

Background The NBTC And the Office of the NBTC

Background:

The Act on Organization to Assign Radio Frequency and to Regulate the Broadcasting and Telecommunications Service B.E. 2553 (2010) which has become effective since 20 December 2010 prescribed that there shall be the National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission (NBTC) having powers and duties to assign the frequencies and to regulate the broadcasting and telecommunications businesses with regard to the utmost public benefit at national and local levels in education, culture, state security, and other public interest as well as free and fair competition. However, Section 80 of the Act prescribed that during the absence of the NBTC under this Act, the National Telecommunications Commission (NTC) who was appointed under the Act on Organization to Assign Radio Frequency and to Regulate the Broadcasting and Telecommunications Services B.E. 2543 (2000) shall continue to perform the duties as the NBTC under this Act except for the Broadcasting Business Act, which shall be in accordance with that law.

On 7 October 2011, the Royal Proclamation appointed the National Broadcasting and telecommunications Commission, under Section 17 of Act on Organization to Assign Radio Frequency and to Regulate the Broadcasting and Telecommunications Services B.E. 2553 (2010), comprising eleven person as follow: Air Chief Marshal Thares Punsri as Chairman, Colonel Natee Sukonrat as Vice-Chairman, Colonel Settapong Malisuwan as Vice-Chairman, and other eight commissioners who are Lieutenant General Perapong Manakit, Mr. Suthiphon Thaveechaiyagarn, Police Colonel Taweesak Ngamsanga, Mr. Prasert Silphipat, Mr. Thawatchai Jittrapanun, Ms. Supinya Klangnarong, Mr. Prawit Leesathapornvongsa, and General Sukit Khamasunthorn.

The NBTC has commenced on their duties since 7 October 2011 onwards. However, during the absence of the NBTC, from 1 January to 6 October 2011, the NTC who was appointed under the Act on Organization to Assign Radio Frequency and to Regulate the Broadcasting and Telecommunications Services B.E. 2543 (2000) had acted on behalf on the NBTC for all duties and responsibilities as prescribed be the Transitory Provision of the above-mentioned Act.

