



Authentic in Lao language only

**Lao People's Democratic Republic**  
**Peace Independence Democracy Unity Prosperity**

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**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 to ensure quality, accessibility for all, convenience, fairness, continuity of development and modernization aiming at ensuring national security and safety, as well as generating revenue to the State budget contributing to the protection and development of the nation.

**Article 2 (new). Telecommunications**

Telecommunication means the communication by transmission and reception of data, information, sound, pictures, numbers, letters, symbols by means of transmission lines, optical fibers, radio frequencies, electro-magnetic wave guides, any other mediums or a combination of mediums.

**Article 3 (amended). Definitions**

The terms used in this Law shall have the meaning as follows:

1. **Telecommunication network** means a system of telecommunications infrastructure consisting of wired and wireless systems or interconnection of both systems including equipment incorporated in one or several categories of telecommunication services.
2. **Telecommunication resources** mean frequencies, telephone numbers, internet numbers, internet domain names, positions of satellite orbits and telecommunication infrastructures.

3. **Internet** means a global system of interconnected computer networks through telecommunication networks for the transmission, reception 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 materials used to interconnect with the telecommunication network.
5. **Network interconnection** means the interconnection of telecommunication networks of service providers to enable service users to communicate with each other.

#### **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 terms of telecommunication business operations.

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

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

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

#### **Article 5 (new). Telecommunication Principles**

Telecommunications shall comply with the following principles:

1. Ensuring telecommunication development in line 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 that the allocation and use of telecommunication resources are carried out in an objective, timely and transparent manner; make publicly available the current state of allocated frequency bands, except for detailed identification of frequencies allocated for specific government uses;

4. Ensuring the confidentiality of State, officials, individuals, legal entities or organizations, and ensuring transparency and justice;
5. Ensuring compliance with technical standards, interconnection with regional and international telecommunication networks, and ensuring convenient and quick services with quality;
6. Protecting lawful rights and benefits of telecommunication service providers and users;
7. Ensuring national security and safety, protection of the environment and fine tradition of the country.

#### **Article 6 (new). Scope of the Law**

This Law applies to both domestic and foreign individuals, legal entities or 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 to which Lao PDR is a party.

## **Part II**

### **Telecommunication Resources**

#### **Chapter 1**

#### **Frequencies**

#### **Article 8 (new). Frequencies**

Frequency means emission of electromagnetic waves in a range of 3 kilohertz to 300 gigahertz for telecommunication purposes.

#### **Article 9 (new). Use of Frequencies**

The supervision, management, allocation, assignment and withdrawal of all frequencies in Lao PDR shall be under the responsibility of the State as prescribe by laws and regulations.

Any individual, legal entity or organization wishing to use frequencies shall obtain a concession from the State.

The frequency concession certificate is a specific right of the relevant concessionaire; the transfer of a frequency or sharing the same with others shall be approved by the government.

The use of frequencies for the fixed and mobile radio stations such as in the offices, cars, onboard of ships, aircrafts of Lao PDR and of foreign countries when passing through Lao PDR's territory shall comply with laws and regulations, international agreements and treaties to which Lao PDR is a party.

#### **Article 10 (new). Interference of Frequencies**

The emission of any radio frequency of the same or approximate level of frequency and amplitude may disturb the emission of radio frequency of radio stations, television stations and other radio frequency spectrum distribution stations in the country and between countries.

#### **Article 11 (new). Fees for the Use of Frequencies**

Any individual, legal entity or organization using a frequency shall pay fees except for the use for national defense, security, embassies, international organizations, emergency works and State's specific missions in accordance with laws and regulations.

## **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 mean numbers, letters or symbols indicating telecommunication networks, internet networks, and terminal equipment for communications.

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

The Ministry of Post and Telecommunication and Communications shall plan, manage, allocate, assign and withdraw the telephone numbers, internet numbers and internet domain names.

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

Any individual, legal entity or organization wishing to use a telephone number, internet number and internet domain name shall be registered with the telecommunication service points or with the post, telecommunications and communications authority.

## **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 circulates along the orbit in the aerospace and is important for telecommunications, meteorology, natural resource surveying and others.

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

#### **Article 15 (new). Telecommunication Infrastructure**

Telecommunication Infrastructure means buildings and structures, including equipment and transmission lines to support the telecommunication network services such as: ducts, poles, masts, antennas, optic fibers, copper wires, mixture wires, transformers.

## **Part III**

### **Technical Standards and Quality**

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

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

#### **Article 17 (new). Certification and Approval**

The Ministry of Post and Telecommunication certifies and approves technical standards and the quality of telecommunication equipment produced domestically 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 to 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 Telecommunication supervises the importation of the high-technology telecommunication equipment.

The Ministry of Post and Telecommunication defines the types of telecommunication equipment that requires supervision.

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

## **Part IV**

### **Network Interconnection and Use of Telecommunication Infrastructure**

#### **Article 19 (new). Network Interconnection**

The telecommunication service providers shall 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 Telecommunication and shall assure the safety of the networks.

#### **Article 20 (new). Use of Infrastructure**

Service providers shall 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 Use of Infrastructure**

The calculation of charges for the interconnection and use of telecommunication infrastructure shall be based on transparency, equality and non-discrimination principles and based on actual costs and agreements among telecommunication service providers.

## **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 service operations in Lao PDR:

1. Type I: network services and telecommunication services;
2. Type II: telecommunication services of those who do not have their own networks, internet services, internet domain names, internet connection and value-added services;
3. Type III: consulting services, installation, repair services; export, import, manufacturing and distribution of telecommunication equipment;
4. Type IV: installation of private telecommunication networks.

### **Article 23 (new). Term of Each Type**

The term of each type of telecommunication service operations 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 concessionaire of each type of operations shall pay annual license fee and may apply to extend the term of telecommunication service operations from the Ministry of Post and Telecommunication six months before its expiry date.

## **Chapter 2**

### **Establishment of Telecommunication Enterprises**

#### **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 authority as set out in the Law on Investment Promotion, the Law on Enterprise, this Law and other relevant laws of Lao PDR.

The telecommunication business operations that require authorization from the Ministry of Post and Telecommunication are as follows:

1. network services and telecommunication services;

2. telecommunication services of those who do not have their own networks;
3. installation of private telecommunication networks.

The telecommunication business operations that require authorization from the Provincial Post and Telecommunication Departments are as follows:

1. internet services, internet domain name services, internet connection services and value-added services;
2. consulting services, installation, repair services, export, import, manufacturing and supply of telecommunication equipment.

The Ministry of Post and Telecommunication shall study and issue regulations and disseminate the requirements and procedures of the application for the establishment of a telecommunication enterprise in the sector mentioned above. In case of rejecting the application, the reason of rejection should be given in writing to 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 Post and Telecommunication.

### **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 Telecommunication for consideration;
3. Suspend temporary or long-term service from users in the following cases:
4. not paying regularly for service charges after a warning;
5. interconnect in parallel its own telephone to the third parties without authorization or violating this Law and other telecommunication regulations.
6. Develop its telecommunication networks;



7. Produce, export, import, distribute and install telecommunication equipment;
8. Apply to the concerned government organizations on the interconnection, the use of telecommunication resources, the quality and standard of the services;
9. Give priority to provide telecommunications services to the state organizations;
10. 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 s;
2. Re-sell telecommunication services to other users in accordance with the authorization of the Ministry of Post and Telecommunications;
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 obtained 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 fines 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 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 and 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) may be carried out in the following forms:

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

#### **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 (amended). 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). Lawsuit**

If any party is unsatisfied with the dispute settlement decision made by the relevant organization, the party has the right to file a lawsuit 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 in a uniform manner 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, Telecommunications and Communication;
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 and Telecommunications, in collaboration with the Ministry of National Defense and Ministry of Public Security, to proceed as follows:

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:

1. Regular inspection;
2. Inspection with up front notification;
3. 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 13<sup>th</sup> of March as the National Telecommunication Day. Every year, this day shall be celebrated in an appropriate manner country wide.

#### **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**

### **Incentives towards Outstanding Performers and Measures against Violators**

#### **Article 54. Incentives towards Outstanding Performers**

Individuals, legal entities or organizations who have outstanding performance in implementing this Law particularly for investment in the construction and development of telecommunications, expansion of networks, and 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 that 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 that 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 paying for their service charges on a regular basis and others.

#### **Article 57. Measure for Applying Fines**

Any individual, legal entity or organization that 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 that 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, interfere, 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**

[Signed and sealed]

Pany Yathortou