



# Democratic People's Republic of Korea

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## Press Release

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Statement  
by Mr. YUN YONG IL  
Delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

At the 31<sup>st</sup> session of the Committee on Information  
New York, May 5, 2009

Mr. Chairman,

At the outset, I would like to congratulate you on your election as chairman of the Committee on Information. And I express my hope that your able leadership will guide this session to a fruitful outcome.

I also take this opportunity to thank Mr. Under-Secretary General for Communications and Public Information for his comprehensive report on the current public information activities of the United Nations and commend the Department of Public Information for its active information activities regarding international issues of common concern by steadily improving its methods and means in conformity with the requirement of the new reality.

My delegation associates itself with the statement delivered by the distinguished delegation of the Republic of the Sudan on behalf of the G 77 and China.

Mr. Chairman,

As we are well aware, the rapid development of the information and communication technologies is greatly affecting every aspect of human activities. Likewise, it plays important role in the promotion of social development and improvement of human welfare.

However, there are still many aspects to be addressed without delay in the international information and communication field such as the continuing misuse by certain countries of the information and communication technologies and means in pursuit of their sinister political purposes, instead of making them available as technological and material foundation for the common prosperity of humankind, and the ever widening gap between the developed and developing countries.

This reality requires the Committee on Information to take urgent appropriate steps to make the international information activities be conducive to the promotion of world peace and security, healthy social advancement as well as sustainable development.

In this regard, allow me to highlight the following points, which my delegation considers important.

Firstly, my delegation is of the view that the priority should be given on formulating the ways to establish a new and fair international information and communication order.

Today, certain countries, taking the advantage of their monopoly of information technologies and means, impose more openly their own value and life style and disseminate distorted information on other countries, causing social chaos and even inciting the overthrow of systems. A typical example of it is the US "Free Radio Asia" targeting the Asian countries including the DPRK.

This constitutes a clear violation of the principles of respect for sovereignty, equality and non-interference in others' internal affairs enshrined in the Charter of the UN as well as international laws stipulating the relations among states, and if left unchecked, the building of a peaceful and prosperous world should remain as an empty word.

Therefore, the member states of the Non-Aligned Movement, which consist of overwhelming majority in the UN membership, reaffirmed the urgency of the establishment of new and fair international information and communication order in the NAM Ministerial Meeting on Information held in isla Margarita, Venezuela in July 2008.

The Committee on Information, in conformity with its mandate given by the GA resolution 34/182 of December 18, 1979, should focus on the establishment of new and fair international information and communication order as its main agenda item and direct due effort to this end.

Secondly, there is also a need to take effective measures to assisting the developing countries in improving their information and communication capabilities.

The developing countries have made their continued efforts to enhance the information and communication capabilities due to the importance of information activities in the socio-economic development.

However, it is regrettable that the gap between developed and developing countries is widening with each passing days and the developing countries remain marginalized in the present mainstream of rapidly developing information and communication technologies. It is, therefore, necessary to have active participation of the developing countries in the international information activities so that their voices could be transmitted correctly to the world.

To this end, the UN and relevant international organizations as well as developed countries should take effective measures aimed at enhancing international cooperation such as transfer of advanced technologies and training of journalists as well as financial investment in the information and communication infrastructures of the developing countries.

In the meantime, the DPI should continue, as did in the past, to pay a special attention to observe more strictly the guiding principles such as objectivity, impartiality and accuracy and ensure the balance in the public information activities of the UN.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, I assure you of my delegation's full commitment to work closely with other delegations for the success of this session.

Thank you.