

CLOSING REMARKS BY MR. PETER LAUNSKY-TIEFFENTHAL,
UNDER-SECRETARY-GENERAL FOR COMMUNICATIONS
AND PUBLIC INFORMATION
AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE THIRTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE
COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION
(Conference Room 3, Conference Building)
2 MAY 2013

Madam Chairperson,
Distinguished delegates,

On behalf of the Department of Public Information, I wish to congratulate you on the successful conclusion of the 35th session of the Committee on Information. I have followed with great interest the negotiations you conducted on the adoption of a consensus document. The passion it generated and the careful consideration that went into its crafting reflect the seriousness of your pursuit and the great care you attach to the work of this Department. Thank you.

The draft resolution, the result of your two weeks of work, has been a product of collaborative efforts and patient negotiations. My colleagues, who worked with you throughout the negotiations, tell me this has been one of the most collaborative and constructive sessions.

In that spirit, I wish to pay particular tribute to Ambassador Lyutha Al-Mughairy for her skilful leadership in guiding the deliberations at this year's

session. Her keen understanding of both the challenges the Organization faces and the dynamics of the Department's work have been instrumental in achieving such successful results.

Clearly, this important work could not have come to a successful conclusion without the positive contributions of the other members of the Bureau, including the Chair of the working group, Ambassador Juan Manuel Gonzalez de Linares, and the Rapporteur of the Committee, Mr. Chibaula D. Silwamba.

I would also like to pay tribute to the coordinators of the Group of 77 and China, Ms. Namita Khatri, and of the European Union, Ms. Francesca Riddy-O'Dowd, for their tireless efforts and the determination with which they guided the task at hand to completion. I also thank the creative energy imparted by the distinguished representatives of Japan, Mexico, the Russian Federation and the United States. Their readiness to work with each other to find solutions to difficult issues without compromising their principles is a clear testament to their initiative and imagination. I should also like to thank all of the Member States with whom we have worked – before, during, and after this session.

Friends,

As many of you have repeatedly stressed, DPI is the public voice of the Organization, and as our distinguished chairperson noted in her opening remarks, the tone of that voice is shaped by this Committee. Indeed, the partnership with the Committee on Information is a key element in defining DPI's role in a complex and evolving global communications environment. We are particularly happy that you have adopted a draft resolution that provides DPI with a clear roadmap to

forge ahead. I am confident that, in the year ahead, our partnership will grow even more. On behalf of the Department of Public Information, I promise to do everything possible to make this happen.

Thank you.
