



**THE BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA  
PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE  
BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA TO THE UNITED NATIONS,  
AMBASSADOR JORGE VALERO**

**COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION**

New York, April 27th, 2010

**Mr. President,**

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela wishes you and the team that has joined you, the greatest success in your work and expresses its readiness to contribute to the work of the 32nd Session of the Committee on Information.

We appreciate the Report of the Secretary-General on the work done by the Department of Public Information, and the strategic communications services, news and outreach. We thank the Deputy Secretary-General for Public Information, Mr. Kiyo Akasaka, for his comprehensive briefing.

Venezuela associates itself with the interventions of Yemen and Chile, on behalf of G77 and China and the Rio Group, respectively.

**Mr. President,**

My delegation appreciates the work performed by the Department of Public Information and appreciates the support provided to the missions accredited to the United Nations. My delegation estimates that one of the programs that best contribute to the dissemination of information generated in the United Nations is the Information Centers.

**Mr. President,**

It is crucial to overcome the imbalances in the use of information technologies and communication between the developed and developing countries. That is

why my delegation stresses the importance of all countries having equal access to these technologies.

The regional television network Telesur, founded by Venezuela and other neighboring countries on the continent, helps to overcome informational imbalances between the North and the South. It is an expression of solidarity and cooperation between Southern countries, it supports the processes of change taking place in the world, defending the sovereignty and self-determination of nations and also works to promote the collective creativity of our people.

With the same spirit of solidarity and brotherhood that exists between Venezuela and developing countries, the Radio Sur was created. This is a Broadcasting Network broadcasting objectively the political, social and cultural development of the peoples, promoting the union of sovereign nations, and includes the communities of urban areas with rural areas in the South.

Telesur and Radio Sur represent communication alternatives against the big monopolies of communication and information disseminators that defend the interests of the national and international elites. They serve as a communications platform in the process of creating a new multi-polar world.

**Mr. President,**

The media is a public good through which citizens can exercise their right to speak and be heard. The activity of mass media should faithfully reflect the multifaceted reality that shapes of the human landscape, and have a strong humanistic and social component to it. The media must serve the people and their secular and historical claims.

In Venezuela, the right of all citizens to freely express their views and to seek, receive and impart information is scrupulously respected. Public criticism, freedom of expression, and discussion of ideas are being developed as never before in the history of my country. In Venezuela, freedom of expression is total and unrestricted; it is not subject to censorship. Still, "anyone who uses this right assumes responsibility for all that is said." These are constitutional laws enshrined in the Constitution of the Republic.

The Bolivarian Revolution has been subjected to a systematic campaign of imperialist aggression, which is implemented through powerful media, owned by large multinational corporations, in complicity with some private media in Venezuela. These false and unfounded media campaigns launched against the model of democratic change, oriented toward socialism, which is successfully being developed in my country. They try to erode the credibility of the revolutionary process. They failed, however, given the high level of democratic consciousness that has reached our village.

No media has ever been shut down during the Bolivarian Government, even though some of them actively participated in the Coup D'Etat that overthrew-for a few hours- President Hugo Chávez Frías; have incited the President's assassination and have actively worked to destabilize Venezuelan democracy.

**Mr. President,**

Venezuelan Parliament passed a Telecommunications Act, which lays down guidelines for the use and enjoyment of the radio spectrum. This space, although a public domain, was monopolized by a few families. Now things are changing. Venezuela has a new law that guarantees access to communication and information to all Venezuelans, and promotes community and social participation in their management.

Venezuela today has a system of information and communication that is participatory and democratic. It has 37 television stations and 350 radio stations. However, the large media corporations still have dominance and control over most of the media.

The new alternative sources of media and communication, which have emerged and proliferated at all levels of social organization and community, are contributing to raising awareness and intellectual standards, and the culture and education of our people. Programs of social and humanistic content, which are the order of the day, promote solidarity among peoples and nations of the developing countries.

In Venezuela, all the actors in society are the protagonists of a process of change, where the social aspect is placed on a pedestal and is considered as the value of the human being.

Thank you very much.

