

**[NTC MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 3-1-91,
January 30, 1991]**

**RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE REGISTRATION AND
LICENSING OF SATELLITE TELEVISION RECEIVE ONLY (TVRO)
IN THE PHILIPPINES**

Pursuant to the provisions of Act 3846, as amended, and of Executive Order No. 546, the following rules and regulations governing the Registration and Licensing of Satellite Earth Television Receive Only Station (TVRO) in the Philippines, are hereby promulgated.

SECTION 1. Definition of Terms —

1.1 Satellite Television Receive Only (TVRO) Station — a station whereby sound and video signals are received directly from a satellite.

1.2 Non-Commercial TVRO (NC-TVRO) Station — a TVRO station intended for personal receiving only by an individual and his immediate family members or group of individuals and for no monetary or material considerations for its use.

1.3 Commercial TVRO (C-TVRO) Station — a TVRO station operated for monetary or material considerations.

1.4 Registration Certificate — a certificate issued by the NTC authorizing the holder to install and operate a non-commercial TVRO station.

1.5 Permit to Purchase — authority issued by the NTC to person, firm, company, or corporation, authorizing the holder to purchase TVRO equipment and its accessories from authorized dealers.

1.6 Permit to Possess — a permit issued by the NTC authorizing a person, firm, company, association, or corporation to possess TVRO equipment and its accessories.

1.7 Construction Permit — a permit or authority issued by the NTC for the construction or installation of a commercial Television Receive Only (TVRO) satellite and its accessories.

1.8 Radio Station License — a written authority issued by the NTC to a person, firm, company, association, or corporation authorizing the holder to operate a commercial TVRO station during the period specified in the said instrument or authorization.

SECTION 2. General provisions

2.1 The construction and operation of non-commercial TVRO stations require a Registration Certificate from the NTC and a prior permit to purchase/possess said NC TVRO.

2.2 The purchase, construction, and operation of Commercial TVRO station require a prior permit to purchase, possess, construct and a radio station license.

2.3 The use of received program materials by TVRO stations shall be subject to existing domestic and international copyright laws applicable thereto.

2.4 The use of any device, instrument, or apparatus for the de-scrambling or decoding by TVRO station is prohibited unless a written authority is first secured either from the program originator/producer or network sending the program via satellite or from the appropriate authority to which receiving of such program material is normally secured.

2.5 Any applicant, whether an individual, group, association or company may be authorized to purchase, install and operate a NC-TVRO station provided that the use is solely for non-commercial purposes only, as follows;

2.5.1 Individual applicant who shall use the TVRO station for his personal or his immediate family's viewing only

2.5.2 A person, group, association or company who shall use the TVRO station for their personal use and purposes such as a club station, homeowners association and provided that no fees are charged or collected from members for their use and provided further that they do not in any way re-distribute the received signal.

2.5.3 Government agencies, instrumentalities, or offices, provided no fees are charged or collected from the public.

2.5.4 Foreign government, entities, UN agencies provided its use is limited to their premises only.

2.6 Individuals, company, corporation, commercial/business establishments may be authorized to purchase, install and operate TVRO stations for commercial purposes. For purposes of this circular, a TVRO station is considered commercial if the program received is taped and/or received for the purpose of selling, leasing, rebroadcasting, simultaneous-casting, or re-showing to Cable TV networks/facilities.

2.7 The authority to operate C-TVRO station shall be subject to the following conditions:

2.7.1 Applications for C-TVRO permits and licenses shall include prior clearances and other authorizations as may be required.

2.7.2 Applicant shall have complied with Act 3846, as amended.

2.7.3 Applicant shall have complied with the applicable Rules and Regulations imposed by the Videogram Regulatory Board (VRB) and the Movie and Television Classification and Review Board (MTCRB).