

**Statement by the Chairman of the Committee on Public Information,
Ambassador Eduardo Ulibarri, of Costa Rica,
at the opening of the thirty-third session, 27 April 2011**

Mr. Under-Secretary General

Distinguished delegates and colleagues

Ladies and gentleman

In assuming the chairmanship of the Committee on Information, my first words are of gratitude:

To you, members of the Committee, for electing me as your Chairman.

To the Group of Latin American and Caribbean Countries (GRULAC), for its trust on my country and myself in proposing me to the post.

And to the members of the outgoing Bureau, for their valuable contributions. I commend, especially, the exemplary leadership of my colleague and friend, Ambassador, Antonio Monteiro Lima, Permanent Representative of Cabo Verde, in the performance of his duties.

Thanks to the contribution of our predecessors, to the constructive relationship between the Committee and the Department of Public Information (DPI), to the skilful direction of Under-Secretary Kiyo Akasaka, and to the commitment of General Secretary Ban Ki-moon, the UN has made substantial progress in the area of communication during previous years.

On behalf of the new Bureau, I promise a sustained effort and an open and constructive attitude on our part in keeping that direction. We count on you for translating them into positive outcomes.

The second level refers to the interaction between the Committee and the DPI; also, to the work of the Department. In previous years, that relation and that work have substantially improved. Therefore, we should constantly raise our goals on focus, coordination and results.

The third level transcends the Committee and the Department, for it relates to the communication culture of the Organization. Therefore, it touches a common responsibility of all its members, organs and processes. It includes such diverse issues as, for example, transparency in the work of the Security Council, the flow and focus of conferences' outcome documents, or the relationship between the dynamic international reality and its representation, at times static, in General Assembly resolutions.

The more we could advance in those levels of reflection, but also of decision, the more we will do to strengthen the relevance of the UN, not only on communication matters that directly concern us, but also on the purposes and principles established by its Charter, which should always be the backbone of our work.

Out of personal conviction, and of the importance that Costa Rica grants to the multilateral system, I promise you constant effort, transparency and commitment in conducting my duties.

I wish you all great success in the workings we are about to undertake.

Thank you, very much.