

**[ DOTC DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR NO. 94-277, July  
01, 1994 ]**

**INTERNATIONAL SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS POLICY**

The 1987 Constitution fully recognizes the vital role of communications in nation building and provides for the emergence of communications structures suitable to the needs and aspirations of the nation.

It is the vision of the Government to become a newly industrialized country by the year 2000. Moreover, the Government's goal for the telecommunications sector is vigorous growth and development through democratization and intensified private sector participation in an environment of fair and healthy competition. The provision of modern, efficient, and adequate telecommunication facilities and services is a catalyst towards the achievement and realization of this vision. One of the technologies that can contribute significantly to the provision of telecommunications links within the country and the rest of the world is satellite communications.

Today, the international satellite communications industry is encountering unprecedented changes. Challenges to the established order are being mounted by new competitors. In addition, innovative technological developments are pushing satellite services within reach of an increasing number of users. Hence administrations are now implementing structural alterations to cope with these phenomena.

Therefore, in keeping with stated Government policies, and to position the country so that it can make best use of the new satellite-based services and technologies being brought into use or planned for near-term implementation, it is appropriate at this time to take steps to broaden access to international satellite systems, in order to permit the public to experience the benefits to be derived from greater competition and new technologies.

Based on the foregoing, and pursuant to Executive Order No. 125-A which mandates the Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC) to guide Government and private investments in the establishment, operation and maintenance of international switching systems for incoming and outgoing telecommunications, Executive Order No. 59 which prescribes the policy guidelines for compulsory interconnection of authorized public telecommunications carriers in order to create a universally accessible and fully integrated nationwide telecommunications network and thereby encourage greater private sector investment in telecommunications, and such other relevant laws as are now existing or to be issued, the DOTC hereby promulgates the following policy directives:

Article I  
Definition of Terms