

Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Radio Wave Management Law

Adopted by Decree No. 1940 of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly on August 23, Juche 95 (2006)

Amended by Decree No. 2052 of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly on December 21, Juche 100 (2011)

Amended and supplemented by Decree No. 556 of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly on June 25, Juche 104 (2015)

Amended and supplemented by Decree No. 176 of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly on December 11, Juche 108 (2019)

Amended and supplemented by Decree No. 1473 of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly on October 31, Juche 112 (2023)

Chapter 1: Basics of the Radio Wave Management Law

Article 1 (Mission of the Radio Wave Management Law)

The Radio Wave Management Law of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea aims to strictly establish systems and order in the technical inspection, registration, and use of electronic and radio wave equipment to protect national security and interests, eliminate radio wave interference, and ensure smooth wireless communication.

Article 2 (Principles of Technical Inspection and Registration of Electronic and Radio Wave Equipment)

The technical inspection and registration of electronic and radio wave equipment, including wireless communication equipment such as satellite and mobile communications, broadcasting equipment, computers with information processing and wireless network functions, and equipment that generates electromagnetic waves or affects wireless communication and broadcasting during use, is a crucial task to ensure national security. The state ensures that institutions, enterprises, organizations, and citizens accurately conduct the technical inspection and registration of electronic and radio wave equipment.

Article 3 (Principles of Using Electronic and Radio Wave Equipment)

Proper use of electronic and radio wave equipment is an important condition for stable management of frequency resources and ensuring the confidentiality of wireless

communication. The state ensures that the standards and technical regulations for the use of electronic and radio wave equipment are strictly followed.

Article 4 (Investment Principles in the Radio Wave Management Sector)

The state systematically increases investment in the radio wave management sector, strengthens scientific research, and actively adopts advanced scientific and technological achievements to continuously enhance the modernization and informatization level of radio wave management.

Article 5 (Guidance on Radio Wave Management Work)

The radio wave supervision agency guides the radio wave management work. The radio wave supervision agency must regularly grasp and guide the technical inspection, registration, and usage status of electronic and radio wave equipment, including wireless communication equipment, broadcasting, and anti-broadcasting wave suppression equipment.

Article 6 (Supervision and Control of Radio Wave Management Work)

The supervision and control of radio wave management work are carried out by the radio wave supervision agency and the relevant supervisory and control agencies. The radio wave supervision agency and the relevant supervisory and control agencies must strictly supervise and control the technical inspection, registration, and usage status of electronic and radio wave equipment, including wireless communication equipment, broadcasting, and anti-broadcasting wave suppression equipment.

Article 7 (Subjects of the Law)

This law applies to institutions, enterprises, organizations, and citizens involved in the research, development, production, manufacturing, sale, import, or use of electronic and radio wave equipment. This law also applies to the representative offices, foreign-invested enterprises, and foreigners in our country's territory.

Article 8 (Application of International Agreements)

International treaties related to radio wave management that our country has approved have the same effect as this law.

Chapter 2: Technical Inspection and Registration of Electronic and Radio Wave Equipment

Article 9 (Application for Technical Inspection and Registration of Electronic and Radio Wave Equipment)

Electronic and radio wave equipment must undergo mandatory technical inspection and registration. Electronic and radio wave equipment specified separately by the radio wave supervision agency may only undergo technical inspection without registration. Institutions, enterprises, organizations, and citizens intending to undergo technical inspection or registration of electronic and radio wave equipment must submit an application for technical inspection and registration to the radio wave supervision agency. For electronic equipment such as computers, an application with a two-dimensional identification code must be submitted. For radio wave equipment, an application specifying the user's name, address, product name, purpose, purchase route, intended frequency, output, and communication time must be submitted.

Article 10 (Processing of Applications for Technical Inspection and Registration of Electronic and Radio Wave Equipment)

The radio wave supervision agency that receives the application for technical inspection and registration of electronic and radio wave equipment must review it within 10 days and notify the relevant institutions, enterprises, organizations, and citizens of the results. If the electronic and radio wave equipment has undergone technical inspection, a radio wave certificate will be issued. If registered, a registration certificate will be issued.

Article 11 (Technical Inspection of Electronic and Radio Wave Equipment)

The following electronic and radio wave equipment must undergo technical inspection by the radio wave supervision agency:

1. Electronic and radio wave equipment intended for sale, supply, research and development, production, or import.
2. Electronic and radio wave equipment with wireless control and navigation reception functions.
3. Electronic and radio wave equipment used in wireless communication networks such as satellite and mobile communications, and local wireless networks.
4. Electronic and radio wave equipment installed in mobile objects such as cars, trains, and ships.
5. Electronic and radio wave equipment donated by representative offices, international organizations, institutions, enterprises, agencies, and foreigners of other countries residing in our country.
6. Electronic and radio wave equipment of our country's representative offices, agencies, and enterprises residing in other countries. Technical inspection is

conducted by the radio wave supervision agency, and electronic and radio wave equipment specified separately by the radio wave supervision agency may be inspected at the location of the equipment.

Article 12 (Registration of Electronic and Radio Wave Equipment)

Institutions, enterprises, organizations, and citizens must register electronic and radio wave equipment purchased within 10 days with the radio wave supervision agency. In this case, electronic and radio wave equipment that has not undergone technical inspection must be inspected before registration. If the content of registered electronic and radio wave equipment changes, it must be re-registered with the radio wave supervision agency. The registration certificate of electronic and radio wave equipment of institutions, enterprises, and organizations must be renewed with the radio wave supervision agency before the expiration of the usage period.

Article 13 (Approval for Research, Development, Production of Electronic and Radio Wave Equipment)

Institutions, enterprises, and organizations intending to research, develop, or produce electronic and radio wave equipment must obtain approval from the radio wave supervision agency before undergoing scientific and technological review.

Article 14 (Approval for Sale, Supply, and Repair Services of Electronic and Radio Wave Equipment)

Institutions, enterprises, and organizations intending to sell, supply, or provide repair services for electronic and radio wave equipment must obtain approval from the radio wave supervision agency. In this case, broadcasting reception equipment such as TVs, digital TV signal converters, and radios must adopt anti-broadcasting blocking certification methods and undergo technical inspection before sale and supply. The sale and repair services of electronic and radio wave equipment must be conducted at designated locations, and the status of sale, supply, and repair services must be reported to the radio wave supervision agency monthly.

Article 15 (Approval for Import of Electronic and Radio Wave Equipment)

Institutions, enterprises, organizations, and citizens intending to import electronic and radio wave equipment from other countries must obtain approval from the radio wave supervision agency. The central customs guidance agency must regularly notify the radio wave supervision agency of the import status of electronic and radio wave equipment.

Article 16 (Approval for Installation, Structural Modification, Transfer, and Disposal of Electronic and Radio Wave Equipment)

Institutions, enterprises, organizations, and citizens intending to install, structurally modify, transfer, dispose of, or relocate the installation site of electronic and radio wave equipment must obtain approval from the radio wave supervision agency.

Article 17 (Management of Electronic and Radio Wave Equipment)

Institutions, enterprises, and organizations must install electronic and radio wave equipment at designated locations and manage them according to technical regulations. If electronic and radio wave equipment is not in use, it must be stored in a safe place, and if intending to move or export electronic and radio wave equipment to another country, approval for carrying and moving or external export must be obtained from the radio wave supervision agency.

Article 18 (Payment of Technical Inspection, Registration, and Frequency Usage Fees for Electronic and Radio Wave Equipment)

Institutions, enterprises, organizations, and citizens must pay the relevant fees when undergoing technical inspection or registration of electronic and radio wave equipment or when allocated wireless communication frequencies for use. The task of determining fees is handled by the national pricing agency.

Chapter 3: Use of Electronic and Radio Wave Equipment

Article 19 (Basic Requirements for the Use of Electronic and Radio Wave Equipment)

Institutions, enterprises, organizations, and citizens must comply with scientific and technological requirements and established order in the use of electronic and radio wave equipment, including wireless communication equipment, broadcasting, and anti-broadcasting wave suppression equipment. Unauthorized electronic and radio wave equipment cannot be used.

Article 20 (Allocation of Wireless Communication Resources)

Wireless communication resources such as frequencies, output, modulation methods, call and identification codes, communication locations, and communication times used in wireless communication are allocated by the radio wave supervision agency. Institutions, enterprises, organizations, and citizens using wireless communication through electronic and radio wave equipment must comply with the wireless communication resources allocated by the radio wave supervision agency and must not violate or transfer them to other institutions, enterprises, organizations, and citizens. If intending to change the allocated wireless communication resources, approval must be obtained from the radio wave supervision agency.

Article 21 (Wireless Communication Targets, Call Lists, and Communication Methods)

Institutions, enterprises, organizations, and citizens using electronic and radio wave equipment for wireless communication must communicate according to the targets, call lists, and communication methods approved by the radio wave supervision agency and must not disclose confidential information during wireless communication. Wireless communication to report emergencies such as distress, natural disasters, and piracy can be conducted without approval.

Article 22 (Configuration and Use of Communication Networks)

Institutions, enterprises, organizations, and citizens intending to configure and use wireless communication networks such as satellite communication, mobile communication, wired and wireless communication, and local wireless networks, or to conduct relay communication, must obtain approval from the radio wave supervision agency. Communication through other countries' communication networks without approval within the territory of the Republic is not allowed.

Article 23 (Use of Mobile Communication Equipment)

Institutions, enterprises, organizations, and citizens must adhere to the established order in carrying and using mobile communication terminal equipment such as mobile phones.

Article 24 (Test Communication)

Institutions, enterprises, and organizations can conduct test communication for a certain period to inspect the normal state of electronic and radio wave equipment or to emit test waves. In this case, approval from the radio wave supervision agency is required.

Article 25 (Computer Security Measures)

Institutions, enterprises, organizations, and citizens using computers must take appropriate security measures to prevent the leakage of confidential information through radio waves. If intending to use a computer registered under an individual's name for institutional work, only those that have passed the technical inspection by the radio wave supervision agency can be registered and used by institutions, enterprises, and organizations.

Article 26 (Ensuring the Safety of Wireless Communication)

Institutions, enterprises, and organizations conducting wireless communication must set up wireless communication rooms in secure locations and ensure the confidentiality of wireless communication.

Article 27 (Approval for Suspension of Wireless Communication Stations)

Institutions, enterprises, and organizations operating wireless communication stations must obtain approval from the radio wave supervision agency if they intend to temporarily suspend or dismantle the wireless communication station.

Article 28 (Wireless Communication Workers)

Wireless communication must be conducted by qualified full-time or part-time wireless communication workers. The qualification examination for wireless communication workers is conducted by the ad hoc wireless communication worker qualification examination committee, and the issuance of wireless communication worker qualification certificates is done by the radio wave supervision agency. The central maritime supervision agency must examine and issue certificates for global maritime distress and safety system wireless communication operators only to members who possess wireless communication worker qualification certificates.

Article 29 (Use of Broadcasting and Anti-Broadcasting Wave Suppression Equipment)

Institutions, enterprises, and organizations using broadcasting and anti-broadcasting wave suppression equipment must adhere to the technical standards such as frequency, output, service area, and electric field strength approved by the radio wave supervision agency. Power supply institutions and enterprises must ensure the normal supply of power required for the operation of broadcasting and anti-broadcasting wave suppression equipment. The operation command of broadcasting and anti-broadcasting wave suppression equipment is given by the radio wave supervision agency.

Article 30 (Use of Broadcasting Reception Equipment)

Institutions, enterprises, organizations, and citizens must fix and use broadcasting reception equipment to the nationally approved channels and frequencies. Only nationally approved institutions, enterprises, and organizations can develop and install channels and frequencies for broadcasting reception equipment, including TVs and radios. It is prohibited to set or fix broadcasting reception equipment, including TVs and radios, to channels and frequencies of other countries or hostile broadcasts, or to release the fixed channels and frequencies.

Article 31 (Use of High-Frequency Equipment and Sound Amplification Equipment)

Institutions, enterprises, organizations, and citizens using high-frequency equipment and sound amplification equipment must take necessary measures to prevent interference waves within the specified limits and ensure that broadcasts from other countries or

hostile broadcasts are not received. High-frequency equipment and sound amplification equipment without shielding measures cannot be used.

Article 32 (Operation of Broadcasting and Anti-Broadcasting Wave Suppression Equipment)

Institutions, enterprises, and organizations using broadcasting and anti-broadcasting wave suppression equipment must adhere to the standard operating procedures and immediately correct any errors in frequency and output measurements, notifying the radio wave supervision agency.

Article 33 (Documents for the Use of Electronic and Radio Wave Equipment)

Institutions, enterprises, and organizations using electronic and radio wave equipment must have the necessary documents. The task of determining the types and formats of documents is handled by the radio wave supervision agency.

Article 34 (Request for Data Related to Radio Wave Management)

The radio wave supervision agency can request data related to radio wave management from institutions, enterprises, organizations, and citizens. The relevant institutions, enterprises, organizations, and citizens must respond to the requests of the radio wave supervision agency in a timely manner.

Article 35 (Frequency Adjustment)

For nationwide frequency adjustment, an ad hoc frequency adjustment committee is established in the relevant institution. The ad hoc frequency adjustment committee must reasonably adjust the frequencies used by institutions, enterprises, organizations, and citizens.

Article 36 (Reporting)

Institutions, enterprises, organizations, and citizens must report to the radio wave supervision agency and relevant institutions if there are any violations of the technical inspection, registration, and usage order of wireless communication equipment, broadcasting, and anti-broadcasting wave suppression equipment. The radio wave supervision agency and relevant institutions must investigate and take appropriate measures upon receiving the report.

Chapter 4: Legal Responsibilities

Article 37 (Suspension, Demotion, and Revocation of Qualifications)

If wireless communication is conducted in violation of the established wireless communication safety order, qualifications may be suspended, demoted, or revoked depending on the circumstances.

Article 38 (Suspension Penalty)

If wireless communication is conducted in violation of the established wireless communication resources such as frequency, output, call sign, and communication time, the use of electronic and radio wave equipment will be suspended.

Article 39 (Fines and Confiscation Penalties)

In the following cases, fines ranging from 1 million to 15 million won for institutions, enterprises, and organizations, and from 100,000 to 1 million won for citizens, or confiscation of the relevant electronic and radio wave equipment will be imposed depending on the circumstances:

1. If electronic and radio wave equipment is used without undergoing technical inspection or registration.
2. If electronic and radio wave equipment is researched, developed, produced, sold, repaired, imported, installed, structurally modified, transferred, moved, used, or disposed of without approval.
3. If wireless communication is conducted in violation of wireless communication resources or if confidential information is disclosed during wireless communication.
4. If wireless communication networks such as satellite communication, mobile communication, wired and wireless communication, and local wireless networks are configured, used, or relay communication is conducted without approval, or if communication is conducted through other countries' communication networks without approval.
5. If test communication is conducted without approval.
6. If research and development mobile phones are transferred to other institutions, enterprises, organizations, and citizens, or if unauthorized programs are installed on mobile phones, or if the device identification number of mobile phones is changed without approval.
7. If a computer registered under an individual's name is used for institutional work without registering it with the institution, enterprise, or organization.

8. If wireless communication is conducted by unqualified full-time or part-time wireless communication workers.
9. If technical standards are not adhered to in the use of broadcasting and anti-broadcasting wave suppression equipment, or if high-frequency equipment and sound amplification equipment without shielding measures are used.
10. If broadcasting reception equipment, including TVs and radios, is not fixed to the approved channels and frequencies.
11. If the tuner of a TV that cannot adopt the anti-broadcasting blocking certification method is not separated, or if the anti-broadcasting blocking certification method program is developed without approval, or if repair services for electronic and radio wave equipment are not properly conducted.
12. If documents related to the use of electronic and radio wave equipment are not properly managed, resulting in loss, or if the usage period extension is not done in a timely manner.
13. If electronic and radio wave equipment is smuggled or illegally traded.
14. If unauthorized publications are collected, viewed, or distributed, or if electronic and radio wave equipment is used for illegal purposes.

Article 40 (Warning and Severe Warning Penalties)

In the following cases, a warning penalty will be given to the responsible person:

1. If electronic and radio wave equipment is used without undergoing technical inspection or registration.
2. If electronic and radio wave equipment is researched, developed, produced, sold, supplied, repaired, imported, installed, structurally modified, transferred, moved, used, or disposed of without approval, or if the installation site of electronic and radio wave equipment is relocated without approval.
3. If test communication is conducted without approval.
4. If wireless communication is conducted by unqualified full-time or part-time wireless communication workers, or if the issuance of wireless communication worker qualification certificates is not properly conducted.
5. If technical standards are not adhered to in the use of broadcasting and anti-broadcasting wave suppression equipment.

6. If the normal power supply required for the operation of broadcasting and anti-broadcasting wave suppression equipment is not ensured.
7. If social tasks and labor mobilization tasks are given to institutions, enterprises, and organizations responsible for anti-broadcasting blocking and suppression work, hindering the anti-broadcasting blocking and suppression work. If the acts in the preceding paragraphs are severe, a severe warning penalty will be given.

Article 41 (Unpaid Labor and Labor Education Penalties)

In the following cases, the responsible person will be given unpaid labor or labor education penalties of up to three months:

1. If wireless communication is conducted without being allocated wireless communication resources, or if allocated wireless communication resources are transferred to other institutions, enterprises, organizations, and citizens, or if confidential information is disclosed during wireless communication.
2. If wireless communication networks such as satellite communication, mobile communication, wired and wireless communication, and local wireless networks are configured, used, or relay communication is conducted without approval, or if communication is conducted through other countries' communication networks without approval.
3. If electronic and radio wave equipment is used without approval, causing radio wave interference.
4. If unauthorized programs are installed on mobile phones, or if the device identification number of mobile phones is changed without approval.
5. If the tuner of a TV that cannot adopt the anti-broadcasting blocking certification method is not separated, or if broadcasting reception equipment that does not adopt the anti-broadcasting blocking certification method is produced, sold, or used.
6. If broadcasting reception equipment, including TVs and radios, is not fixed to the approved channels and frequencies, or if the fixed channels and frequencies are released.
7. If the development, adoption, technical inspection, and repair services of broadcasting reception equipment, including TVs and radios, are not properly conducted.

8. If electronic and radio wave equipment is smuggled or illegally traded, or if unauthorized electronic and radio wave equipment is used. If the acts in the preceding paragraphs are severe, unpaid labor or labor education penalties of more than three months will be given.

Article 42 (Suspension, Dismissal, and Removal Penalties)

If severe consequences arise from violating the radio wave management order, suspension, dismissal, or removal penalties will be given to the responsible person.

Article 43 (Criminal Responsibility)

If the acts violating this law constitute a crime, criminal responsibility will be imposed on the responsible person according to the relevant provisions of the Criminal Law and the Law on Rejecting Reactionary Ideology and Culture.

Chapter 5: Supplementary Provisions

Article 44 (Effective Date)

The amended and supplemented Radio Wave Management Law adopted by Decree No. 1473 of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly on October 31, Juche 112 (2023) will be effective from November 15, Juche 112 (2023).