Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16 of  
the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

April 20, 2005

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## **LM ERICSSON TELEPHONE COMPANY**

(Translation of registrant's name into English)

16483 Stockholm, Sweden

(Address of principal executive offices)

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Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover Form 20-F or Form 40-F.

Form 20-F  Form 40-F

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Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by furnishing the information contained in this Form is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Yes  No

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Announcement of LM Ericsson Telephone Company, dated April 20, 2005, regarding Ericsson stating its views on prosecution

Press Release

April 20, 2005

**Ericsson states its views on prosecution**

**Swedish public prosecutors today laid charges against present and former employees of Ericsson for evasion of tax control. Ericsson believes that none of its employees are guilty of the offence. Ericsson presents its views on the prosecution in a document available on the web in Swedish and English at Ericsson's home page.**

Carl-Henric Svanberg, President and Chief Executive Officer, says in the document: The fact that charges have been laid is not in itself a reason to reassess the confidence we have in those accused individuals who remain employees of Ericsson.

Ericsson has published the document since it feels a general obligation, particularly to its employees and business partners, to clarify some facts and present its view of what has happened.

The prosecution concerns technical accountancy issues related to Ericsson's since-abandoned system for payments to commercial agents. The public prosecutor takes the view that the system was designed to evade tax control. Ericsson explains in its document why the system was introduced and later abandoned. The company agrees that the system led to misunderstandings with the authorities and therefore was flawed. However, it is clear that there was never any intent to evade tax control or taxes in either the introduction or operation of the system.

The document also comments on some remarkable circumstances that have arisen during the investigation. Some of these have been directed against Ericsson and may also have caused direct economic damage. In addition, they may have negatively affected the overall image of Ericsson.

During the investigation, it was revealed that several seized documents were falsified and that someone in this way had attempted to hide the facts. Ericsson has, related to the investigation, filed a criminal complaint in Switzerland against a former employee for misappropriation of funds, with an alternative charge of embezzlement.

The Ericsson document is available in Swedish at [http://www.ericsson.com/news/doc/prosecution\\_sv.pdf](http://www.ericsson.com/news/doc/prosecution_sv.pdf) and English at [http://www.ericsson.com/news/doc/prosecution\\_en.pdf](http://www.ericsson.com/news/doc/prosecution_en.pdf).

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**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT**

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**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

TELEFONAKTIEBOLAGET LM ERICSSON (PUBL)

By:                     /s/ CARL OLOF BLOMQVIST                    

**Carl Olof Blomqvist  
Senior Vice President and  
General counsel**

By:                     /s/ HENRY STÉNSON                    

**Henry Sténson  
Senior Vice President  
Corporate Communications**

Date: April 20, 2005