

EGYPT



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The Permanent Mission of Egypt
to the United Nations
New York

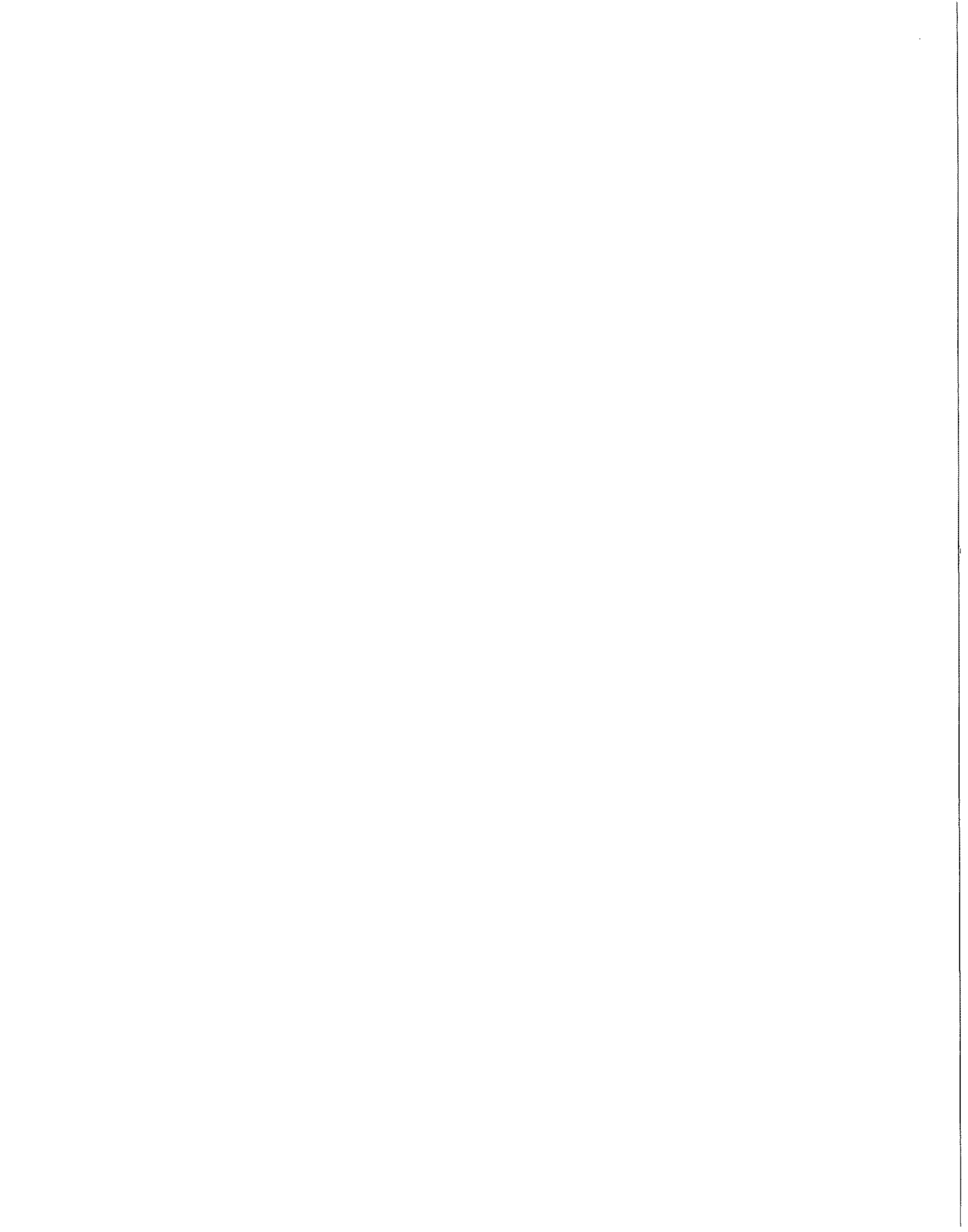
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**Statement by
the Delegation of the Arab Republic of Egypt**

**The 32nd Session
of the Committee on Information**

New York, April 28, 2010

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Mr. President,

I would like to start by expressing Egypt's appreciation for your wise leadership of the thirty-second session of the Committee on Information, and to thank Mr. Kiyotaka Akasaka, the Under-Secretary-General for Communications and Public Information for his presentation at the opening of the Session. I would like also to confirm our interest in supporting the activities of the Department of Public Information to continue developing the information system of the United Nations, in cooperation with the Chairman and members of the Committee and the Under-Secretary-General, in order to achieve the goals of the Organization in the area of public information and to enhance its ability for informing about its mission and leading role in maintaining international peace and security, achieving sustainable development and protecting human rights.

The Delegation of Egypt subscribes its with to the statement delivered by Yemen on behalf of the Group of 77, which identified the general framework of the interests and concerns of the group's member States with regard to policies, activities and priorities relevant to the United Nations public information affairs.

Mr. President,

The role of information and communication technology has become pivotal, particularly in the formulation of the world public opinion. This affects the decision-making and work and reactions of the United Nations as the main international organ responsible for fulfilling the aspirations of peoples and dealing with governments priorities, which increases the burden on the Organization and requires the upholding of its responsibilities with regard to strengthening and deepening international cooperation in the areas of information, to fill the knowledge gap between developed and developing countries and to establish a more equitable and objective international information system.

While we appreciate and support permanently the efforts of the Department of Public Information to expand and spread the information message of the United Nations around the world, we call on the Department to continue and intensify its effort to address the current challenges, both for to achieve the objectives of the organization in the areas of international peace and security, economic and social development and human rights, or with respect to the new global challenges,

particularly climate change, food shortages and energy crisis and other problems afflicting the developing countries and least developed countries. We also call upon the Department to further develop and update the media message of the United Nations and to expand the use of modern technology, to suit the spirit of the times and contribute to the promotion of a culture of peace and tolerance.

With that in mind, and to allow the access of the United Nations media message to all segments of the target audience around the world, the Delegation of Egypt reiterates the importance of multilingualism and the balance between the six official languages of the Organization, as well as the importance of continuing to diversify the media used and to combine between modern and traditional ones. In this regard, the use of radio and printed media should not be neglected under pretext of modernization, in order to reach the widest possible dissemination, to confirm the universality of Organization, to achieve the desired rapprochement between peoples and cultures and to uphold the vital role of Department of Public Information in promoting the dialogue of civilizations, taking into account the growing importance of enhancing and stimulating this dialogue and the need to strengthen the United Nations effort in this regard through the various tools and methods that it owns, including media.

In this sense, the Delegation of Egypt calls upon the Department of Public Information to further improve the quality and content of media coverage that provides, in order to raise the level of awareness of the United Nations objectives efforts and to improve the understanding of regional and local communities to the work of the Organization, through the formulation of more focused information messages able to access and the use of various media, as well as neutrality, along with the efficient use of the information centers network around the world and the achievement of personnel development and most benefit of technology.

The Delegation of Egypt renews its call for strengthening the role of the United Nations Information Centers and ensuring its presence in various different geographical areas, as well as improving the level and stander of its work and integration of activities, particularly in developing and least developed countries and areas of conflicts.

Similarly, the Delegation of Egypt stresses the importance of achieving parity between the six official languages of the United Nations in all activities relevant to the work of the Department of Public Information, as well as the means used to transfer information, along with achieving parity in the use of six official languages on web site of the Organization, in particular with the observed continuous failure in rapidly providing information in all six official languages on the site, especially the Arabic language. We also emphasize the importance of supporting and strengthening the work of the Arabic Section in the Department of Public Information and placing it on an equal footing with other sections, in order to achieve parity in the use of the six official languages.

In this regard, the Delegation of Egypt is deeply concerned about the decline in the use of the Arabic language, particularly in the radio broadcasts. We emphasize the importance of continuing using Arabic radio broadcast to ensure the dissemination of the United Nations media message in villages, communities and regions that may not be able to access complex technical media, especially that modernization does not mean neglecting and not using traditional media.

Mr. President,

The Delegation of Egypt encourages the Department of Public Information to continue giving attention to programs and activities related to the achievement of economic and social development of Member States, particularly in Africa, and invites the Department to continue to implement the Information Special Program on the Question of Palestine and informing about the suffering of the Palestinian people under occupation and violations carried out by the Israeli Occupying Power contrary to the provisions of international law and the international humanitarian law and United Nations resolutions.

Also the Delegation of Egypt stresses the importance of continuing the important role of the Department of Public Information in promoting international effort towards achieving just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East, through the provision of a comprehensive and objective information service characterized by the neutrality and honest broadcast of developments on the ground, in order to consolidate the support of the United

Nations efforts aiming at ending the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 and achieving the legitimate demands of the Palestinian people in establishing its own independent state with East Jerusalem as its capital and to withdraw from all Syrian and Lebanese occupied territories in implementation of the Arab Peace Initiative and relevant international terms of reference.

Mr. President,

We are confident that the ongoing efforts of the Department of Public Information for developing and updating the media message of the Organization and maintaining its proliferation and expansion, in consultation and cooperation with the delegations of Member States, will be successful, will result in achieving the desired outcomes and will help in spreading the message of the United Nations around the world, which will enhance the role of the United Nations in the service of Humanity and contributes to achieve the high purposes that was established for and its founding principles.

Thank you, Mr. President,