Closing remarks by the delegation of Jamaica, on behalf of the G77 and China (20 April 2005)

Mr. Chairman,

I have the honour to make the following brief statement on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

The text of the resolution adopted today by this Committee is as a result of long, arduous and sometimes difficult negotiations. The Group is however pleased that after this exercise, we were able to adopt a text based on consensus.

The text covers many issues of relevance to the work of the DPI in transmitting the message of the United Nations in an accurate, balanced and objective manner to all Member States. The Group reiterates the importance of the DPI and its work which is of immense value especially in developing countries.

The Group has agreed to consensus on this text in a number of areas of vital importance to the members of the G77 and China. I wish to take this opportunity to reaffirm the position of the Group in relation to the rationalization of United Nations Information Centres. It is the understanding of the G77 and China that rationalization means to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of United Nations Information Centres and the activities of the DPI. It is also the understanding of the Group that given the importance of United Nations Information Centres in developing countries and their core responsibility in transmitting the message of the United Nations, that any improvements in the context of rationalization will not be to the detriment of the existing UNIC's worldwide.

The G77 and China requests that this statement be reflected in the official records of this Committee.