76th session of the United Nations General Assembly

Fourth Committee

Item 58 – Questions relating to Information

Statement by Portugal

Madam Chair.

We believe it is crucial that the Department of Global Communications continues promoting public awareness on the UN’s activities and the principles under which they are carried out. This is instrumental in the fight against hate speech and the dissemination of misinformation.

Those efforts benefit highly from the effective use of multilingualism, which remains a key factor in reaching the broadest spectrum of audiences and in harnessing support for the UN across different countries and communities. Portugal remains committed to those efforts.
In this regard, we believe that the Department of Global Communications should further expand the use of languages with global reach, such as the Portuguese language, in relevant documents and communications.

I wish to reaffirm our continued appreciation for the invaluable work carried out by the Unit of Portuguese of UN News. This Unit has been establishing, since 2013, cost-neutral partnerships with media in Portuguese speaking countries and in other countries with substantial Portuguese-speaking Diasporas. This is a laudable effort to reach an ever-wider audience while remaining within existing resources, and Portugal strongly appreciates and encourages these initiatives.

I thank you.