

# **Democratic People's Republic of Korea**

## **Information Law**

Adopted by Decree No. 1937 of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly on October 12, 2017 (Juche 106)

Revised and supplemented by Decree No. 1937 of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly on December 6, 2022 (Juche 111)

### **Chapter 1: Basic Principles of the Information Law**

#### **Article 1 (Mission of the Information Law)**

The Information Law of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea aims to establish strict systems and order in information activities, informatize all fields of national management and social life, and contribute to promoting social development.

#### **Article 2 (Principle of Emphasizing Informatization)**

Informatization activities are important tasks that utilize information technology and tools to enhance the scientific, efficient, and convenient operation of all fields of national management and social life.

The state ensures that all sectors and units prioritize and actively implement informatization.

#### **Article 3 (Principle of Planned and Balanced Development of Informatization)**

Developing the country's informatization to a global level is a consistent policy of the state. The state establishes a proper informatization outlook plan according to the demands of current development and ensures the planned and balanced development of the country's informatization.

#### **Article 4 (Principle of Establishing Order in Informatization Activities)**

The state sets up a well-organized informatization activity system and ensures that institutions, enterprises, organizations, and citizens strictly adhere to the established order in informatization activities.

#### **Article 5 (Principle of Strengthening the Material and Technical Foundation)**

Strengthening the material and technical foundation of the informatization sector is an important guarantee for actively promoting the country's informatization.

The state systematically increases investment in the informatization sector to strengthen its material and technical foundation.

#### **Article 6 (Principle of Information Security)**

Strengthening information security activities is an essential requirement for successfully

realizing the country's informatization.

The state enhances information security activities to continuously improve their role in realizing informatization.

#### **Article 7 (International Exchange and Cooperation in the Field of Informatization)**

The state promotes exchange and cooperation with other countries and international organizations in the field of informatization.

#### **Article 8 (Relation to Other Laws)**

Matters not regulated by this law in relation to informatization activities are governed by relevant laws and regulations.

### **Chapter 2: Informatization Planning**

#### **Article 9 (Informatization Outlook Plan)**

The central informatization guidance institution establishes a national informatization outlook plan based on the state's informatization policy, clarifying the development direction, goals, and implementation methods of informatization.

Local informatization guidance institutions, institutions, enterprises, and organizations establish their own informatization outlook plans based on the national plan and carry out informatization activities accordingly.

The national informatization outlook plan requires the Cabinet's approval, local and sectoral plans require the approval of the central informatization guidance institution, and unit plans require the approval of the local informatization guidance institution or relevant institution.

#### **Article 10 (Step-by-Step Informatization Plan)**

Institutions, enterprises, and organizations must prepare step-by-step informatization plans to realize the informatization outlook plan and obtain approval from the informatization guidance institution or relevant institution.

#### **Article 11 (Preparation and Submission of Informatization Plan Drafts)**

Institutions, enterprises, and organizations must scientifically and realistically prepare annual informatization plan drafts based on the informatization outlook plan and step-by-step plans and submit them to the national planning institution, informatization guidance institution, and relevant institution.

The informatization guidance institution and relevant institution review the submitted informatization plan drafts and submit them to the national planning institution.

#### **Article 12 (Review, Approval, and Implementation of Informatization Plans)**

The national planning institution accurately reviews the submitted informatization plan

drafts, obtains approval from the relevant institution, and promptly implements them for institutions, enterprises, and organizations.

#### **Article 13 (Registration of Informatization Plans)**

Institutions, enterprises, and organizations must divide the implemented informatization plans monthly and register them with the informatization guidance institution and relevant institution.

#### **Article 14 (Summary of Informatization Plan Execution)**

Institutions, enterprises, and organizations must strictly summarize the execution of the implemented and registered informatization plans quarterly and by indicators.

If informatization targets are realized without being included in the plan or registered, they are not evaluated as achievements.

#### **Article 15 (Grasping the Execution Status of Informatization Plans)**

The informatization guidance institution and relevant institution must regularly grasp the execution status of informatization plans and take appropriate measures.

Institutions, enterprises, and organizations must promptly report the execution status of informatization plans to the informatization guidance institution, national planning institution, and relevant institution.

### **Chapter 3: Realization of Informatization**

#### **Article 16 (Precedence of Standardization and Specification)**

The central informatization guidance institution and central specification guidance institution must prioritize standardization and specification activities in informatization.

National standards related to informatization are established by the central specification guidance institution, and sectoral standards are established by the central informatization guidance institution.

Institutions, enterprises, and organizations must realize informatization according to the relevant standards and specifications.

#### **Article 17 (Design of Informatization Targets)**

Institutions, enterprises, and organizations that aim to realize informatization according to the informatization plan must prepare design documents for informatization targets.

If necessary, design documents can be prepared by institutions and enterprises designated by the informatization guidance institution.

The prepared design documents must be submitted to the relevant institution for review.

The relevant institution must review the submitted design documents within the specified period, approve or reject them, and notify the institutions, enterprises, and organizations

that prepared the design documents.

Approved designs must be registered with the relevant informatization guidance institution.

#### **Article 18 (Construction of Informatization Targets)**

Institutions, enterprises, and organizations must construct information communication infrastructure, information systems, and data bases according to the approved design documents.

Approved design documents cannot be arbitrarily changed, and if it is unavoidable to change the design documents, re-approval must be obtained according to the specified procedures.

#### **Article 19 (Security of Informatization Targets)**

Institutions, enterprises, and organizations must establish security measures for informatization targets according to the specified standards and register them after obtaining the relevant review.

Informatization targets that have not been reviewed or registered cannot be operated.

#### **Article 20 (Operation Inspection of Informatization Targets)**

Institutions, enterprises, and organizations must undergo operation inspection if they intend to operate informatization targets.

Operation inspection of informatization targets is conducted by the operation inspection institution or an institution entrusted by the informatization guidance institution.

The operation inspection institution and the institution entrusted with the operation inspection must conduct the inspection within the specified period and notify the institutions, enterprises, and organizations of the results.

If the operation inspection fails, the inspection must be retaken.

#### **Article 21 (Organization of Operating Units for Informatization Targets)**

Institutions, enterprises, and organizations that intend to operate informatization targets can organize operating units according to their circumstances. In this case, they must register with the informatization guidance institution.

#### **Article 22 (Management and Operation of Informatization Targets)**

Institutions, enterprises, and organizations that pass the operation inspection can manage and operate informatization targets independently or by entrustment. In this case, they must manage and operate informatization targets according to the relevant documents such as the operation guide and standard operating procedures.

#### **Article 23 (Formation of Information Resources)**

Institutions, enterprises, and organizations must form information resources for their informatization according to the specified standards and approved materials.

**Article 24 (Management and Utilization of Information Resources)**

Institutions, enterprises, and organizations must establish proper management methods for each type of information resource and manage information resources responsibly.

Institutions, enterprises, organizations, and citizens must not lose or damage information resources during the management and utilization process.

**Chapter 4: Strengthening the Material and Technical Foundation of the Informatization Sector****Article 25 (Construction of Information Communication Infrastructure)**

The central informatization guidance institution and relevant institutions must rationally construct and continuously improve information communication networks and sectoral and regional information service bases to complete the information communication infrastructure.

**Article 26 (Specialization of the Information Industry)**

The central informatization guidance institution and relevant institutions must continuously improve the specialization level of institutions and enterprises in the information industry sector to complete the sectoral structure of the information industry.

**Article 27 (Planned Production and Localization of Information Technology Tools)**

The informatization guidance institution and relevant institutions and enterprises must systematically produce and guarantee information technology tools such as information equipment and software necessary for informatization and actively develop and introduce our style of information technology tools to increase the localization ratio in informatization activities.

**Article 28 (Introduction of Advanced Science and Technology)**

The informatization guidance institution and institutions, enterprises, and organizations must actively accept the achievements of advanced science and technology in informatization activities.

**Article 29 (Training of Informatization Talents)**

The central education guidance institution and relevant institutions, enterprises, and organizations must systematically train informatization talents to actively realize the country's informatization.

**Article 30 (Improvement and Evaluation of Informatization Level)**

Institutions, enterprises, and organizations must continuously improve the informatization level of their sectors, regions, and units.

The central informatization guidance institution must properly establish informatization

level evaluation indicators and comprehensively analyze and evaluate the country's informatization development level.

### **Article 31 (Introduction and Promotion of Informatization Achievements, Political and Material Evaluation)**

The informatization guidance institution and publication and broadcasting institutions, and relevant institutions must widely introduce and promote the achievements and experiences in informatization through various forms and methods such as informatization achievement exhibitions, TV, newspapers, and broadcasts.

The central informatization guidance institution organizes and operates an annual informatization achievement exhibition and awards various certificates, medals, trophies, and prizes to units, exhibited targets, researchers, technicians, and workers who receive excellent evaluations.

### **Article 32 (Ensuring the Effectiveness of Informatization)**

Institutions, enterprises, and organizations must establish appropriate organizational and administrative measures to enhance the effectiveness of informatization in line with its realization.

### **Article 33 (Investment in Informatization Activities)**

The national planning institution and financial institutions systematically increase the investment share for informatization activities in the national budget, and institutions, enterprises, and organizations actively utilize local budgets and enterprise funds for informatization activities.

### **Article 34 (Informatization Fund)**

The central informatization guidance institution and financial banking institutions secure and rationally utilize the informatization fund to activate informatization activities. Relevant institutions, enterprises, and organizations must adhere to the established order regarding the payment and utilization of the informatization fund.

### **Article 35 (Exemption from Social Mobilization and Preferential Treatment)**

The informatization guidance institution, labor administration guidance institution, local people's committees, and relevant institutions must not assign social tasks or mobilize institutions, enterprises, organizations, researchers, and technicians producing software products for tasks unrelated to informatization activities, and must fully guarantee their working and living conditions to enable them to fully concentrate on informatization activities.

### **Article 36 (Agreements on Exchange and Cooperation Related to Informatization)**

Institutions, enterprises, and organizations must agree with the central informatization

guidance institution when conducting exchange and cooperation related to informatization, such as joint development, exhibitions, and joint ventures with international organizations or institutions, organizations, and individuals from other countries.

## **Chapter 5: Guidance and Control of Informatization Activities**

### **Article 37 (Basic Requirements for Guidance and Control of Informatization Activities)**

Strengthening guidance and control of informatization activities is an important guarantee for accurately implementing the state's informatization policy.

The state strengthens guidance and supervision of informatization activities according to the demands of current development.

### **Article 38 (Guidance of Informatization Activities)**

Guidance of informatization activities is conducted under the unified leadership of the Cabinet by the central informatization guidance institution.

The Cabinet and the central informatization guidance institution must regularly grasp and guide the status of informatization activities.

### **Article 39 (Organization and Operation of Ad Hoc Committees)**

To strengthen the unified command function of informatization activities in national and economic management, an ad hoc national informatization promotion committee is organized and operated.

For the review of plans, designs, and budgets of informatization targets, ad hoc central informatization target review committees are established in the central informatization guidance institution, and sectoral or regional informatization target review committees are established in relevant institutions.

### **Article 40 (Supervision and Control of Informatization Activities)**

Supervision and control of informatization activities are conducted by relevant supervision and control institutions.

Relevant supervision and control institutions must regularly supervise and control institutions, enterprises, organizations, and citizens to ensure they strictly adhere to the established order in informatization activities.

### **Article 41 (Suspension and Punishment)**

The operation of informatization targets is suspended in the following cases:

1. If informatization targets are operated without the relevant review or registration.
2. If informatization targets are operated without undergoing operation inspection.

3. If informatization targets are not managed and operated according to the established order.

**Article 42 (Warnings, Severe Warnings, Unpaid Labor, Labor Education, Demotion, Dismissal, Removal from Office)**

The following cases result in warnings, severe warnings, or punishment of up to three months of unpaid labor or labor education for responsible persons:

1. If informatization plans are not properly established or registered in time, hindering the planned and balanced development of national informatization.
2. If the implemented informatization plans are not met or the execution status is falsely reported.
3. If contracts related to the design, construction, and management of informatization targets are not properly fulfilled, hindering informatization activities.
4. If standardization and specification activities are not properly conducted or informatization is realized contrary to standards and specifications.
5. If design documents are not prepared or reviewed and approved, or if informatization targets are constructed contrary to approved design documents.
6. If security measures for informatization targets are not reviewed or registered, and informatization targets are operated.
7. If informatization targets are operated without undergoing operation inspection.
8. If informatization targets are not managed and operated according to the established order.
9. If information resources are not formed according to specified standards and approved materials, or if information resources are not properly managed, resulting in loss or damage.
10. If the order regarding the payment and utilization of the informatization fund is violated.
11. If exchange and cooperation related to informatization are conducted without the agreement of the central informatization guidance institution.
12. If other established orders related to informatization activities are violated.



Repeated violations of the above acts or causing property damage of 20,000 won or more result in punishment of more than three months of unpaid labor, labor education, demotion, dismissal, or removal from office.

**Article 43 (Criminal Responsibility)**

If acts violating this law constitute a crime, the responsible persons are subject to criminal responsibility according to the relevant provisions of the criminal law.