



PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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**Statement by the Chinese Delegation at the Thirty-second Session of the
United Nations Committee on Information**
New York, April 28, 2010

Mr. Chairman,

At the outset, I would like to congratulate Mr. Shalva Tsiskarashvili on his election as Vice Chairman of the Committee on Information and the establishment of the new presidium. I am confident that under your leadership, the current session will once again yield fruitful results.

The Chinese delegation thanks the Secretary-General for his report on the issue of information, and commends the work done by the Department of Information under the leadership of Under-Secretary-General Kiyotaka Akasaka over the past year. The Chinese delegation supports the statement made by Yemen on behalf of the Group of 77 and China. Now I wish to emphasize the following points:

1. Further strengthen the role of DPI in publicizing UN activities. Over the years, DPI has worked to tell the UN story through various means such as thematic promotion, press release, receiving tourists, and holding exhibitions, so as to communicate to the entire world the spirit of peace, cooperation and development advocated by the United Nations. In particular, during last year's UN Summit on Climate Change, Security Council Summit on Nuclear Nonproliferation and Disarmament, and general debate of the 64th session of the General Assembly, DPI worked closely with relevant organs and agencies to provide timely information and consulting service, and communicate and promote the important ideals supported and advocated by the United Nations in various fields, thus contributing significantly to the success of the meetings. Following the earthquake that struck Haiti in January 2010, DPI, in cooperation with the General Assembly and the Secretariat, responded quickly, made appropriate human resources and technical arrangements, and through organization of videoconference with the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti and press conferences, informed the outside world of the relief efforts in Haiti and the emergent measures taken by the United Nations. The effective work of DPI merits applause. It is our hope that DPI will continue to explore new ways and means to provide timely, accurate, impartial, comprehensive and coherent information to global audience. In the meantime, DPI

needs to further strengthen the core functions of UN news centers and turn them into important bonds and links between the United Nations and the outside world.

2. Put greater emphasis on the issue of development. This year marks the 65th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations and the 10th anniversary of the identification of the MDGs. The United Nations will convene a General Assembly high-level meeting and a summit meeting to commemorate the important historic moment. Of the 192 Member States of the United Nations, the vast majority are developing countries. Their governments shoulder the historic responsibility of growing the economy and improving people's livelihood. In the final analysis, the challenges mankind is facing today are all issues of development. Without proper settlement of the issue of development, many other issues, such as climate change, food crisis, shortage of resources, threat of terrorism, and piracy off the Somali coast, cannot be fundamentally resolved. Against the backdrop of the international financial crisis, developing countries are faced with even greater difficulties. The international community, developed countries in particular, should shoulder greater responsibility and provide more support and assistance to developing countries. In this context, DPI needs to steer the media and public to fully appreciate the importance of development and pay more attention to the issue, and push for the international community to forge consensus and help developing countries weather the difficulties they encounter in the process of development.

3. Attach importance to the special needs of developing countries in gaining access to information. In recent years, DPI has taken many new measures in utilizing new information and communications technology, such as using social networking tools to expand information services to young people. Nevertheless, it is also worth noticing that many developing countries, China included, still depend heavily on radio, television, books, newspapers and other traditional means of information dissemination. The work of DPI should help narrow, rather than widen the gap among countries in information dissemination. DPI needs to increase its input in expanding cooperation and exchanges with the media of developing countries and provide them with more human resources and technical assistance. Due to the fact that most international mainstream media outlets are under the control of western industrialized countries, the voice of developing countries is often neglected or even drowned out. The United Nations should foster a more balanced and equitable press and communication order, explicitly oppose bias and prejudice, and encourage media practitioners to honor their professional ethics and communicate information in an objective and balanced manner. DPI should provide objective, accurate and timely information to global audience, and play an exemplary role for western mainstream media.

China will as always support the work of the Committee on Information and DPI.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.