

Malawi revises Communication Act to regulate ICT

 By [Gregory Gondwe](#)

17 Aug 2009

Transformation in information, communication and technology (ICT) has forced the Malawi government to start reviewing its 1998 Communications Act. Participants from the country's telecommunications sector and broadcasting companies met in the lakeshore town of Mangochi where they made their contributions on the review.

"Since [the] Communications Act was passed in 1998 a lot of technological advancements have occurred and the number of people having access to modern communications services like cell phones or the internet has increased," said Information and Civic Education Minister, Leckford Thotho.

The minister said ten years of the legislation's existence is too long and there is need to continuously review it to allow flexibility so that it is able to tackle challenges faced by the communications sector.

"There has been an increase in Internet service providers and broadcasting houses that belong to private institutions and communities and there is need to have proper legal instruments for proper regulation.

According to Thotho, a series of meetings are scheduled to call all sectors involved in the communication sector including the media to have their input on how the act should be revised.

ABOUT GREGORY GONDWE

Gregory Gondwe is a Malawian journalist who started writing in 1993. He is also a media consultant assisting several international journalists pursuing assignments in Malawi. He holds a Diploma and an Intermediate Certificate in Journalism among other media-related certificates. He can be contacted on gregorygondwe@gmail.com. Follow him on Twitter at [@Kalipochi](#).

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