



Let me begin by congratulating you and your Bureau on your well deserved elections. My delegation assures you and your Bureau of its full support and cooperation in the course of this important Committee's deliberations. We believe that under your able stewardship the Committee

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Bangladesh has been following with great interest the ongoing debates on climate change, specifically the global warming. As a country that could potentially be severely disrupted by the consequences of rising sea level, we are particularly interested to learn how other small and developing countries are coping with the challenge of global warming. Ironically, despite extensive coverage of the issue in the international media, there has been very limited effort to create a forum for developing countries where they can learn ways and means of coping with the crisis. DPI can play a useful role in this regard. We call upon DPI to make greater efforts to highlight the effects of global warming for developing countries by producing user-friendly publicity materials that could be broadcast on national media. Instead of generic studies, these products should highlight the state of individual c

Bangladesh is happy to note the expanding cooperation between DPI and DPKO in projecting the work of UN peacekeepers. As one of the major troop-contributing countries to UN peacekeeping operations, Bangladesh is particularly interested to see the role of UN peacekeepers and of the troop contributing countries better highlighted in DPI's multi-media activities. In the past, we urged DPI to do more to publicize the work of peacekeepers and to focus on stories incorporating a national angle. In the same vein, we would urge DPI to exert considerable efforts in restoring the image and credibility of the UN peacekeeping missions and troop-contributing countries in the face of otherwise false allegations.

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Bangladesh is also keen to support DPI and other UN organizations in promoting the International Mother Language Day. The Mother Language Day, now an annual observance promoted by UNESCO, underlines the importance of mother language as a means of communications and also as a repository of national heritage. This day commemorates the sacrifice of young Bangladeshi students who more than fifty years ago, on 21 February 1952, were gunned down while defending the right of mother language. We are pleased with the efforts of UNESCO to publicize the day and promote its ideals. However, we note with regret that DPI, the principal public voice of the Organization, has done very little to bring together the international community in a global observance of this important and historic occasion in support of all the mother languages across the globe. My Mission stands ready to support every effort that DPI may undertake in this regard.

Before I conclude Mr. Chairman, let me reiterate once again our support for the DPI and reassure you of our fullest cooperation in steering committee's work to a successful conclusion.

I thank you Mr. Chairman.