Research Center
Expertise Agency of DPR RI
Gd. Nusantara I Lt. 2
Jl. Jend. Gatot Subroto
Jakarta Pusat - 10270
☎ 5715409 🖷 5715245
✉ infosingkat@gmail.com

DOMESTIC POLITICAL DIVISION

INFO Singkat

A BRIEF STUDY OF ACTUAL AND STRATEGIC ISSUES

Vol.XIII, No. 9/I/Puslit/May/2021

THE URGENCE OF DIGITALIZATION POLICY BROADCASTING IN INDONESIA

25

Siti Chaerani Dewanti

Abstract

The government has determined the Private Broadcasting Institution (LPS) as the winner of the Multiplexing (mux) selection for Terrestrial Digital TV Broadcasting. The government hopes that the LPS can move quickly in building digital broadcasting infrastructure. This paper discusses the digitalization of broadcasting and the urgency of its policies in Indonesia. Digital broadcasting is something that cannot be avoided, especially since analog technology will become obsolete and more expensive to operate. The advantages and benefits of digital TV should be an urgency to be implemented immediately. But in reality the realization of digital TV is often delayed, even though it has been initiated since 1997. This is because there is no regulation that regulates digital broadcasting. The presence of the Job Creation Act is the starting point for the progress of broadcasting digitization. Commission I of DPR RI needs to immediately complete the revision of the Broadcasting Law for the implementation of a more organized digital broadcasting policy. DPR RI also needs to oversee the transition period and ensure that there is a socialization of digital TV migration to the public.

Introduction

The journey of digitizing broadcasting in Indonesia entered a new phase after the government determined the winner of the 2021 Terrestrial Digital TV Broadcast Multiplexing (mux) selection winner. The Minister of Communication and Information Technology (Menkominfo) in a press release stated that the determination was part of the broadcasting digitization policy and the implementation of Analog Switch Off (ASO) to advance the broadcasting industry in Indonesia. ASO is a complete cessation of analog broadcasting and the initiation of full digital broadcasting.

The Private Broadcasting Institutions (LPS) designated as Mux Providers for Terrestrial Digital Television Broadcasts are Emtek Group, Metro TV, RCTI-MNC, and TransTV, each of which has 9 service areas; Viva Group gets 5 service areas; and NTV

PUSLIT BKD

9 772088 235001

Group with 2 service areas. In total there are 43 mux services for 22 service areas or provinces.

The Minister of Communication and Informatics further stated that the winner of the selection-winning mux has the right to manage a maximum of 50% of the capacity of the mux broadcast channel for its affiliated broadcast program. Meanwhile, the remaining broadcast capacity must be leased to LPS, Local Broadcasting Institutions (LPL), or Community Broadcasting Institutions (LPK) through a mechanism determined by the mux organizer together with LPS, LPL, and LPK.

Meanwhile, TVRI as a Public Broadcasting Institution (LPP), also has broadcast slots in each broadcasting service area. The Minister of Communication and Information explained that not all slots where TVRI is the organizer of mux are fully utilized by TVRI itself, the remaining reserves can be utilized by LPS, LPL, and LPK.

The government hopes that all selected LPS can move quickly in building infrastructure so that digital broadcasting can be carried out on target (Media Indonesia, May 4, 2021). The target in question is two years after the enactment of Law Number 11 of 2020 concerning Job Creation (UU Cipta Kerja), namely in early November 2022. This paper will discuss broadcasting digitization and the urgency of its policies in Indonesia.

Analog vs Digital Broadcasting

In the book *Digitizing Indonesian Television* published by PR2 Media, it is stated that digitization is a term to explain the process of changing media formats from analogue to digital form. Technically, digitization is the process of changing all forms of information (numbers, words, images, sounds, data, and motion) which are encoded into bits (binary digits). This bit is a character with two options, such as 0 and 1, on and off, as well as yes and no, and whether there is information or not. Thus, it is possible to manipulate and transform data (bitstreaming), including duplication, subtraction, or addition. All types of information are treated not in the original form, but in the same digital form (byte/bit). This simplification can ultimately summarize various forms of information, including letters, sounds, images, colors, motions, and so on all at once into one format so that it can process information for various purposes, such as processing, sending, storing, presenting, all at once in one device. (kompaspedia.kompas.id, 22 December 2020).

Digitalization in broadcasting is an unavoidable thing in today's era of communication technology. Broadcast migration from analog to digital systems has also been carried out in many countries in the world. The differences between analog TV systems and digital TV systems can be seen in Table 1.

Table 1. Differences between Analog TV and Digital TV

	Analog TV	Digital TV
Frequency	VHF/UHF	VHF/UHF whose signal is MPEG-2 digital data conversion
Cost	Free	Free
How to Capture Signal	Analog Antenna	Analog Antenna
Television Type	Smart TVs; Analog TV	Smart TV with digital video broadcasting - terrestrial second generation (DVB-T2)
Picture and Sound Quality	The further away from the television broadcasting station, the weaker the signal, the poorer the picture, and the shadows	There is no image with ant spots (noise), even though there is no signal
Multimedia Ability	Nothing	There are interactive services, can give a rating; there is a schedule of events that have been and will be broadcasted; disaster early warning information
Transmission System	Uses analog signals so it requires one transmitter for each one transmit channel	Using digital signals and more sophisticated multiplexing (mux) technology so that it can transmit 6-8 channels at once

Source: CNN Indonesia and Instagram @siarandigitalindonesia, 2021.

Another advantage with the mux broadcasting concept is that the cost of infrastructure investment can be shared (cost sharing) through payment of channel rental/broadcasting channels (kpi. go.id, January 1, 2021). Thus, mux organizers have the potential to build broadcast antennas massively and can reach areas that do not receive television broadcasts (blankspots).

The policy of migration from analog to digital basically also considers that the policy of using analog technology will be increasingly expensive to operate and will slowly become obsolete technology. Broadcasting digitization is also expected to save on the use of the radio frequency spectrum and leave the rest of the radio frequency spectrum (digital dividend). Since the radio frequency spectrum is a limited resource, this digital dividend must be controlled by the state and used for the benefit of broadcasting in accordance with the policy direction of the national broadcasting system (Budiman, 2016). The digital dividend can later be used to significantly increase the capacity and speed of internet connections that can be used in all sectors.

Digital Broadcasting Regulatory Issues in Indonesia

Despite the many urgency and benefits of digital broadcasting above, in reality the implementation of broadcasting digitization in Indonesia is often delayed. In fact, the idea of migrating to digital TV has been started since 1997. In 2007 the government has tested the Digital Video Broadcasting Terrestrial (DVBT). In 2009 the government prepared a road map for the implementation of digital system migration. Furthermore, in 2012 the government adopted the development of DVBT into second generation DVBT (DVB-T2).

However, these efforts did not produce results because there is still no law-level regulation that regulates digital broadcasting. For now, broadcasting is regulated in Law Number 32 of 2002 concerning Broadcasting (Broadcasting Law). Conceptually, the Broadcasting Law only regulates analog broadcasts, not yet reaching the realm of digital broadcasting. Various regulations issued by the government in the form of ministerial regulations cannot be used as a basis for regulating broadcasting digitization.

The proposal to revise the Broadcasting Law has actually been rolling since DPR for the 2009-2014 period until the current period. The debate between public aspirations and the interests of the broadcasting industry is one of the reasons for the lengthy formulation and discussion of the revised Broadcasting Law (Budiman, 2020). The bright spot on the progress of broadcasting digitalization began after the government and the DPR made a limited revision of the Broadcasting Law through the Job Creation Law. In the Copyright Act Article 72 is added to Article 60A of the Broadcasting Law, namely "Broadcasting is carried out by following technological developments, including broadcasting migration from analog technology to digital technology". The existence of this article is the point of the deadline that the implementation of ASO in Indonesia must be carried out no later than two years after the enactment of the Law.

The presence of the Job Creation Law on broadcasting has indeed become a hope for the realization of broadcasting digitization. However, the law only regulates matters related to ASO. In order for implementation broadcasting digitization can be carried out properly, of course, it is necessary to have stricter regulations governing matters related to the governance of the digital broadcasting industry, including the licensing process, broadcast governance, responsibilities of broadcasters and mux managers, digital dividends, digital broadcast content, and its supervision.

For this reason, it is important for DPR RI and the government to immediately complete and finish the revision of the Broadcasting Law so that it can contain matters that have not been regulated in the Job Creation Law on broadcasting. Support from academics and experts is needed in order to provide critical studies as material input to DPR RI as well as support from stakeholders and community participation so that the process of implementing the digital broadcasting transition can run smoothly.

Closing

The migration of the use of analog broadcasting technology to digital broadcasting marks a new chapter in the digitization of broadcasting in Indonesia. With this digitalization, it is hoped that the government can fulfill the public's right to broadcast quality with cleaner pictures, clearer sound, and more sophisticated technology to remote corners of the country.

The two-year transition period should be enough time to prepare all the tools and infrastructure for the implementation of digital broadcasting in Indonesia. Commission I of DPR RI needs to immediately complete the revision of the Broadcasting Law in order to implement a more organized broadcasting digitization policy. The Indonesian House of Representatives also needs to oversee the transition process to ASO in order to comply with the predetermined deadline and ensure that the socialization of digital TV migration has been carried out by the government to the community so that they are ready facing the transition from analog TV to digital TV.

References

Budiman, Ahmad. (2016). *Kesiapan Lembaga Penyiaran Melaksanakan Digitalisasi Penyiaran*. Jakarta: Balai Pustaka.

_____. (2020). Perdebatan Kepentingan Digitalisasi Penyiaran di Indonesia. *Jurnal Politica* Vol. 11 No.1 May: 107-126.

"Digitalisasi Penyiaran di Indonesia: Urgensi dan Manfaatnya", 22 December 2020, https://kompaspedia.kompas.id/baca/paparan-topik/digitalisasi-penyiaran-diindonesia-urgensi-danmanfaatnya#:~:text=Dalam%20konteks%20penyiaran%20radio%2C%20digitalisasi,digital%20dengan%20metod-e%20modulasi%20digital.&text=Teknologi%20multiplexing%20ini%20sendiri%20memungkinkan,bisa%20diisi%20satu%20saluran%20siaran., accessed on 3 May 2021.

"Kominfo: Siaran TV Analog Wajib Berhenti 2 November 2022", 3 December 2020, https://www.cnnindonesia.com/teknologi/20201203073928-213-577369/kominfo-siaran-tv-analog-wajibberhenti-2-november-2022, accessed on 4 May 2021.

"Menangkan Mux, 5 LPS Diminta Tancap Gas", Media Indonesia, 4 May 2021, p. 13.

Pariela, Hardly SF. (2021). "Menyongsong Siaran Digital (bagian pertama)". 1 January 2021, http://www.kpi.go.id/index.php/id/umum/38-dalamnegeri/36071-menyongsongsiaran-digital, accessed on 4 May 2021.

Siarandigitalindonesia [@siarandigitalindonesia], 20 March 2021. Perbandingan Siaran TV Analog dan TV Digital [Foto Instagram], https://www.instagram.com/p/CMoLWa8lzqD/, accessed on 4 May 2021.

Siaran Pers No. 154/HM/KOMINFO/05/2021 tentang Tetapkan Pemenang Seleksi, Menkominfo: Mari Bersama Majukan Industri Penyiaran, https://www.kominfo.go.id/content/

detail/34258/siaranpers-no154hmkominfo052021- tentang-tetapkan-pemenangseleksi-menkominfo-maribersama-majukan-industrip e n y i a r a n / 0 / s i a r a n _ p e r s, accessed on 3 May 2021.

Undang-Undang Nomor 11 Tahun 2020 tentang Cipta Kerja.

Siti Chaerani Dewanti
siti.dewanti@dpr.go.id

Siti Chaerani Dewanti, S.Ars., M.Sc., currently serves as the First Researcher at the Research Center of the Indonesian House of Representatives Expertise Board. Completed his undergraduate education in Architecture at the Faculty of Engineering, University of Indonesia in 2009 and mastered education in Communication Science at the Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, University of Indonesia in 2014. Several papers that have been published in books include "Using Village Websites as Village Information Media" (2019) and "Village Website Governance in Realizing Transparency and Accountability of Village Funds" (2018).

Info Singkat

http://puslit.dpr.go.id
ISSN 2088-2351