Thank you, Mr. Chair, Distinguished delegates,

Good morning.

I would like to thank you for this opportunity to address the Committee on Information as it concludes its 46th annual session.

All of us in my Department have closely followed the Committee's General Debate and we also got first-hand information from the COI Secretariat on the discussions and negotiations of the Open-Ended Working Group.

We got a sense from those of you who took the floor on how — maybe pay 1(a)(ic)oolyc Orw 224 Egyc (at)Se (08(a)t.4 (D3 w O2 (D)2(ad) 2 if)(ic)c hly strengthens the outcome, but it has been the on of this Committee for so many years. The value for us just to hear your views in the deliberations as well as in the outcome document, cannot be underestimated or understated.

We listen, we take very close notes, and, based on that, we do strive to deliver UN communications as envisaged by this Committee.

As we know – and many of you have also said that – this adoption by consensus of the Committee's resolutions comes at a time of alarming global tensions and divisions that are also amplified and made worse by our very toxic information environment.

This consensus report sends an important signal.

Demonstrating the value of dialogue, diplomacy and multilateral solutions – which, of course, form the basis of the UN Charter itself.

And it demonstrates the shared recognition of the need to have a vibrant UN communications function.

So, Mr. Chair, may I take this occasion to thank you, Your Excellency Ambassador Muhammad Usman Iqbal Jadoon of Pakistan, for your leadership during the session.

I would also like to

Facts are the foundation on which we all build our shared reality.

And, as I flagged in my Opening Statement to this Committee, our information ecosystem is not delivering the facts

increasing urgency of multilateral solutions for a better tomorrow.

Distinguished delegates,

There is always room for improvement, and we have learned much from this Committee's guidance.

Communicating globally is a challenging task, and it's more challenging than ever because of the landscape that we have just described here.

But we will continue to spare no effort and to use our words and actions to build bridges, foster understanding to fight mis- disinformation and hate speech, and ignite change.

I thank you very much and back over to you, Mr. Chair.
