



Please Check against delivery

**Committee on Information
Thirty-third session
27 April - 6 May 2011**

**Statement by
Ambassador Yusra Khan
Deputy Permanent Representative of
the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations**

New York, 27 April 2011

PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

325 East 38th Street, New York, NY 10016 • Tel. (212) 972-8333 • Fax. (212) 972-9780

www.indonesiamission-ny.org

email: ptri@indonesiamission-ny.org

Mr. Chairman,

I wish to begin by congratulating you, on behalf of the delegation of Indonesia, upon your assumption of the chair of the Committee on Information. Our felicitations also go to the other members of the Bureau. We are confident that under your experienced leadership and guidance, the Committee will be able to accomplish the tasks programmed for this 33rd Session.

I would like to take this opportunity to convey our gratitude to the Under Secretary General for Communication and Public Information, Mr. Kiyotaka Akasaka, for his presentation on the current and future work of the Department of Public Information. We also note with pleasure the constructive interaction between DPI and the members of the Committee on Information. In this regard, my delegation would like to extend its warmest welcome to the new members of the Committee.

Indonesia would align itself with the statement made by the distinguished Permanent Representative of Argentina on behalf of the G-77 and China. We, however, wish to elaborate on some issues that are of particular relevance to Indonesia at this time.

Mr. Chairman,

The delegation of Indonesia has closely followed the reports of the Secretary General on DPI's activities related to strategic communication services, news services, and outreach services. The well prepared reports have enabled us to get a better perspective of DPI's work amid the challenges it is now facing; challenges that stem from the limited available resources to support the programme, as well as those coming from outside the UN system.

In this regard, I would like to extend my Government's appreciation to Under Secretary General Akasaka and the whole staff of DPI for their continuous efforts to fulfill their mandate despite the challenges. They have demonstrated a laudable dedication towards the objective of reaching out to the public, raising awareness and mobilizing the public around the priority issues of the UN.

With a deep knowledge of the pivotal role of the mass media in disseminating information and its power in influencing public opinion, DPI should be in the driver's seat in sensitizing the global mass media to the need to project a culture of peace and values of tolerance, combat prejudice and division among nations, peoples and religions, as well as eradicate the practice of stereotyping in the media. Indonesia strongly supports DPI's efforts in engaging the mass media towards these objectives.

With particular reference to the Middle East, we would like to take this opportunity to call on DPI to continue the implementation of its media program on the Palestinian issue. We are pleased to take note of the collaboration of DPI and the government of Portugal last year in the organization of the 18th International Media Seminar on Peace in the Middle East, and the commemoration of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People. It is essential to continue to sensitize the people all over the world about the suffering of the Palestinian people under occupation, and the siege and the unjust collective punishment of which they are victims, in contravention of the norms of international law.

Being a troop-contributing country, Indonesia recognizes the vital nature of information dissemination in United Nations peacekeeping. Indonesia fully believes that the continued

coordination and collaboration between DPI, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the Department of Field Support, and the Department of Political Affairs in projecting the work of peacekeepers will enhance the image of the Organization, as well as the effectiveness of peacekeeping missions.

Mr. Chairman,

As we have stated in the past, the efforts of DPI to make information about the work of the UN as accessible as possible to the broadest global audience, especially in the developing world, is of tremendous importance to Indonesia. We further expressed our support of the department's attempts to disseminate information using as many media channels and opportunities as possible, including through non-UN languages.

In that light, we would like to congratulate the Department for the success of the "United Nations Week" as part of the Organization's outreach efforts. We note with satisfaction the growing number of UN-related community and academic activities as a result of this programme. We are convinced that this is attributable to the use of local languages in conducting those activities and in the publication of United Nations' documents.

Let me now take this opportunity to extend our Government's appreciation to the United Nations Information Center in Jakarta, whose works in public outreach are highly commendable. This includes cooperation with institutions of higher education, as shown – among others – in the recent signing of an MOU between UNIC Jakarta and Budi Luhur University. We see this as an exemplary partnership and we encourage UN Information Centers to engage various parties, including the private sector.

Finally, let me reiterate our commitment to continue to support the activities of 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 33rd Session of the Committee on Information.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.