

**AALCO-ICRC In-House Capacity Building Programme on the theme— "Application of IHL to Cyberspace: Potential Role of Asian-African States in the Development of a Comprehensive Legal Framework"**

On 20 June 2017, AALCO and International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) jointly organized an In-House Capacity Building Programme on the theme— "Application of IHL to Cyberspace: Potential Role of Asian-African States in the Development of a Comprehensive Legal Framework", at the Headquarters of AALCO located in New Delhi. Mr. Laurent Gisél, Legal Adviser, Legal Division, ICRC, Geneva was the guest speaker.

Prof. Dr. Kennedy Gastorn, the Secretary-General of AALCO, in his opening remarks, warmly welcomed Mr. Gisél and all participants to AALCO Secretariat and briefed them of AALCO's work programme and activities on the topic— International Law in Cyberspace. Mr. Gisél began his presentation by recalling the fruitful cooperation that the two organizations have had since signing a formal cooperation agreement in 2002. He stressed that International Humanitarian Law (IHL) does apply to cyber operations during an armed conflict. He further explained the challenges to the application of IHL to cyberspace. Furthermore, he emphasized that any lawmaking in this regard should be based on foundations of international law, particularly universally accepted principles of IHL. His presentation was followed by a Q and A session.

Participants from 13 Member States of AALCO attended the Programme. The Deputy Secretaries-General, Legal Officers of AALCO and officials of the ICRC, New Delhi also attended the Programme.