



No.76/2017/56AS/AALCO

2 March, 2017

Your Excellency,

Sub: Invitation for the Fifty-Sixth Annual Session of AALCO from 1st to 5th May, 2017 in Nairobi, Kenya

Pursuant to my earlier communication dated 2 March, 2017 (No.74/2017/56AS/AALCO), I take this opportunity to invite Your Excellency to attend the Fifty-Sixth Annual Session of the Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization (AALCO) scheduled to be held in Nairobi, Kenya from 1st to 5th May, 2017 (Monday to Friday).

Following are some of the details of this Session:

1. Provisional Agenda Items

The deliberations at the Annual Session will focus on some of the important substantive items on AALCO's agenda which includes:

- The Status and Treatment of Refugees
- Violations of International Law in Palestine and Other Occupied Territories by Israel and Other International Legal Issues related to the Question of Palestine
- Violent Extremism and Terrorism (Legal Aspects)
- International Law in Cyberspace

Two half day special meetings to be held in conjunction with the Fifty-Sixth Annual Session namely:

(A) Selected Items on the Agenda of the International Law Commission focusing on the following three areas:

- Protection of the Atmosphere
- Jus Cogens and
- Immunity of State Officials from Foreign Criminal Jurisdiction

(B) Special Meeting on "The International Criminal Court: Recent Developments" – (The Legality, under International Law, of the UNSC authority to refer cases and/or situations to the ICC under Article 13 (b) of the Rome Statute, 1998 and other relevant issues)

2. Launch of Publications

Additionally, the following publications of AALCO will also be released:

- Yearbook of AALCO
- AALCO Journal of International Law
- Two Special Studies

- a) Legality of Prolonged Israeli Occupation of the Occupied Palestinian territory and its Colonial Practices under International Law and International Humanitarian Law
- b) International Law in Cyberspace

3. Other Mandated Issues

Organizational matters will be deliberated upon *inter alia* including the Secretary-General's Report on the work of the organization, its current financial situation and the discussion and adoption of AALCO's Proposed Draft Budget for the year 2018. The report on Arbitration Centers will also be taken up.

As regards the specific venue of the session, provisional agenda, provisional annotated agenda, the administrative arrangements and tentative schedule of the meetings for the Annual Session, relevant documents will be sent to the Member States in due course. The same will also be available on the official website of AALCO www.aalco.int

The Secretariat reports on organizational and substantive matters are also in the process of being finalized and will be dispatched and posted on the official website of AALCO as and when the same are ready. It is hence requested that the website may be visited regularly for the latest information pertaining to the forthcoming Annual Session.

I shall be grateful for the participation of Your Excellency and your esteemed Government at the Fifty-Sixth Annual Session at the highest level. As per former practices in earlier AALCO Sessions, representations of Member Governments are normally at the Ministerial level; therefore, I sincerely hope that the same practice will be followed for the current session as well. In this regard, invitations to the Honorable Minister/Attorney General in-charge of AALCO affairs will also be sent.

I shall highly appreciate if Your Excellency could consider including the respective Liaison Officer, attached to your Diplomatic Missions in New Delhi, in your delegation attending the Fifty-Sixth Annual Session of AALCO since they form an important institutional link between the AALCO Secretariat and the respective Member State as they are aware of the activities taking place on ground and this will substantially contribute to the deliberations on both substantive and organizational matters along with facilitating the Secretariat in observing the mandate to be received from the Annual Session.

I will be obliged if this information could kindly be transmitted to the concerned Ministry in charge of AALCO affairs in your Government.

Your Excellency, please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.



Yours sincerely,


Prof. Dr. Kennedy Gastorn
Secretary General

To: Their Excellencies, the Ambassadors/Head of the Missions of Member States of AALCO
New Delhi

CC: Liaison Officers