

**Statement by H.E. Ambassador Eshagh Al Habib, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations (25 April 2012)**

Mr. Chairman,

Let me begin by expressing my appreciation to Mr. Maher Nasser, acting head of the Department of Public Information, for his comprehensive and informative presentation on the activities and strategies of the Department of Public Information (DPI). I also would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the two new members of the Bureau.

My delegation associates itself with the statements made by the distinguished Permanent Representative of Algeria on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

Mr. Chairman,

The DPI's role is pivotal in helping to fulfill the substantive purpose of the United Nations by strategically communicating the activities and concerns of the Organization with the greatest public impact in a situation where the United Nations confronts a variety of complex challenges and opportunities. In our view, the most important mission of the Department should be providing accurate, impartial, balanced, comprehensive, timely and relevant information to the public on the tasks and responsibilities of the United Nations in order to strengthen international support for the activities of the Organization with the greatest transparency. In this regard, I emphasize the important role of the Committee on Information (COI) in examining United Nations public information policies and activities, and stress the necessity of the close cooperation and more coordination between the DP] and the Committee on Information.

I commend the role of the Secretariat in holding the official commemorative ceremony of the International Day of Nowruz on 22 March 2012, in accordance with resolution 64/253 of 23 February 2010, co-organized by all the co-sponsors of the Resolution as well as other events on this occasion. In this regard, I encourage the Department of Public Information (DPI) to continue to play its effective role in promoting and raising awareness of this event.

Mr. Chairman,

The information and communication technology revolution has greatly increased the possibilities for disseminating and sharing information and knowledge. Meanwhile, we are faced with a widening gap between the developed and developing countries. Developing countries are suffering from an unjust, inequitable, partial and monopolized world of media. It is regrettable that certain developed countries, by taking advantage of their monopoly of modern communication technology, are continuously trying to distort the facts and fabricate the events and realities, especially those relating to developing countries. I believe that international community should take necessary steps in rectifying the imbalances in the use of information and communication technologies by all member States in order to make the world of media more just, equitable and impartial. In this regard, DPI, on its part, should maintain



Thank you.