

## **PREFACE**

The Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization (AALCO) since its establishment in 1956 has emerged as a leading inter-governmental regional organization, which renders consultative and advisory services in the field of International Law, in its wide definition, to its Member States. AALCO's Annual Session is one of its forum where productive discussions takes place on issues of contemporary relevance in international law concerning Asian-African regions and in turn contribute to the progressive development and codification of international law.

The Forty-Fourth Session of the AALCO, held in Nairobi, Republic of Kenya from 27<sup>th</sup> June to 1<sup>st</sup> July 2005 was a grand success. In terms of participation, the growing enthusiasm and interest in AALCO's Session is reflected from the fact that thirty-three Member States, Observers from six Non-member states, representatives of eleven Intergovernmental Organizations and one non-governmental Organization attended and contributed to fruitful deliberations in the Session.

The Secretariat prepared briefs on all the sixteen items on the agenda. Based upon the policy of rationalization of the Agenda, the deliberations took place on ten items. This comprehensive report presents the deliberations for the consideration of the Member States.

It has now become customary at AALCO Annual Sessions to convene a One-day Special Meeting, in association with the Host Government and sister inter-governmental organizations to focus in-depth upon a topic. Presentations made by internationally recognized subject-experts pave the way for thought provoking discussion. This year the One-day Special Meeting was on the item "Environmental Law and Sustainable Development". The Meeting was organized with the full cooperation of the Host Government and representatives from UNEP who made their presentations. The highly successful meeting concluded with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between UNEP and AALCO. In this context, I should reiterate that AALCO's Cooperation Agreements/ MOU's with these Organizations are very rewarding and mutually beneficial.

The Drafting Committee was established in Nairobi Session and prepared the Summary Report, the texts of the Resolutions and Message to the President of Republic of Kenya. Based upon the thorough and careful work, the Session on the concluding day adopted the Summary Report and the Resolutions as final documents. The Provisional Summary Records of the Inaugural Session, two meetings of Delegations of AALCO Member States, as well as five General Meetings were prepared by the Secretariat and distributed to all the delegations on the concluding day. The Member States were requested to review the document and send in their suggestions/corrections within a period of six-weeks. After arrival of the Secretariat team, at New Delhi, the Headquarters, the Summary Records of the Third meeting of the Delegations, Reconvened Third Meeting of Delegations and Sixth General Meeting (Concluding Session) were prepared and circulated amongst member States. The Secretariat highly appreciates the interest with

which the Member States have gone through the documents. It values the suggestions/corrections received from Member Governments of Bangladesh, Ghana, Malaysia, Japan and South Africa. All these suggestions/corrections have been duly reflected in this report.

I wish, before concluding to place on record, my thanks and deep appreciation for my colleagues the Deputy Secretaries-General Amb. Dr. Ali Reza Deihim, Mr. Motokatsu Watanabe and Mr. Chen Meidi, Senior Legal Officer Mrs. Anuradha Bakshi, Legal Officers Dr. Burra Srinivas, Mr. Shikhar Ranjan, Mr. R. Rajesh Babu, Ms. Pooja Ahluwalia and Mr. Mohammed Hussain K. S. for their immense efforts exerted to help me in fulfilling my mandate and for their professionalism, sense of responsibility in an inspiring team work which contributed immensely in making the Session a success and in bringing out all the Documents referred to in this preface, in time.

15 September 2005

Amb. Dr. Wafik Z. Kamil  
Secretary-General