

## **Statement by Mr. Song Se Il, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations (26 April 2006)**

Mr. Chairman,

First of all, please allow me to appreciate, in the name of the delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, your sincere efforts for success of the twenty-eighth session of the UN Committee on Information.

Today, my delegation would like to present its principled position and view on the current situation of international information activities.

Information technology and facilities should be technological and material base of humankind's common peace and prosperity. However it is being misused by some countries for improper political purposes. In this case, the victim is just developing countries whose value, culture and religion, social system are different from those of western developed countries.

The United States and some developed countries abuse their technical "predominant position" in the field of information, and mobilize information technology and facilities for infringing on the sovereignty of developing countries and achieving improper political purposes of themselves.

One of the typical examples is the "Radio Free" broadcasted by the US in all parts of the world including Asia, Arab, Africa, Latin America, Eastern Europe and etc.

Through the "Radio Free", the US dispraises political ideology and social system of developing countries under the cloak of "dissemination of democratic value" and attempts to create internal anti-regime atmosphere for bringing down system in those countries.

The "Radio Free Asia" is composed of several hundred staffs at the headquarters in Washington D.C. and the regional stations in Asia. They broadcast, in local languages, fabricated news and canard against the Asian developing countries including the DPR Korea, China, Vietnam, Cambodia and India.

Particularly, the US invests a huge amount of funds in the broadcast against the DPR Korea, regarding it as a main target of the "Radio Free Asia".

In July 2004, the US Government passed what it called "North Korean Human Rights Act" in which approved the annual budget allocation of 2 million dollars to extend the broadcasting time of "Radio Free Asia" to 12 hours and massively smuggle transistors into the DPR Korea. Consequently, it was legalized to provide a financial and material guarantee for the US information activities to bring down the system in the DPR Korea.

This shows that the abuse of information technology and facilities by the US for interference in internal affairs of and system-dethrow in developing countries has entered very dangerous stage. Another one of defects in international information activities is that,

developed countries absolutize their commercial profit during development and use of information technology and facilities. Due to it, international inequality and distinctions among countries in the level of information technology are being aggravated.

Therefore, it is urgent to observe the principles of sovereignty respect and equality in international information activities.

*Firstly*, everyone should thoroughly observe the principles of sovereignty respect and non-interference in others' internal affairs.

Every country should participate in international information activities, with political will of sincere contribution to the world peace and friendship, according to the principles and demands of the UN Charter.

As well, it should take measures to eliminate all kinds of acts of infringement on sovereignty and interference in others' internal affairs, giving priority to raising control functions and role of the United Nations in the course of international information activities.

*Secondly*, it is essential to create institutional conditions to guarantee equality among countries in the level of information technology.

The fair system of international information activities should be established and, in accordance with this system, developed countries should not seek their unilateral commercial profit during development and use of information technology and facilities. Material and technical assistance from developed countries should be provided to developing countries for bettering the national capacity of information.

In the past century, developed countries regarded information technology and facilities as their monopolistic property. However, in this century, they should contribute to converting it into common property for progress and prosperity of humankind.

Mr. Chairman,

The delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea believes the twenty-eighth session of the UN Committee on Information to successfully discuss all agenda items, taking the above mentioned issues into deep consideration, so that it could mark a turning point for the principled and fair development of international information activities.

I thank you.