

Statement by Mr. Mansoor Suhail, Minister, Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the United Nations (26 April 2006)

Please permit me, Mr. Chairman, to extend our sincerest greetings to you and other members of the Bureau on successfully conducting the work of this important Committee. Your special interest in the field of information, coupled with your diplomatic skills, contribute significantly to the efficient and smooth functioning of the Committee's work. May I avail this opportunity to congratulate the distinguished representative of Switzerland, Mr. Ruedi Christen, on his election as a Vice Chairman of the Committee to fill up the position left by our dear friend and colleague Mr. Sebastiao Filipe Coelho Ferraeira, Representative of Portugal. The Secretary of the Committee, Ms. Paula Refolo also deserves to be commended for her efficiency and deep involvement in the work of the Committee through close interaction with its members.

My delegation also wishes to join others in welcoming Austria as the new member of the Committee. The interest of the Dominican Republic and Thailand in joining the Committee is also a welcome development. We shall look forward to working closely with them as well as with other members for a successful outcome of the Committee's work.

Mr. Chairman,

Your introductory statement has very succinctly highlighted the role of the Committee on Information in strengthening the United Nations as the center piece of multilateral architecture on piece of the interactive

comprehend the direction and dimensions of the Department's activities. We thank Mr. Tharoor and all the Directors for their frank discussion during the interactive session.

Mr. Chairman, we associate ourselves with the statement by the distinguished Permanent Representative of South Africa as the Chairman of the Group of 77 and China, and wish to particularly reiterate the importance it attached to the functions of the Department of Public Information as the public voice of the organization and The report of the Secretary General about the activities of the Department of Public Information, contained in

in [A/A.C.198/2006/4](#) indicates very useful results. We could not agree more with the Department's Senior Managers who understand that assessing the impact of the effectiveness of UN communication activities constitutes the foundation for remaining responsive to the needs of worldwide audience. My delegation believes that such evaluation and assessments must be carried out on the basis of perceptions in societies and countries around the world, and not just in those countries where negative news about the UN results in its poor ratings.

The Secretary General's report on modernization and integrated management of UN Libraries with update on its new strategic directions, contained in document [A/AC.198/2006/2](#) provides a detailed review of how UN libraries were becoming key players in the field of knowledge sharing and content management. My delegation would be keen to see as to how the wealth of knowledge contained in the Dag Hammarskjöld Library can be made available to people in developing countries such as Pakistan. It would be appropriate to consider ways and means as to how a degree of mobility can be achieved with regard to the library for greater utilization.

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steps to further improve cooperation and coordination with the journalists of developing countries, in particular those based at the UN Headquarters. Since the journalists from developing countries lack financial and technical resources as compared to their counterparts in the developed world, the DPI should consider facilitating them and providing them office space on priority basis. The UN Correspondents Association should also be extended full professional assistance, particularly in view of their commendable ongoing activities which are instrumental in expanding outreach of the UN message in the best interest of the organization.

Mr. Chairman,

The genesis of the Committee on Information was rooted in the resolve of the General Assembly to establish a new, more just and more effective world information and communication order intended to strengthen peace and international understanding and

[\(Res. 34/182](#) of 18 December 1979). After 27 years, we continue to reflect the spirit of that resolve in part A of the Resolution which we adopt every year based on the Recommendations of the Committee on Information. However, the i 5.659 0oleart5.5 ()0e RR 80d