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Statement

by

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Attaché

before the Fourth Committee

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Agenda Item 51: Questions relating to Information

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United Nations Headquarters, New York

Mr. Chair,

1. Thailand aligns itself with the statements delivered by Uruguay on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, and by our delegation on behalf of ASEAN.

2. Thailand expresses its sincere appreciation to the Department of Global Communications (DGC) for its steadfast commitment to advancing the United Nations' mandate, fostering public trust, and promoting multilateralism in a rapidly evolving digital landscape.

3. We also commend Ambassador Rein Tammsaar of Estonia and his team for their effective leadership during the 48th session of the Committee on Information.

Mr. Chair,

4. Information and communication technologies offer tremendous opportunities for sustainable development and economic growth, yet they also present severe risks when weaponized. In an interconnected world, state and non-state actors can exploit digital networks to fuel polarization, erode trust, and undermine peace. Ensuring that information serves as a force for unity rather than division remains our shared responsibility.

5. In this regard, Thailand wishes to highlight four key priorities.

6. First, **we must protect information integrity and safeguard United Nations personnel and field missions.** The rampant spread of misinformation, disinformation, and hate speech poses a direct threat to social cohesion and global peace. Crucially, malicious and weaponised content creates severe security risks for UN Peacekeeping Operations and Special Political Missions. By manipulating local perceptions and inciting hostility, deceptive narratives can undermine trust in missions, impede mandate implementation, and place the UN personnel at heightened risk.

7. Falsehoods must be countered not with retaliatory rhetoric, but with verifiable truth, fact-based communication, and respect for the UN Charter. We urge the DGC to coordinate and cooperate with digital platforms and technology companies in strengthening algorithmic transparency and content accountability while respecting human rights and fundamental freedoms, with a view to curbing coordinated disinformation campaigns.

8. Second, **we must ensure that information ecosystems are guided by shared governance principles.** Emerging technologies, particularly AI, must be developed and utilized responsibly. Thailand reaffirms its support for the UN Global Principles for Information Integrity as a benchmark for ethical digital governance. To this end, Thailand champions the safe and ethical use of AI and digital innovations to promote human rights, advance sustainable development, and foster inclusive growth.

9. Thailand welcomes the newly adopted ASEAN Work Plan for Information and Media 2026-2035, which strengthens collective resilience, combats disinformation, and advances responsible technology governance in alignment with the ASEAN Community Vision 2045.

10. Third, **we must empower individuals through media and digital literacy**. A resilient society requires an informed public. Equipping all generations – especially youth, women, and older persons – with critical digital skills and media literacy enables them to navigate online spaces responsibly, foster civic participation, and build mutual understanding.

11. Fourth, **we must continue to expand multi-stakeholder partnerships.** Building a trustworthy information ecosystem demands whole-of-society collaboration. We urge the DGC to intensify outreach through UN Information Centres, engaging women, youth, and educators as trusted messengers and grassroots multipliers of reliable information. Thailand also stresses that multilingualism across all six official UN languages is vital to ensure that no community is left behind.

Mr. Chair,

12. The biennialization of the Committee on Information's resolutions should translate into more effective and impactful work by the Department in advancing the UN's communication priorities. Thailand looks forward to a substantive and constructive dialogue with all delegations and the DGC next year to this end.

13. Information carries the power to unite or divide, to protect or to harm. Thailand reaffirms its steadfast support for the DGC and the UN in cultivating an information landscape where truth prevails, dialogue bridges divides, and communication serves as an instrument for enduring peace and sustainable development.

14. I thank you.

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