

Joint ITU-UNIDO Forum on Sustainable Conformity Assessment for Asia-Pacific Region

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ICT standardization and conformity assessment in Laos

**Ms. Chaymaly PHAKASOUM, Acting Director
Telecom Regulatory Division
Department of Telecommunications
Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications
E-mail: chaymaly.p@gmail.com**



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Lao PDR



Capital city

Vientiane

Official language

Lao

Population

6.500.000

Surrounded by 5 countries

⇒ Thailand, Vietnam,
Cambodia, Myanmar, China

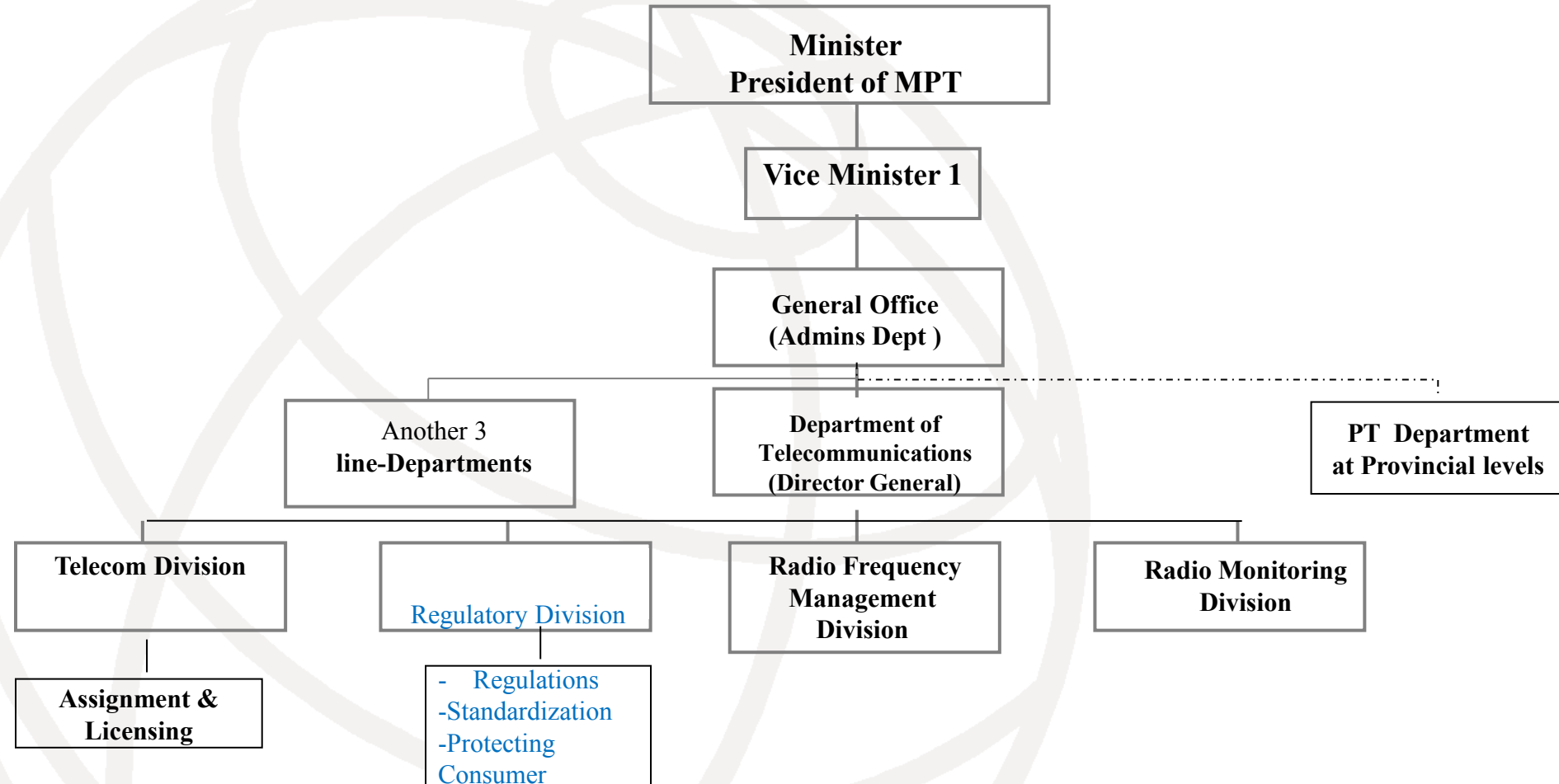
Country Profile (1/2)

- 5,6 millions (2005) (80% live in rural areas)
- Area: 236,800 Km²
- Capital City: Vientiane
- Provinces: 17
- Districts: 142
- GDP: USD 800 (2010)
- Tele-density: 65 per 100 inhabitants (2010)

Country Profile (2/2)

- Export: Electricity, Timber, and Mining (Au, Cu, etc.,)
- Economic growth rate: 7.9 %
- Currency: Lao Kip (LAK)
- Exchange rate: 7800 LAK per 1 USD

MPT Organization Structure (1/4)



MPT Organization Structure (2/4)

Regulatory Division is responsible for 3 main units such as:

- Telecommunication regulation: drafting some relative works on telecommunication services and provider;

MPT Organization Structure (3/4)

- Telecommunication Standardization: survey, research and advise on standardization to operators and consumer for confirming the quality of equipment (QoE) and the quality of service (QoS);

MPT Organization Structure (4/4)

- Consumer Protection: protect, advise and guidance to consumers preventing lost the rights and benefits of consumers and manage the service charge and limit promotion of operators.

Current information on Technologies and Service Availability (1/3)

Telecom Operators/ISPs	Technologies/Services
Enterprise Telecommunication Lao (ETL)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PSTN (Fixed line), GSM900/1800, GPRS, ISP - Dial up, ADSL, HIL, VPN
Lao Telecommunication Company (LTC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PSTN (Fixed Line), GSM900/1800, CDMA (WLL),ISP - 3G (WCDMA) service in 2008, HSPA - Dial up, ADSL, IP Star
Star Telecom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PSTN (Fixed Line) - GSM 900/1800, 3G (WCDMA)
Vimpelcom Lao Co. Ltd (Beeline)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GSM 900/1800, EDGE, WiMAX 2.5

Current information on Technologies and Service Availability (2/3)

- Currently technologies are increasing followed practical demands on services. They need conformity assessment for interconnection. Unfortunately, we did not have testing lab and tools for checking the system yet;

Current information on Technologies and Service Availability (3/3)

- ICT standardization regulations including C&I certificate could not be issued;
- Normally, we referred to some international recommendations, international standard for approving some documents relative to C&I.

ICT standardization Policy (1/2)

- Control and limit import telecommunications equipment under quality checking and assessment conformity;
- Implement the feasibility study project on establish ICT standardization center;
- Emphasize to cooperation with international organization;

ICT standardization Policy (2/2)

- Conformity assessment for interconnection among national, regional and international gateway;
- Internal cooperation between research centers, colleges, universities for discussing on ICT standardization research area.

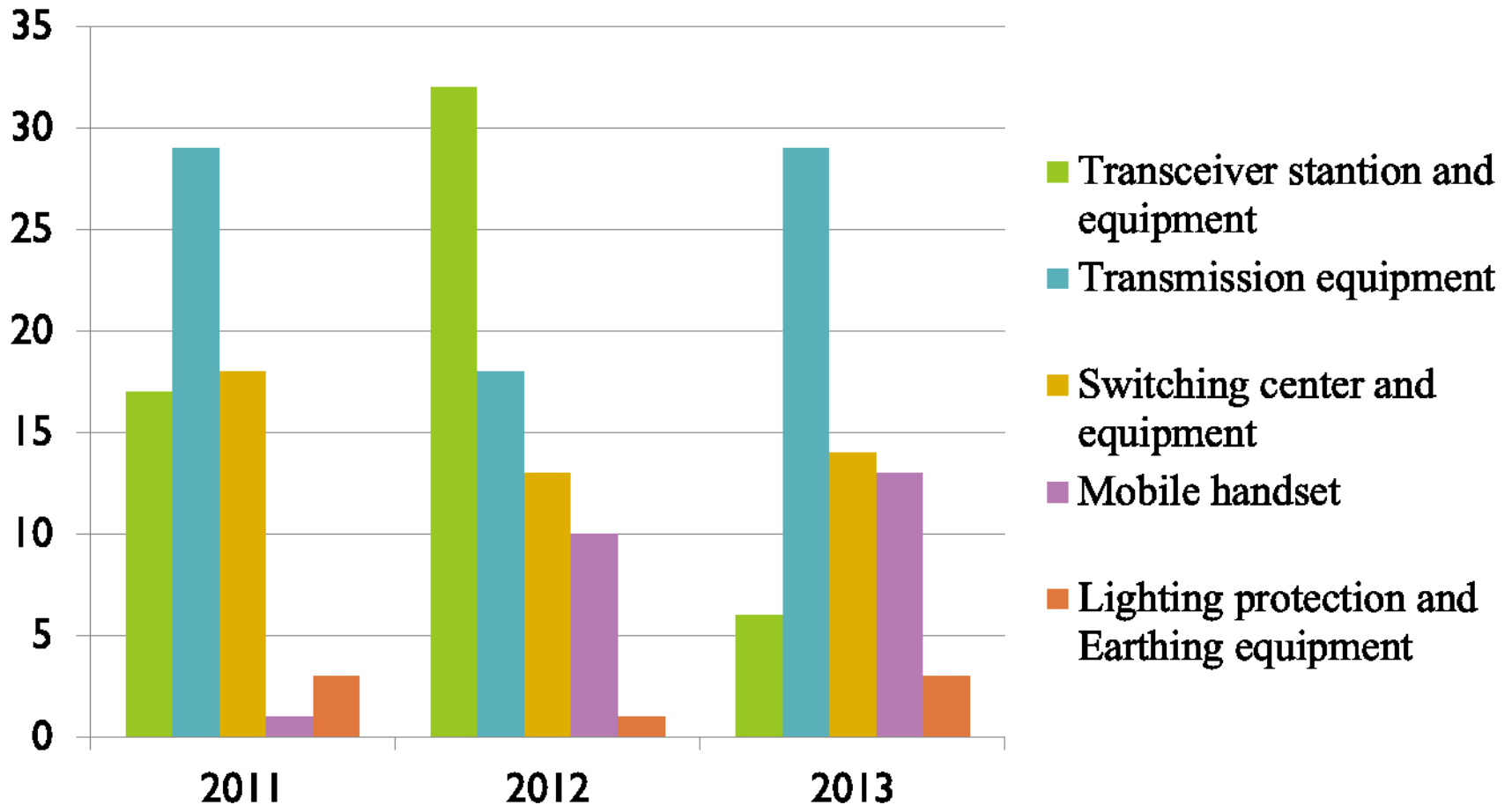
ICT standardization Regulation

- DoT is responsible for drafting some telecommunications standardization regulations;
- Currently, DoT approved a circular letter of import telecommunications equipment.

ICT standardization License (1/2)

- Issue a license of the import of telecommunication equipment;
- Basic type approval by checking technical documents;
- There is not a full ICT standardization license issued. It has some of part depending to service on demands;
- Etc.

ICT standardization License (2/2)



Statistical import telecommunication equipment without checking and confirming standardization.

Solutions on ICT standardization

- In case of non-specific regulations, DoT have to consider by suitable situations;
- Study about some relatives recommendation documents from ASEAN, APT and ITU.

Challenge and Fundamental Demands

- Insufficient regulatory framework;
- Inadequate qualified human resources;
- Limited testing laboratory availability.

Conclusions (1/2)

- In Lao PDR, telecommunications equipment have been expanded rapidly followed the increased import without checking or control the quality and conformity assessment;

Conclusions (2/2)

- The National Strategy focus on development of effective ICT standardization regulations, staff training and international cooperation with neighboring countries and the region.



Thank you for your kind attention.

Q & A

