

Statement by the Delegation of the Republic of Azerbaijan (30 April 2003)

Mr. Chairman,

Taking up this opportunity, let me at the outset, on behalf of my delegation to warmly congratulate you and the members of the Bureau on your election and assure you of the support and full cooperation of my delegation in the work of the Committee.

We would like also to extend our deepest appreciation of the former Chairman of the Committee, His Excellency Ambassador Milos Alcalay for his able stewardship at a time when the reorientation process of the Department of Public Information was in full swing.

We are also appreciative to Mr. Shashi Tharoor, Under-Secretary General for Communications and Public Information for his versatile statement made the day before yesterday.

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation supports the new organizational structure of the Department of Communication and Information put into effect on November 1st 2002. We believe that the recently established a Strategic Communications Division, a News and Media Division and an Outreach Division will be supportive tool for the DPI in pursuing its activities.

We also recognize that the DPI first of all should concentrate on the issues: the eradication of poverty, conflict prevention, sustainable development, human rights, the HIV/AIDS epidemic, the needs of the African continent and the battle

and regional voices. As the Under-Secretary-General has rightly said, the programmes of United Nations Radio have served to open up the Organization, to make its work more transparent and to give it a local voice, which is the aim of all our information activities.

We believe that the newly established The Steering Committee for the Moderation and Integrated Management of the United Nations Libraries will definitely improve the provision of library services and give impulse to create more dynamic network of library services within the United Nations.

Nowadays taking into account the importance of the United Nations peacekeeping operations, the DPI should ensure the coordination with the respective missions in the field and at headqua