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Committee on Information

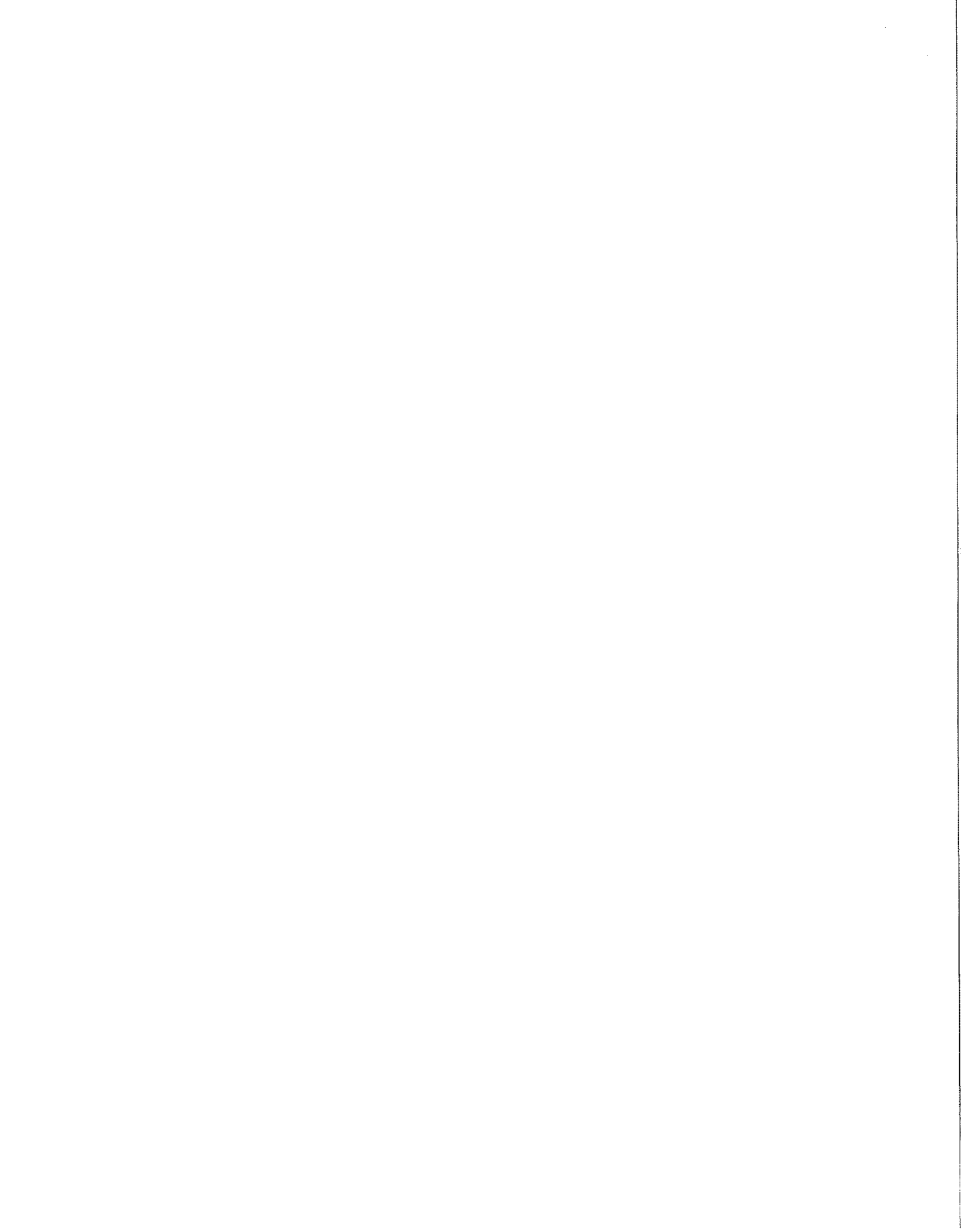
Statement By

**Mr. M. Hery Sariipudin
Minister Counsellor**

Representative of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations

**at the General Debate of the 32nd Session
of the Committee on Information**

New York, April 2010



Mr. Chairman,

At the outset, my delegation wishes to congratulate you and the other members of the bureau for the excellent work you have done in leading this committee. With your able and dedicated leadership, we are confident that we will achieve positive result during the 32nd Session of the Committee.

My delegation also takes this opportunity to express its gratitude to the Under-Secretary-General for Communication and Public Information, Mr. Kiyotaka Akasaka, for his comprehensive presentation delivered yesterday on the current and future work of the DPI. We also note with pleasure the constructive interaction between DPI and the members of the Committee on Information.

Indonesia associates itself with the statement made by the distinguished Permanent Representative of Yemen on behalf of the G77 and China, but wish to elaborate on some issues of particular relevance to Indonesia.

The delegation of Indonesia has followed, with close interest, the detailed reports of the UNSG on the activities of the DPI in relation to strategic communication services, news services and outreach services. The reports are extremely rich in information about the breadth and depth of the coverage of the DPI, as well as the internal structural arrangements that make its success possible.

Indonesia reiterates its appreciation of the work by the DPI. In an increasingly complicated world, it is a challenging assignment to disseminate as much information as the department does to the whole world, often in real time, and create a positive image of the Organization. There is no doubt that the department has successfully fulfilled its role as the public voice of the Organization during the past year.

We appreciate Mr. Akasaka for his outstanding performance as the head of the DPI. We extend to him our best wishes for even greater success in delivering the mandates of the department. We also thank all staff of the department for their dedicated efforts towards the objective of reaching out to the public, raising awareness and mobilizing the public around the Organization's priority issues.

While we have commended the success of the DPI and the UN Information Centres around the world in promoting a positive public image of the UN, we encourage them to use their expertise more and their long reach to help enhance and deepen international cooperation in the domain of media.

Perhaps more than any other institution, the DPI understands that the mass media can be the messenger either of peace and tolerance, or of misunderstanding and hatred. With the diversity and potency of the tools at its disposal today, the DPI can play a vital role in sensitizing the global mass media about the need to project a culture of peace and values of tolerance, combat prejudice and division among nations and peoples and religions, and eradicate the practice of stereotyping in the media.

We would also like to take this opportunity to call on the DPI to continue the implementation of its media program on the Palestinian issue. It is essential to continue to raise international awareness on the Question of Palestine with a view to supporting efforts to achieve a just lasting and comprehensive peace in the Middle East. It is in this spirit that, Indonesia the hosted United Nations Asia Pacific Meeting in Support of the

Palestinian People and UN Public Forum in Support of the Palestinian People, in June 2009 in Jakarta.

As a troop-contributing country, Indonesia recognizes the vital nature of information dissemination in United Nations peacekeeping. Indonesia is pleased at the expanding cooperation between the DPI, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the Department of Field Support, and the Department of Political Affairs in projecting the work of peacekeepers. We fully believe that this continued coordination and collaboration will enhance the image of the Organization in the eyes of the world, as well as the effectiveness of peacekeeping missions.

We support the efforts of the department to disseminate information using as many media channels and opportunities as possible, including the use of new and social media. We commend the DPI for the use of these technologies as far a field as possible. Not only has this brought the work of the United Nations closer to the general public, it is also bringing United Nations offices and programs closer to each other, and enhancing partnerships.

In order to ensure that peoples in all corners of the world receive as full information as possible about the United Nations, it is necessary to have the UN message spread out in as many languages as possible. The publication of United Nations information materials and the translation of important documents in non-official languages, with a view to reaching the widest spectrum of audiences and extending the United Nations message everywhere, is particularly welcome.

We believe, however, that the UN information program materials will enjoy greater distribution, dissemination and acceptance if they have higher levels of local involvement and content in their production. This could be achieved through an active engagement by the network of United Nations Information Centres.

In this connection, we are pleased at the increasing use and influence of the United Nations Information Centres, as well as their deeper involvement with the local media. They are a critical link in the work of the United Nations, and are, without a doubt, crucial in the effort to enhance the public image of the UN in order to strengthen international support for the Organization.

Allow me, Mr. Chairman, to make a brief reference to the UNIC Jakarta. The work of UNIC Jakarta is of tremendous interest to us. The UNIC Jakarta continues to play a critical role in promoting the goals and objectives of the United Nations. We welcome Mr. Michele Zaccheo as the new Director of the United Nations Information Centre (UNIC) in Jakarta. We are confident that he will be an effective leader of the Information Centre in furthering public understanding about the work of the United Nations throughout Indonesia. We look forward to our continued cooperation with the Centre, and to supporting it to achieve the wider objectives of the Department of Public Information in the country.

Finally, let me reiterate our commitment to continue to support for the activities of the DPI as it works to provide the world with accurate, impartial, comprehensive, timely and relevant information on the broad activities and concerns of the Organization. We also reiterate our full support and cooperation to you in ensuring success of the 32nd Session of the Committee on Information.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.