

Statement by Mr. Boris N. Malakhov, Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the United Nations(1 May 2007)

On behalf of the Russian delegation I want to congratulate you and the other members of the Bureau with election to such an important post and to thank you for your skilful moderation of the Committee's work.

We also welcome Mr. Akasaka in his capacity of Under-Secretary-General for

adequate and comprehensive information policy as well as its professional implementation is seen as one of the Department's most important tasks at the modern stage.

The reports of the Secretary General reflect the massive work undertaken by the DPI to implement the Committee's recommendations in all priority areas outlined at its session last year. We note with satisfaction that they not only acknowledge the Department's reform process launched several years ago, but make an intermediate summary of the DPI's accomplished work.

On the whole, the results can be seen as positive. The DPI's leadership has given more attention to the essence of work of UN departments, selection of target groups, and besides, touching upon hot and urgent issues - freedom of information, overcoming racism, intolerance, and xenophobia. Such an agenda stimulates discussion, gives a push to research at all levels of communication activities.

The Russian delegation is ready to cooperate constructively with all members of the Bureau, Member States of the Committee, and DPI personnel to strengthen the ties and mutual understanding between the United Nations and the international community.