

Statement by H. E. Ambassador Regina Maria Cordeiro Dunlop, Deputy

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ongoing session.

We thank the Secretary-General for his reports to the Committee. We particularly thank former Under-Secretary-General Ahsan for his tireless and committed work at the head of the Department of Public Information.

Brazil fully associates itself with the statements made by Algeria on behalf of the Arab and China as well as by Chile on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States, and wishes to add the following comments in its national capacity.

Mr. Chairman,

Twenty years ago, when world leaders, representatives of civil society and many other public figures gathered in Rio to discuss future directions for achieving sustainable development on a global scale, the world was much less connected than it is now. Today, with the advance of traditional and modern means of communication, and taking into account the outstanding support of the DPI, we are confident that the international community will be able to further learn about the importance of the upcoming Rio+20 Conference for the well-being of present and future generations. In this respect, we welcome DPI's initiative to convene a global meeting of its information centre directors in Rio de Janeiro last November aiming at engaging all UNCs in the communication efforts for R

possible. Therefore, the activities of DPI and the United Nations as a whole must take into account the linguistic diversity of peoples everywhere. In doing so, the DPI will also be contributing to improve the accountability of the UN programs and activities. Despite the limited human and financial resources available, Brazil would like to commend one more the efforts undertaken in this regard by the Portuguese Unit of UN Radio. Let me stress that this unit of UN Radio reaches as many listeners than most of the other units that broadcast in the Organization's official languages.

Mr. Chairman,

My Delegation supports the use of modern technology as a way to spread information. In this regard, Brazil believes in the need to reduce the digital divide between developed and developing countries. We remain strongly convinced of the importance of promoting synergies between traditional and new media. In many countries, modern technology is still scarce and

traditional means of communication remain as the most effective tool to spread the message of the UN.

The role of traditional and new media was highlighted during the aftermath of the earthquake in Haiti in 2010 and of the earthquake and the tsunamis that hit Japan in 2011. The use of traditional and new media has also been decisive to put into practice the strategies of the global campaign on information and publicity of the Rio +20 Conference. This mutually reinforcing combination of media should also be used to address pressing issues of our day, such as the promotion of sustainable development, poverty eradication, peacekeeping and peacebuilding, loss of biodiversity, the impacts of desertification and climate change.

Mr. Chairman,

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public information activities, as well as on strengthening the UNICs network, where necessary, notably in Portuguese speaking Africa.

Mr. Chairman,

Brazil reiterates its support to the work undertaken by DPI under the Special Information Programme on the question of Palestine. We are of the view that promoting awareness in public opinion as well as fostering dialogue among journalists, civil society, academic community and policymakers may play an important role in fostering innovative and grassroots initiatives for peace in the Middle East.

Finally, I wish to address the important role of DPI in preserving the historical memory of the