

Thank you Mr. Chairman,

It is a pleasure to see you chairing this important committee. I also congratulate the newly elected officers of the bureau and wish them every success.

On behalf of the United States, I thank Mr. Maher Nasser, acting head of the Department of Public Information (DPI), for his remarks delivered on Monday, April 23. We are also appreciative of the service of Under Secretary General Akasaka during his tenure as head of DPI. My delegation also appreciates the detailed reports of the Secretary General on the activities of the DPI.

My delegation commends the efforts made by DPI to proactively seek innovative ways to achieve results with fewer resources. We appreciate that in the 2012-2013 biennium budget, DPI proposed to spend about \$5 million dollars less than it did in its 2010-2011 budget by introducing modern information management technologies, making wider use of the Internet and social media, and deploying online reporting and management tools, while at the same time recognizing the continuing need for traditional media in order to reach all populations with information about the critical work of the United Nations.

We continue to encourage DPI, as we do other parts of the Organization, to improve efficiency and effectiveness in achieving its mandate within the resources made available.