

Unofficial translation



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

**Ministry of Post and Telecommunications**

**No. 209/MPT  
Vientiane Capital, dated 05 February 2016**

**DECISION  
on  
The Installation of Mobile Network Base Stations**

- Pursuant to the Law on Telecommunications (amended) No. 09/NA, dated 21 December 2011;
- Pursuant to the Prime Minister's Decree on the Organization and Operation of the Ministry of Post and Telecommunications No. 303/PM, dated 26 September 2011; and
- Pursuant to an agreement made by the Leads of the Ministry of Post and Telecommunications.

**The Minister hereby issues a Decree:**

**Chapter 1  
General Provisions**

**Article 1 Objective**

This Decision defines the principles, regulations, standards, and measures relating to the administration, monitoring, and inspection of the installation of mobile network base stations to ensure that such work is in order and protects the environment, aiming to expand the telecommunications network to meet plans, protect the beauty of nature, and contribute to socio-economic development.

**Article 2 Mobile Network Base Station**

A mobile network base station consists of a telecommunications equipment system and power supply system, which are located on the ground or in a building and connected to an antenna for receiving and transmitting signals. The antenna is fixed to a telecommunications tower.

**Article 3 Definitions**

**Mobile Network Base Station** means equipment for the purpose of communication between a network and a user of a mobile phone system;

**Mobile Network Tower** means a tower to which an antenna is fixed and connected to mobile network equipment.

**Article 4      Types of Mobile Network Tower**

There are five types of mobile network tower:

1. Monopole tower: a tower with one leg, circular in shape, and the diameter of the tower gradually decreases from the bottom to the top. Its height is between 20 and 30 meters;
2. Self-supporting tower: a tower with 3 or 4 legs. Its height is between 30 and 50 meters;
3. Guyed tower: a tower with 3 or 4 legs and attached to the ground by guy wires at a 30° angle to the tower. Its height is more than 50 meters;
4. Rooftop tower: a signal receiving–transmitting tower placed on a rooftop;
5. Concrete tower: a reinforced concrete tower. Its height is between 12 and 15 meters.

**Article 5      Use of Mobile Network Tower**

A telecommunications service provider shall share its towers with other telecommunications service providers in accordance with technical conditions and mutual agreements.

**Article 6      Scope of Application**

This Decision applies to telecommunications service providers, service users, citizens, and installation site owners throughout the country.

**Chapter 2**  
**Installation and Process for Issuance of License**

**Article 7      Installation of Mobile Network Receiver–Transmitter on Concrete Tower**

Installation of mobile network receiver-transmitters on all types of mobile network towers shall ensure that the mobile network receiver–transmitter is of an appropriate weight.

**Article 8      Requirement of Tower Height**

Tower heights shall not exceed 50 meters. If they need to exceed 50 meters, guyed/mast towers shall be used, and shall follow local requirements as set out in each city plan.

**Article 9      Process for Issuance of License**

1. A telecommunications service provider intending to expand its network by installing a mobile network base station shall submit a request to the provincial/capital Divisions of Post and Telecommunications;
2. The provincial/capital Divisions of Post and Telecommunications shall cooperate with relevant stakeholders to survey installation sites, with the participation of and opinions from people living around the installation sites;
3. In the actual survey, if a stakeholder disagrees with such installation of a mobile network, the stakeholder is requested to submit an official letter to

- the relevant telecommunications service provider and to the relevant provincial/capital Divisions of Post and Telecommunications;
4. Provincial/capital Divisions of Post and Telecommunications shall decide on issuing a license to a telecommunications service provider for the installation of a mobile network within 30 business days.

### **Chapter 3**

#### **Standards Applicable to the Installation of Mobile Network Base Stations**

##### **Article 10 Installation of Earth Line Systems**

Mobile network towers and mobile network equipment shall have proper earth line systems in accordance with technical standards, 20 centimeters deep and with electricity resistance less than or equal to 5 ohms.

##### **Article 11 Installation of Lightning Protection Systems**

Mobile network towers shall be equipped with lightning protection systems to avoid damage to station equipment.

##### **Article 12 Installation of Warning Lights**

Mobile network towers shall be equipped with warning lights to give warnings during night time at a height determined by international aviation regulations.

##### **Article 13 Protection of Mobile Network Towers**

Mobile network towers shall be fenced and locked with padlocks to prevent unauthorized individuals from entering such places. For concrete towers, telecommunications equipment shall be installed in accordance with given standards.

##### **Article 14 Painting**

All towers shall be painted in red or orange starting at the ground, and then gradually towards the top in white stripes.

##### **Article 15 Installation of Logo of the Tower's Owner and Danger Warning Signs**

All mobile network towers shall have logos and danger warning signs affixed to them.

### **Chapter 4**

#### **Certification and Inspection of the Installation**

##### **Article 16 Certification and Endorsement**

The Department of Telecommunications of the Ministry of Post and Telecommunications shall certify and endorse installation standards for network towers installed in the territory of the Lao PDR in accordance with international standards.

##### **Article 17 Contents of Inspection**

1. Inspection of planning, survey, construction design, and installation of telecommunications networks;

2. Inspection of technical standards, safety standards, environmental protection, and installation of telecommunications networks;
3. Inspection of technical standards in accordance with the technologies of the telecommunications equipment;
4. Inspection of the importation of telecommunications equipment.

**Article 18      Inspection and Measurement of Mobile Network Base Stations**

The Department of Telecommunications in collaboration with provincial Divisions of Post and Telecommunications shall inspect installation standards as requested or scheduled.

**Chapter 5**

**Rights and Obligations of Telecommunications Service Providers and Landlords**

**Article 19      Rights of Telecommunications Service Providers**

Telecommunications service providers have the following rights:

1. To request relevant stakeholders to find locations for the base stations;
2. To make proposals to landlords and relevant stakeholders regarding the use of land, power supply systems, drainage systems, buildings, access roads to the stations, etc. in accordance with relevant laws and regulations;
3. To propose to a provincial/capital Divisions of Post and Telecommunications regarding the installation of base stations;
4. To request the Ministry of Post and Telecommunications or provincial Divisions of Post and Telecommunications to mediate a possible complaint;
5. To request that other telecommunications service providers share base stations.

**Article 20      Obligations of Telecommunications Service Providers**

1. To request the Ministry of Post and Telecommunications to inspect installation standards;
2. To provide statistical data on all mobile network base stations to the Ministry of Post and Telecommunications and to provincial/capital Divisions of Post and Telecommunications every six months and annually;
3. Telecommunications service providers shall share their mobile network towers with other telecommunications service providers in line with technical and economic conditions;
4. The leasers shall provide information to lessees, and the lessees shall also provide information to the leasers (in the event of sharing facilities);
5. To propose to the Ministry of Post and Telecommunications regarding the installation plans for base stations.

**Chapter 6**  
**Prohibitions**

**Article 21      Prohibitions for Telecommunications Service Providers**

Telecommunications service providers are prohibited from behaving as follows:

1. Installing mobile network base stations without the approval of the provincial or capital Divisions of Post and Telecommunications;
2. Importing equipment for base stations without the approval of the Ministry of Post and Telecommunications;
3. Repositioning equipment, re-orienting antennae, or destroying the equipment of other telecommunications service providers;
4. Providing incorrect or incomplete statistical information;
5. Installing mobile network towers which are not in line with technical standards;
6. Installing mobile network towers at schools, hospitals, temples, airport runways, and other places prohibited by the Government.

## **Chapter 7**

### **Measures against Violators**

#### **Article 22 Measures against Violators**

Telecommunications service providers that violate any Article of this Decision will be fined as following:

1. For the first time: verbal warning;
2. For the second time: 1,000,000 Kip per tower per time;
3. For the third time: 1,500,000 Kip per tower per time;

The fines are to be transferred to the National Budget in accordance with regulations.

## **Chapter 8**

### **Final Provisions**

#### **Article 23 Implementation**

The Department of Telecommunications of the Ministry of Post and Telecommunications, and provincial/capital Divisions of Post and Telecommunications, in collaboration with other relevant stakeholders, are to implement this Decision.

#### **Article 24 Effectiveness**

This Decision is effective after 30 days from the date of signature, and fifteen days after posting in the Lao Official Gazette.

**Minister**

*[Signature and seal]*

**Hiem PHOMMACHANH**