

AALCO's Side Event "Enhancing International Cooperation on Combating Cybercrimes" was Held in Vienna

The Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization (AALCO) organized a side event on the theme "Enhancing International Cooperation on Combating Cybercrimes" during the 25th session of UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) on 23 May 2016 at the UN Office in Vienna, Austria.

The event was chaired by His Excellency Prof. Dr. Rahmat Mohamad, the Secretary-General of AALCO who made introductory remarks on the issue.. The panelists included Mr. Hossein Panahi Azar, the Chairman of the AALCO Open-ended Working Group on International Law in Cyberspace and the Director-General of International Legal Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Islamic Republic of Iran; Mr. Neil Walsh, expert on cybercrimes at the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC); and Prof. Huang Zhixiong from the Institute of International Law, Wuhan University.

In his introductory remarks, Prof. Dr. Rahmat Mohamad summarized the views of the Member States of AALCO on this issue. Mr. Panahi Azar emphasized on the need to enhance multilateral cooperation to effectively combat cybercrimes. Mr. Neil Walsh gave a brief introduction on the UN Intergovernmental Expert Group on Cyber Crime and its comprehensive study on cyber crime, and pointed out the relevant provisions of the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (Doha Declaration) on Cyber Crime. Prof. Huang Zhixiong analyzed the existing regional initiatives on combating cybercrimes and highlighted the need for negotiating a new global convention on cybercrime. After the presentations a commentary and Q & A session followed, witnessing closely interested discussions.

Around 50 participants, including diplomats and legal experts, attended the event. The event was organized with the financial and logistical support from the Government of People's Republic of China.