



**Address by H. E. Prof. Dr. Kennedy Gastorn, Secretary-General of AALCO
“Donation Ceremony” at the AALCO Headquarters on Friday, 20 April 2018.**

- Your Excellency Amb. Luo Zhaohui, the Ambassador of the People’s Republic of China to India;
- Your Excellencies the Ambassadors and High Commissioners of Member States of AALCO;
- Your Excellency, Dr. V.D. Sharma, Joint Secretary, Law and Treaties Division, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India;
- Representatives of AALCO Member States;
- DEM, and Minister Li Bijian, Officials from the Embassy of the People’s Republic of China;
- Deputy Secretaries-General and Staff of AALCO;
- Ladies and gentlemen:

A very good evening to every one present here today!

It is an honour and privilege to deliver the address to this august gathering of dignitaries on the momentous occasion of the Donation Ceremony of Office Equipment by the Embassy of the People’s Republic of China in India on behalf of the Government of the People’s Republic of China, to the Secretariat of the Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization (AALCO).

First of all, I would like to warmly welcome you all come to AALCO Headquarters among your busy schedule, join in us in celebrating of receiving new office equipment donation from the government of the People's Republic of China.

I wish to recall and reemphasize that the Government of the People's Republic of China, since joining the Organization in 1983 has played a pivotal role in both the substantial and administrative matters of AALCO. It has not only sent its senior officials on deputation as DSGs, the former Secretary-General H.E. Tang Chengyuan was also from China.

It had also generously donated office equipment including computers to AALCO Secretariat in 2008 to facilitate its work.

Once again, upon a request from the Secretariat to kindly consider replacing the old equipment like computers, printers and air conditioners that had outlived their utilities, the Government of the People's Republic of China has been kind enough to make another generous donation of office equipment to the AALCO Secretariat so that the office work can proceed smoothly and efficiently.

I wish to express our sincere appreciations to the Chinese Government for their proactive response and generous contribution and to the Chinese people for their friendship and support to AALCO.

At this joyful moment, I would like to express special thanks to Amb. Luo Zhaohui himself and his staffs of the Chinese Embassy for their support of making the donation happen and for their hard working in timely providing us with office equipment of good quality.

I also wish to thank my newly coming colleague, Ms Wang Liyu, deputy secretary general, for her efforts in facilitating the process.

The office equipment donated this time comprises of 12 Desktop Computers; 5 Laptops; 12 Printers; 2 Dual Printers; 1 Photocopying Machine; 2 Scanners; 15 Air purifiers; 33 Air Conditioners (Split); 10 Carpets; 1 Tele-conferencing Facility; 1 Water Cooler and 3 Micro Wave Ovens. The total cost of all this equipment is USD 63,885.

This gift, and the many others donated by the Chinese Government to the AALCO Secretariat, is just one component of the strong and continued cooperation between AALCO and the Government of the People's Republic of China.

As we celebrate 35 years of AALCO- China diplomatic relations this year, it is deeply satisfying for me to look back on the many ways we have worked together to improve the efficiency of the AALCO Secretariat Staff in order to better serve the Member States and to substantially improve upon this legacy of cooperation.

The donation made by the Government of China to the AALCO Secretariat today will have a positive impact on its working budget, as this new equipment will lower the maintenance costs of the office facilities.

Finally, I would like to point out that generous contributions from Member States in cash or kind have been instrumental in the smooth functioning of the Organization and its Secretariat.

It is in this spirit that I urge Your Excellencies to consider making such voluntary contributions to AALCO in the future, so that it improves upon its financial situation.

With the support of the governments of our Member States, I am confident that AALCO will keep making tremendous endeavors in playing a vital role in strengthening intercontinental solidarity, regional governance and safeguarding the common rights and interests of Asian-African States.

Thank you very much!

Now may I invite H.E. Amb. Luo Zhaohui to make remarks.