



appreciate the Secretary General for taking these realities into account- as he indicated in his 2005 report.

3. We take note of the Secretary General's recommendation (Para. 4 of the report A/AC.198/2005/3) to recalibrate, or realign the rationalization plan by strengthening Key information centers in each region to enable them to play a greater role in providing broad strategic communications guidance, coordination and support to centers in that region- without the need to closing any UNIC.
4. We, the member states, should seriously pay attention to the Secretary General's report (Para. 7 of A/AC.198/2005/3) regarding the budgetary limitations facing the UNICs. This is the main problem for the Department of Public Information in replacing the obsolete communication equipments in the United Nations Information Centers. The lack of resources and out of date equipments has certainly a negative impact on the ability of the centers. Efficient UNICs and ensured flow of information in developing countries and timely exchange of information between the UNICs and the Headquarter as well as local partners, requires us to duly address the current situation of UNICs which are mostly suffering from insufficient financial resources and obsolete equipments.
5. We are glad that the reform of the DPI and reorientation of the Department, undertaken since 2002, — as stated in the Secretary General's report (A/AC.198/2005/2)- has now been completed. However, we suggest that the DPI continue to integrate the culture of evaluation into all its future plans and programs and review the quality of its products and services on a regular basis.
6. To generalize and deepen the culture of evaluation, and better examine the efficiency and effectiveness of UNICs in the DPI's outreach activities, we emphasize the importance of the views of host countries about the UNICs as a valuable source of evaluation that should be considered by DPI in evaluating the efficiency and efficacy of the UNICs' annual activities.
7. We are happy that by launching two seminars relating to the issue of "dialogue among civilizations and cultures" in 2004, the Department of Public Information laid the issue on the agenda as one of its priorities. We continue to stress the

the priority on its agenda. Furthermore, cooperation with the relevant local actors such as "the center for dialogue among civilizations and cultures" in the host country — the Islamic Republic of Iran —, as well as, cooperation with other UNICs in addressing the common issues is highly recommended.