

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

**Between**

**THE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT LAW ORGANIZATION**

**AND**

**THE ASIAN AFRICAN LEGAL CONSULTATIVE ORGANIZATION**

This Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter the “**MOU**”) is entered into

By and between

The International Development Law Organization (hereinafter “**IDLO**”), an intergovernmental organization formed under the Agreement for the Establishment of IDLO signed in Rome on February 5, 1988, as amended, with its headquarters at Viale Vaticano, 106, 00165, Rome, Italy,

and

The Asian African Legal Consultative Organization (hereinafter “**AALCO**”) with its headquarters at 29 C, Rizal Marg, Diplomatic Enclave, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi 110021, India,

(hereinafter IDLO and AALCO collectively referred to as the “**Participants**” and individually as a “**Participant**”).

WHEREAS, IDLO is the only intergovernmental organization exclusively devoted to advancing the rule of law; it enables governments and empowers people to reform laws and strengthen institutions to promote peace, justice, sustainable development and economic opportunity;

WHEREAS, AALCO is an intergovernmental organization devoted to serving as an advisory body to its Member States in the field of international law, and as a forum for Asian-African co-operation in legal matters of common concern;

WHEREAS, AALCO and IDLO have as common goals the promotion of the rule of law and of a positive climate for investment and cooperation between countries, particularly in Asia and Africa;

WHEREAS, AALCO and IDLO recognize the need for greater cooperation in the area of international law, in particular with respect to support to developing countries in the fields of investment and economic law, in alignment with their common goals;

RECOGNIZING that closer cooperation and collaboration between the Participants will further their mutual interests and objectives;

NOW, THEREFORE, for the purpose of fostering cooperation, the Participants hereby state as follows:

## **SECTION I**

### **Objective of the Memorandum of Understanding**

The objective of this MOU is to establish the mutual understanding of the Participants for the achievement of their common purposes in the area of international law, and, in particular, with respect to support for developing countries in the fields of investment and economic law.

## **SECTION II**

### **Scope and Modalities of Collaboration**

a) In order to achieve their common objectives, AALCO and IDLO intend to cooperate, subject to available funding, on the following activities:

i) The Participants intend to:

1) Jointly promote the knowledge of international, investment, and commercial law, in particular within Asian and African countries;



- 2) Seek to establish and promote activities and events related to their common goals set forth above;
  - 3) Participate in each other's meetings and conferences and pursue opportunities to foster greater knowledge and stronger cooperation between the Participants.
- b) Without prejudice to the foregoing, specific modalities for this cooperation may be further established by the Participants as necessary through subsequent Cooperation Agreements, Memoranda of Understanding or exchange of letters, and may include specific arrangements, such as a framework for financial and/or contractual relations between the Participants, as needed and as agreed to by the participants.
  - c) IDLO's focal point for coordination and implementation of the MOU is the Office of the Commercial and Economic Law Advisor. AALCO's focal point for coordination and implementation of the MOU is the Secretariat, AALCO, New Delhi.

## **SECTION V**

### **Confidentiality**

The Participants may decide to share material that is not publicly available in the course of their cooperation. Any such material is to be considered confidential and not disclosed by either Participant to any third parties without the other Participant's prior written consent. IDLO's governance bodies are understood to be an integral part of IDLO and therefore any reporting made thereto would not qualify as a disclosure to a third party. The Participants intend to undertake all reasonable measures to protect confidential information, including after cooperation under this MOU ceases.

## **SECTION VI**

### **Privileges and Immunities**

Nothing in this MOU is to be construed as a waiver of the Participants' privileges and immunities as international organizations, nor does it confer either Participant's privileges and immunities on the other Participant.

## **SECTION VII**


### **Amendment and the non-binding nature of the MoU**

- a) This MOU becomes effective as of the date of last signature by the duly authorized representatives of AALCO and IDLO and is intended to continue in effect for a period of 5 (five) years thereafter it will be automatically renewed every five years unless either participant notifies the other participant to terminate the MoU in accordance with paragraph (b).
- b) This MOU may be supplemented or modified by the mutual written consent of the Participants. If either Participant wishes to cease cooperation under this MOU, it should provide 6 (six) months' prior written notice to the other Participant. In the case of such notification, the Participants should consult, as appropriate, on the steps to ensure that the activities initiated under the MOU are brought to a prompt and orderly conclusion.
- c) The Participants intend in good faith to resolve any dispute arising out of this MOU in an amicable manner through consultations.
- d) This MOU is a statement of the Participants' mutual understanding and is not intended to create any legally-binding or financial obligations for either Participant. Nothing in this MOU provides or is intended to provide

a basis for any legal claim or cause of action by either of the Participants before any court, tribunal, or other body under any circumstances. This MOU is not for the benefit of any third party.

Signed on this 30 day of August 2019 .

For the International Development Law  
Organization



Irene Khan  
Director-General

For the Asian African Legal Consultative  
Organization



Kennedy Gastorn  
Secretary General