



Lao People's Democratic Republic
Peace
Independence Democracy Unity Prosperity

National Assembly

No. 09./NA

Vientiane Capital, Date: 21 December 2011

Law on Telecommunications (Amended)

Part I

General Provisions

Article 1 (Amended). Objectives

This Law determines the principles, regulations and measures regarding the organization, activities, management, monitoring, inspection of the operation of telecommunication businesses, telecommunication resources, technical standards, supply and usage of telecommunication services ensuring quality, widespread coverage, convenience, fairness, continuity of development and modernization aim at ensure against national security and safety, and to generate revenue to the State budget contributing to the national defense and development.

Article 2 (new). Telecommunications

Telecommunication means the act of emission, transmission and reception of data, information, sound, pictures, numbers, letters and any symbol through the agent of electromagnetic, radio frequency by a wirelines or wireless systems, fiber-optic system and any other system or a combination of systems.

Article 3 (amended). Definitions

1. **Telecommunication Network** means a system of telecommunications infrastructure consisting of wire-lines and wireless systems or a fully interconnected of both wire-lines and wireless system including equipment utilized to provide telecommunication service or services.
2. **Telecommunication Resources** means radio frequency, telephone and

internet numbers, internet domain name, position of satellite orbit and telecommunication infrastructure.

3. **Internet** means an interconnected system of computer networks worldwide through telecommunication networks for the transmission, receipt and exchange of data and information.
4. **Telecommunication Equipment** means telephone switches, telephone sets, radio transmitters and receivers, teletypewriters, facsimile machines, computers, electric generators, electricity supply, including copper wires, admixture wires, fiber-optic cables, antenna or other associated equipment used to interconnect with the telecommunication network.
5. **Interconnection** means the interconnection of telecommunication networks of the service providers for the purpose of providing a wide range of services to users.

Article 4 (amended). State Policy on Telecommunications

The State encourages both domestic and foreign individuals, legal entities or organizations to invest in the construction, development and extension of telecommunication networks according to the types and term of telecommunication business license.

The State promotes telecommunication service providers to fairly compete in the operations of telecommunication services and shall strictly comply with the commercial competition regulations of Lao PDR.

The State encourages telecommunication service providers to expand the necessary telecommunication infrastructure by using the national transmission and the national security facilities to enable people living in rural and remote areas country wide to use [telecommunication] services with reasonable service charges.

The State encourages telecommunication services providers to be involved in the national defense and security nationwide to react against and demolish all destructive trickeries of enemy to the country.

Article 5 (new). Telecommunication Principles

Telecommunications shall be complied with the following principles:

1. Ensuring telecommunication development in compliance with the policy guidelines, the state socio-economic development plan and the sectoral development strategic plan;
2. Ensuring equality in front of the law, non-discrimination, independence of the telecommunication authority from telecommunication service providers in accordance with the laws;

3. Ensuring objectively, timely and transparently the assignment and utilization of telecommunication resources; make publicly available of allocated radio frequencies, except radio frequencies allocated for any specific use by the Government;
4. Ensuring the confidences of the State, the official the privacy of individuals, the confidences of legal entities or organizations, and ensuring transparency and justice;
5. Ensuring compliance with technical standards, interconnection with regional and international telecommunication networks, convenient, quick and good quality of services;
6. Protecting legitimate rights and benefits of telecommunication service providers and users;
7. Ensuring the national security and safety, protection of the environment and the excellent culture of the country.

Article 6 (new). Scope of the Law

This Law applies to both domestic and foreign individuals, legal entities and organizations involved in telecommunications in Lao PDR.

Article 7 (amended). International Cooperation

The State promotes the relations and cooperation with foreign countries at regional and international levels on the management and development of telecommunications by exchanging of experiences, information, technology and infrastructure development, coordination in using resources, technical standards, trade and services in telecommunication, and implementation of international agreements and treaties of which Lao PDR is a party.

Part II

Telecommunication Resources

Chapter 1

Radio Frequency or Radio Spectrum Article 8

(new). Radio Frequency or Spectrum

Radio frequency or radio spectrum means frequencies or spectrum of naturally propagated of electromagnetic waves in a range of 3 kilohertz to 300 gigahertz which are utilized in telecommunications.

Article 9 (new). Use of Radio Frequency

The management, administration, allocation, assignment and revocation of all radio frequencies in Lao PDR shall be under the responsibility of the State as prescribe by the laws.

Individual, legal entity or organization wishing to use the radio frequency shall be granted a concession from the government.

The allocated radio frequency is a specific right of a concessionaire to transfer or share the radio frequency to other party shall be approved by the government.

The use radio frequency for the fixed and mobile radio stations in the offices, cars, on boats, and on an aircrafts of the Lao PDR and foreign countries when passing through Lao territory shall comply with the international laws, agreements and treaties of which Lao PDR is a parly.

Article 10 (new). Interference of Radio Frequency

The propagation of any radio frequencies at the same or adjacent amplitude and emission power may cause interference between radio stations, television stations and other radio stations in the country and between countries.

Article 11 (new) Fee for the Use of Radio Frequency

An individual, legal entity or organization using the radio frequency are subject to, except the use for national defense, public security, emergency, embassies, international organizations and Government's specific missions in accordance with the laws.

Chapter 2

Telephone Numbers, Internet Numbers and Internet Domain Names

Article 12 (new). Telephone Numbers, Internet Numbers and Internet Domain Names

Telephone and internet numbers means numbers, letters or symbols indicating telecommunication networks, internet networks, and end users terminal equipment for communications.

Internet Domain Name means the name or abbreviation which is assigned specifically for individual, legal entity or organization .

The Ministry of Post and Telecommunications shall develop the numbering plan, administer, allocate, assign and revoke the telephone numbers, internet numbers and internet domain names.

Article 13 (new). Registration of Telephone Numbers, Internet Numbers and Internet Domain Names

An individual, legal entity or organization wishing to use a telephone number, internet number and internet domain name shall register at the telecommunication customer services or the office of the Posts and Telecommunications.

Chapter 3

Position of Satellite Orbit and Telecommunication Infrastructure

Article 14 (new) Position of Satellite Orbit

The position of a satellite orbit is a location where a satellite is placed and circulate along the orbit in the space and is important for telecommunications, meteorology, natural resource surveying and others.

The use of the position of satellite orbit is defined in a separate regulation.

Article 15 (new) Telecommunication Infrastructure

Telecommunication Infrastructure means buildings and structures, including equipment and transmission line to support the telecommunication network services such as: duct, pole, mast, tower, antenna, optic fiber, copper wire, mixture wire, transformers.

Part III

Technical Standards and Quality

Article 16 (new). Determination of Technical Standards and Quality

The Ministry of Post and Telecommunications determines technical standards for telecommunication equipment, networks and quality of telecommunication services in compliance with the Law on Standardization, international standards, international agreements and treaties of which Lao PDR is a party.

Article 17 (new). Certification and Approval

The Ministry of Post and Telecommunications certifies and approves technical standards and the quality of telecommunication equipment produced in Lao PDR and imported from foreign countries including telecommunication networks installed in Lao PDR in compliance with the Law on Standardization, international standards, international agreements and treaties of which Lao PDR is a party such as :

1. Safety for users;

2. Harmless to the environment;
3. No danger to telecommunication networks;
4. Compatibility with telecommunication networks in Lao PDR.

Article 18 (new). Importation of Telecommunication Equipment

The Ministry of Post and Telecommunications manages the importation of the hi-technology telecommunication equipment.

The Ministry of Post and Telecommunications defines the types of telecommunication equipment that needed control.

Telephone sets and computers shall have a menu and be able to use content in Lao language.

Part IV

Network Interconnection and Usage of Telecommunication Infrastructure

Article 19 (new). Network Interconnection

The telecommunication service providers have the right to request to interconnect their networks with telecommunication networks or services of others; while they are also obliged to others to interconnect with their own networks or services on equal basis and shall provide information on network interconnection and shall disclose their interconnection agreements.

Telecommunication service providers shall secure technical requirements on interconnection such as compliance with the technical standards on network interconnection defined by the Ministry of Post and Telecommunications and shall assure the safety of the networks.

Article 20 (new). Utilization of Infrastructure

Service providers shall collectively share the telecommunication infrastructure without discrimination in terms of conditions, quality and services based on mutual benefit to avoid overlapping investment.

Article 21 (new). Calculation of Charges for the Interconnection and Utilization of Infrastructure

The calculation of charges for the interconnection and utilization of telecommunication infrastructure shall be based on transparency, equality and non-discrimination principles and based on actual cost and agreements among telecommunication service provider

Part V
Telecommunication Service Operations
Chapter 1
Types and Terms of Telecommunication Service Operations

Article 22 (new). Types of Telecommunication Service Operations

There are four types of telecommunication services operations licenses in Lao

PDR:

1. **Type I:** Telecommunication networks and service provider;
2. **Type II:** Telecommunication service provider without having their own networks, internet service provider, internet domain name registrar, internet access provider and value - added services;
3. **Type III:** Consulting service, installation, repair services; export, import, manufacturing and distribution of telecommunication equipment;
4. **Type IV:** Private telecommunication networks

Article 23 (new). Term of Each Type of license

The term of each type of license is:

1. Type I is valid for 15 years
2. Type II is valid for 10 years
3. Type III is valid for 5 years
4. Type IV is valid for 3 years

The licensee of each type shall pay annually license fee and may apply to extend the term of license from the Ministry of Post and Telecommunications six months before its expiry date.

Article 24 (amended). Application for the Establishment of a Telecommunication Enterprise

Any domestic and foreign individual, legal entity or organization wishing to establish a telecommunication enterprise shall apply for establishment and registration to the concerned organization as defined in the Law on Investment Promotion, the Law on Enterprise, this Law and other relevant laws of Lao PDR.

The telecommunication businesses operation that require authorization from the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications are:

- Telecommunication network and service provider;
- Telecommunication service provider their own networks;
- Private telecommunication networks.

The telecommunication businesses operation that require authorization from the Provincial Post and Telecommunication are:

1. Service Provider, Internet Domain Name Registra, Internet Access Provider and Value-added Services;
2. Consulting Services, installation and repair services; export, import, manufacturing and supply of telecommunication equipment.

The Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications regulates and disseminate the term and condition and procedures of the application for the establishment of a telecommunication enterprise. In case of denying the application, the detail reason of rejection should be informed the applicant.

Article 25 (new). Duplication of Contract

A licensee of any type of telecommunication business operation pursuant to Article 22 of this Law shall submit copy of contracts that they have entered to the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications.

Part VI

Rights, Obligations of the Service Providers and Service Users

Article 26 (amended). Rights of the Telecommunication Service Providers

The telecommunication service providers have the following rights:

1. Request to the concerned organization on the use of land, streets, drainage channels, buildings, construction and others in compliance with the laws and regulations;
2. Propose fees and service charges that are suit to the social and economic conditions of each period to the Ministry of Post and Telecommunications for consideration;
3. Suspend temporary or long-term service from users in the following cases:

- not paying regularly for service charges after a warning;
 - interconnect in parallel its own telephone to the third parties without authorization or violating this Law and other telecommunication regulations.
4. Develop its telecommunication networks;
 5. Produce, export, import, distribute and install telecommunication equipment;
 6. Apply to the concerned government organizations on the interconnection, the use of telecommunication resources, the quality and standard of the services;
 7. Give priority to provide telecommunications services to the state organizations;
 8. Exercise other rights as prescribed in the laws and regulations.

Article 27 (amended). Obligations of the Telecommunication Service Providers

The Telecommunication Service providers have the following obligations:

1. Strictly comply with the laws on telecommunications;
2. Secure the interconnection and signaling system of its own networks with the network of other telecommunication service providers;
3. Secure the availability of universal services with good quality, convenience, fast and fairness;
4. Have a protection and recovery plans telecommunication networks in case of disasters, crises or emergencies;
5. Comply with financial-accounting, statistics and reporting rules;
6. To pay for using telecommunication resources;
7. Be subjected to inspection by concerned sectors;
8. Resolve complaints of telecommunication service users on the quality and standard of the services;
9. Summarize and report on its own activities to the Ministry of Post and Telecommunication on a regular basis;
10. Exercise other obligations as prescribed in the laws and regulations.

Article 28 (amended). Rights of the Telecommunication Service Users
The telecommunication service users have the following rights:

1. To use telecommunication services with good quality, convenience, fast and fairness;
2. Re-sell telecommunication services to other users in accordance with the authorization of the Ministry of Post, Telecommunication and Communications;
3. Propose to service providers or the concerned public organizations to improve

- regulations, and inspect the collection of fees and service charges;
4. To be provided for information on services, services charges and quality of services;
 5. Exercise other rights as prescribed in the laws and regulations.

Article 29 (amended). Obligations of Telecommunication Service Users

The Telecommunication service users have the following obligations:

1. Comply with technical regulations for the use of telecommunication equipment and other regulations issued by the concerned organizations ;
2. Settle up fees and service charges on a regular basis;
3. Be subject to inspection of concerned organizations;
4. Exercise other obligations as defined in the laws and regulations.

Part VII

Telecommunication Development Fund

Article 30 (amended). Telecommunication Development Fund

The State authorizes the establishment of a Telecommunication Development Fund to develop telecommunications of Lao PDR to be expanded, advanced, modernized and sustainable and to develop the telecommunication network to cover all rural remote areas throughout Lao PDR.

Article 31 (amended). Fund Sources

[Funding for] The Telecommunication Development Fund is obtain from these main sources:

1. The State budget;
2. Grants from foreign countries and international organizations;
3. Contributions from both domestic and foreign individuals and organizations;
4. Deduction from the lines according to regulations;
5. Income generated from telecommunication activities and charges from using telecommunication resources.

Article 32 (new). Management and Utilization of Fund

The management and utilization of the Telecommunication Development Fund shall be complied with the objectives as defined in Article 30 of this Law in compliance with the laws and regulation on the State budget.

The organization and operation of the Fund are defined in a separate regulation.

Part VIII

Fees and Services Charges

Article 33 (amended). Fees

Telecommunication fee is the State administrative fee collected from individuals, legal entities or organizations who apply for telecommunication business license, usage of telecommunication resources, usage of telecommunication infrastructure and issuance of technical standards certificates.

The collection and payment of fees to the State budget shall comply with the Presidential Decree on Fees and Service Charges as promulgated in each period.

Article 34 (amended). Service Charges

Telecommunication service charges are administrative and technical services charges collected from individuals, legal entities or organizations who applied for the telecommunication business licenses, usage of telecommunication resources, usage of telecommunication infrastructure and for the issuance of technical standard certificates to supplement expenditure from the State budget.

The collection and payment of service charges to the State budget shall comply with the Presidential Decree on Fees and Charges promulgated in each period.

Part IX

Prohibitions

Article 35 (new). Prohibitions for Telecommunication Staffs

Telecommunication staffs are prohibited from:

1. Disclose state and official confidentiality; delay and falsify documents concerning telecommunications;
2. Abuse authority for its own benefit which cause damages to individuals, collectives.

State and organizations;

3. Be negligent to duties and responsibilities assigned by the organization;
4. Holding any position or being an advisor in the telecommunication business;
5. Operate telecommunication business;
6. Recruit their family members and relatives into any managerial position in telecommunication business.

Article 36 (new). Prohibitions for Telecommunication Service Providers

Telecommunication service providers are prohibited from:

1. Lend, lease or transfer its own licenses to others;
2. Use telecommunication resources and import telecommunication equipment without authorization;
3. Adjust its permitted radio frequency , telecommunication equipment and its own networks into radio frequency , telecommunication equipment and networks of other telecommunication service providers or other users without authorization;
4. Collude with other service providers in ways that obstruct fair competition;
5. Use information received from other service providers for unfair competition purposes;
6. Use the advantage of its own telecommunication network, market share and infrastructure to block, limit, obstruct and create difficulties to the operation of other telecommunication service providers;
7. Suspend, stop services without notice or warning, except for the purpose of the national stability;
8. Disclose confidential of the state, official and telecommunication users;
9. Increase or decrease service prices without approval from the Ministry of Post and Telecommunication and distribute of telephone numbers free of charge;
10. Exaggerate, display pornography (salacious content), and promote illegal gambling;
11. Destroy telecommunication equipment of other telecommunication service providers, harm the environment and natural scenery, and obstructively install of telecommunication equipment and facilities.

Article 37 (new). Prohibitions for Telecommunication Users

Telecommunication service users are prohibited from:

1. Use of telecommunications to destroy the national stability, security, social and economic development and culture;
2. Use of telecommunication resources and import telecommunication equipment without authorization;
3. Use telecommunications to discredit individuals, legal entities or organizations;

4. Use telecommunication equipment to interrupt, destroy, tap , eavesdrop, and detect data and information of others;
5. Destroy telecommunication equipment.

Article 38 (new). Prohibitions for Individuals, Legal Entities and Other Organizations

Individuals, legal entities and other organizations are prohibited from:

1. Operate telecommunications businesses without approval;
2. Use telecommunication resources and import telecommunication equipment without approval;
3. Destroy telecommunication equipment such as telephone cable, telephone booths, antenna, poles, antenna tower and others;
4. Rampage, menace, obstruct the function of telecommunication personnel or telecommunication service providers.

Part X

Resolution (Settlement) of Disputes

Article 39 (new). Forms of Dispute Resolution (Settlement)

Telecommunication dispute resolution (settlement) shall be proceeded with the following forms:

1. Settlement by compromise;
2. Settlement by administrative procedures;
3. Settlement by the Economic Dispute Resolution Committee;
4. Suing to court.

Article 40 (new) Settlement by Compromise

In case a dispute occurs, the parties concerned shall try to resolve such dispute by negotiation and compromise for mutual benefit..

Article 41 (amendcd)Settlement by Administrative Procedures

In case the dispute could not be terminated or resolved , the parties may request to the Post and Telecommunications organizations to resolve the dispute by administrative procedures in accordance with the regulations.

Article 42 (new). Settlement by the Economic Dispute Resolution Committee

If the dispute could not be resolved by compromise or by administrative

procedures, the parties have the right to appeal to the Economic Dispute Resolution Committee to resolve in accordance with the laws and regulations based on their common agreement.

Article 43 (new) Sue (Suing) to Court

If any party is unsatisfied with the dispute settlement decision made by the relevant organization, the party has the right to sue to People's Court to proceed in accordance with the laws and regulations.

for the dispute of international manner, the resolution shall be processed in accordance with the agreements and treaties of which Lao PDR is a party.

Part XI

Telecommunication Management and Inspection

Chapter 1

Telecommunication Management

Article 44 (amended). Telecommunication Authority

The State centralizes the management of telecommunication country wide unanimously by authorizing the Post and Telecommunication sector, in collaboration with other concerned sectors and local authorities, to actively manage the telecommunication according to their roles.

The telecommunication authority consists of:

1. The Ministry of Post and Telecommunications ;
2. The Provincial and Capital Post and Telecommunication Division;
3. The District and Municipality Post and Telecommunications Offices.

Article 45 (new) Control of Telecommunications

To secure public safety and national security, the government shall approve and authorize the Ministry of Post, Telecommunication and Communications, in collaboration with the Ministry of National Defense and Ministry of Public Security, to proceed as follow:

1. Temporarily control telecommunication networks and services at the time an incident occurs;
2. Inspect the telecommunication of any individual that is suspected of being involved with making public unrest and insecurity;
3. Control and seize telecommunication equipment of users t involved public unrest and

security and take legal actions in accordance with the law.

Article 46 (amended). Rights and Duties of the Ministry of Post and Telecommunication

The Ministry of Post and Telecommunication has the following rights and duties:

1. To define policies, strategic plans, programs, plans and projects for telecommunication development to propose to the government for approval;
2. To develop and amend laws and regulations on telecommunications and propagate, disseminate, supervise and monitor in the enforcement;
3. To approve, extend, inspect, suspend, withdraw and cancel telecommunication business in coordination with relevant sectors;
4. To authorize the use of telecommunication resources;
5. To authorize the import of telecommunication equipment;
6. To authorize telecommunication operators to interconnect their telecommunication networks to the telecommunication networks of other telecommunication service providers ;
7. To develop human resources in telecommunications;
8. To settle complaints of users and service providers regarding the quality and standards of telecommunication services;
9. To manage, administer, allocate, assign and revoke telecommunication resources;
10. To collect telecommunication fees and charges;
11. To monitor and measure radio frequency in Lao PDR;
12. Coordinate with relevant organizations to determine the rates of fees and service charges for the use of telecommunication resources and telecommunication service
13. To determine the national technical standards of telecommunication equipment;
14. To cooperate with foreign countries and international organizations on telecommunications;
15. Summarize and report its own activities to the government on regular basis;
16. Exercise other rights and duties as defined in the laws and regulations.

Article 47 (amended). Rights and Duties of the Provincial and Capital Post and Telecommunication Departments

The Provincial and Capital Post and Telecommunication Departments have the following rights and duties:

1. Apply the policies, plans and decisions of the Ministry into their detailed plans, programs

- and projects for implementation;
2. Supervise the District and Municipality of Post and Telecommunication Offices regarding telecommunications;
 3. Approve, extend, suspend, withdraw and cancel telecommunication businesses under their jurisdiction in coordination with relevant organizations ;
 4. Resolve complaints of telecommunication users and service providers on the quality, technical standards, service charges and other complaints within their local areas;
 5. Collect telecommunication fees and service charges within their local:
 6. Gather statistics on telecommunication users and service providers within their local areas;
 7. Monitor the business operations of different telecommunication service providers within their local areas ;
 8. Coordinate with the provincial and Capital authorities on the management of telecommunication activities;
 9. Carry out international relations and cooperation as assigned by higher authority ;
 10. Summarize and report on its own activities to the Ministry of Post and Telecommunication , and Provincial and Capital authorities on regular basis;
 11. Exercise other rights and duties as defined in the regulations and laws.

Article 48 (amended). Rights and Duties of the District and Municipality of Post and Telecommunication Offices

The District and Municipality of Post and Telecommunication Offices have the following rights and duties:

1. Implement policies and strategic plans on telecommunication out by the Provincial and Capital Post and Telecommunication Departments;
2. Monitor and inspect telecommunication services within its own districts and municipality;
3. Forward complaints/requests of telecommunication users and service providers regarding the quality, technical standards, service charges and other queries to the Provincial and Capital Division of Post and Telecommunication;
4. Collect statistics on telecommunication users and service providers within its own local area;
5. Forward the requests for approval, extension, suspension withdrawal and cancellation of telecommunication business operation to the Provincial and Capital Division of Post and Telecommunication;
6. Coordinate with the District and Municipality authorities on the management of telecommunication;

7. Summarize and report on its own activities to the Provincial and Capital Departments of Post and Telecommunication and the District and Municipality authorities on a regular basis;
8. Exercise other rights and duties as defined in the regulations and laws.

Chapter 2

Inspection of Telecommunications

Article 49 (new). Telecommunication Inspection Authority

The Telecommunication Inspection Authority consists of:

1. Internal Inspection Authority which is the same authority as the Telecommunication Authority as defined in Article 44 of this Law;
2. External Inspection Authorities are the National Assembly, Government and Anti-Corruption Inspection Organization and State Audit Authority.

Article 50 (amended). The Content of Inspection

The inspection of telecommunications has the following content:

1. Inspection of planning, licensing, surveying, designs of construction and installations of telecommunication networks;
2. Inspection of safety standards and environmental protection in the construction and installation of telecommunication networks;
3. Inspection of technical standards of telecommunication equipment based on its technology;
4. Inspection of the use of telecommunication resources and importation of telecommunication equipment;
5. Coordination with the Ministry of Finance to audit accounting and financial systems;
6. Inspection of bidding, the construction and installation of telecommunication network contracts, and the implementation of other contracts;
7. Inspection of the implementation of this Law and other related laws of Lao PDR.

Article 51. Form of Inspection

There are three forms of telecommunication inspections:

- Regular inspection;

- Inspection with up front notification;
- Immediate Inspection.

A regular inspection is conducted under a regular plan and within a specified time.

An inspection with up front notification is conducted beyond the plans when deemed necessary of which the entity to be inspected has been notified.

An Immediate Inspection is directly conducted without upfront notification to the inspected person.

In proceeding with telecommunication inspections, the officials of the inspection authority shall strictly comply with the laws and regulations.

Part XII

Telecommunications Day, Logo, Uniform and Seal

Article 52 (new). Telecommunications Day

Lao PDR defines the 13th of March as the National Telecommunication Day. Every year, this day shall be celebrated in an appropriate manner countrywide.

Article 53 (new). Logo, Uniform and Seal

The Ministry of Post and Telecommunication has its own logo, uniform and seal authorized by the government for its official activities use.

Part XIII

Reward for and Measures against Violators

Article 54. Reward for Productive Executants

Individuals, legal entities or organizations who have productive performance in implementing this Law particularly for investment in the construction and development of telecommunications, expansion of networks, production of telecommunication equipment and provide telecommunication services efficiently, progressively, up-to-date, high quality shall be rewarded appropriately.

Article 55 . Measures against Violators

Any individual, legal entity or organization who has violated any provisions of this

Law shall be educated, fined or penalized depending on the degree of violation, including compensation for the damage caused.

Article 56. Education Measures

Any individual, legal entity or organization who has slightly violated any provision of this Law shall be educated in such instances as:

1. A service providers deny to fix technical failing of an installation, repair or other telecommunication services in a timely manner and failed to comply with technical standards;
2. Users avoid to pay for their service charges on a regular basis and others.

Article 57. Measure for Applying Fines

Any individual, legal entity or organization who has violated any provisions of this Law shall be fined for such activities as:

1. Operate telecommunication businesses without permission;
2. Operate telecommunication services beyond the types and area permitted;
3. Lend to , lease out or transfer its license to others;
4. Use telecommunication resources and import telecommunication equipment without permission;
5. Destroy telecommunication equipment such as telephone cables, telephone booths, cable poles, antenna towers.

Rates of the fines are defined in separate regulations.

Article 58. Civil Measures

Any individual, legal entity or organization who has violated this Law which caused damages to the State, collective or other persons shall pay for such damages one's caused .

Article 59. Measures for Applying Penalties

Any person who has violated any provisions of this Law that are penal offences shall be penalized according to penal code.

Any person who has adjusted the radio frequency to other radio stations or use their telecommunication equipment or networks to interconnect to other networks to block, interfert, hack , destroy, change, delete, wire tap, eavesdrop or detect information of others shall be imprisoned from three to six months and shall be fined from 500,000

kip up to 5,000.000 kip.

In case of offences against paragraph two of this Article occurs repeatedly, or collectively offence, the offenders shall be imprisoned from one to three years and shall be fined from 1.000.000 up to 10,000,000 kip.

Part XIII

Final Provisions

Article 60. Implementation of the Law

The Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic enforces this Law.

Article 61. Effectiveness of the Law

This Law becomes effective after thirty days from the date the President of the Lao People's Democratic Republic has issued a Presidential Promulgation Decree.

This Law replaces the Law on Telecommunications No. 02/NA, dated 10 April 2001.

Any regulations and provisions conflicting with this Law shall be cancelled.

President of the National Assembly