

**Statement by H.E. Mr. Hjálmar W. Hannesson, Permanent Representative of Iceland to the United Nations (20 April 2005)**

Mr. Chairman.

It is an honour to address this forum for the first time after Iceland became a full member of this committee. Allow me, Mr. Chairman, to congratulate you and the bureau on your election, and to commend the secretariat for professional work, timely issuance of documentation and a useful website of the committee.

Allow me also to thank the Under-Secretary-General, Mr. Sashi Tharoor for his comprehensive and inspiring opening address yesterday.

better connected than most others. This expertise and experience might be useful in UN context.

Credibility and worldwide understanding are fundamental to support for the UN. Effective, rapid and targeted communication is therefore a key tool for the United Nations in reaching the objectives which the Secretary General has so eloquently outlined in his report "In a larger freedom." Iceland therefore looks forward to working with colleagues in this Committee to assist the UN in maintaining and improving the effectiveness and comprehensiveness of its communications.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.