



*The Permanent Mission of Portugal
to the United Nations*

75th session of the United Nations General Assembly
Fourth Committee
Item 56 – Questions relating to information

Statement by Portugal

Mr. Chair.

Portugal aligns itself with the statements delivered by the European Union and Cabo Verde, on behalf of the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries.

Among the many daunting challenges brought about by the global pandemic, the UN and the Department of Global Communications have played a commendable role in what regards the need to fight misinformation and to gather and share reliable information.

In this context, it is more important than ever for the UN to enhance the general awareness of its activities and of the information and knowledge that it gathers and produces. This is instrumental in the fight against hate speech and the dissemination of misinformation. But also in countering the general lack of knowledge about the UN itself.



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Mr. Chair.

Multilingual news coverage widely broadens the spectrum of public awareness of UN activities. The global outreach and universality of the Portuguese language is an important asset in this regard. That much was recognized last year, when UNESCO proclaimed May 5th as the World Portuguese Language Day. In this vein, it is only natural that we strongly encourage the Department of Global Communications to further expand the use of the Portuguese language.

I wish to reaffirm our continued appreciation for the invaluable work carried out by the Unit of Portuguese of UN News. This Unit has been establishing, since 2013, cost-neutral partnerships with media in Portuguese speaking countries and in other countries with substantial Portuguese-speaking Diasporas.

Having in mind the notable accomplishments of the United Nations Information Centers, namely the Western European and the Rio de Janeiro centers, I reiterate our support to the full installation of the UN Information Centre in Luanda, Angola, as requested by GA Resolution 64/243.

To conclude, I can assure you that Portugal will remain a committed partner in the efforts of the United Nations to disseminate reliable and streamlined information, as well as in the promotion of multilingualism.

I thank you.