



# NEWSLETTER

Volume 11, Issue 1, January to July 2018



## SECRETARY GENERAL

H.E. Prof. Dr. Kennedy Gastorn is the sixth Secretary General of AALCO. Prior to his current appointment in August, 2016 as the Secretary-General of AALCO, Prof. Gastorn was the Director of International Affairs of the University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania since March, 2016. He was also a member of the National Environmental Advisory Committee in the Vice President's Office, United Republic of Tanzania. Prof. Gastorn is an accomplished legal scholar and author and has co-edited and published numerous research papers and books on international legal issues.

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21



## Member States

Arab Rep. of Egypt	Kenya	Sierra Leone
Bahrain	Kuwait	Singapore
Bangladesh	Lebanon	Somalia
Brunei Darussalam	State of Libya	South Africa
Cameroon	Malaysia	Sri Lanka
China	Mauritius	State of Palestine
Cyprus	Mongolia	Sudan
D.P.R. Korea	Myanmar	Syria
Gambia	Nepal	Tanzania
Ghana	Nigeria	Thailand
India	Oman	Turkey
Indonesia	Pakistan	Uganda
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Qatar	United Arab Emirates
Iraq	Korea (Republic of)	Yemen
Japan	Saudi Arabia	Viet Nam
Jordan	Senegal	

## Permanent Observers

Australia
New Zealand

# FOREWORD

Ever since I joined the Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization (AALCO) in August 2016, it has been my constant endeavour to expand the ambit of the Secretariat's outreach in International Law building on its strong foundations assiduously nurtured and strengthened over the years.

AALCO has consistently dedicated itself to fostering a climate of consultative knowledge sharing, capacity building and regional co-operation among its member states contributing to the progressive development of International Law ever since its inception. This glorious legacy continuous to inspire us each day as we tirelessly strive to fulfil our mandate. From an organization of seven nations in 1956 we are today a large international organization of forty-seven member countries united by common bonds of friendship, camaraderie and an unwavering commitment to the systematic growth and development of International Law.

We at the Secretariat take immense pride in presenting before you once again our bi-annual Newsletter for the period January-June 2018 which showcases our efforts in strengthening the drive, determination and purpose of achieving Asian-African solidarity in international legal matters of common concern. The Newsletter describes in detail the activities undertaken by the Secretariat including seminars, conferences, meetings and other organizational aspects as well as our planned activities for the current year.

It offers a glimpse of the systematic efforts of the staff with the enthusiastic co-operation of our stakeholders in making our endeavours a success in addition to bearing testimony to the infinite possibilities that lie ahead on the path to sustaining the 'Bandung Spirit' in the times to come. The zeal and resoluteness of purpose which is described in the following pages sets the stage for the 57th Annual Session of AALCO to be held in Tokyo in October, 2018.

I invite all of you to reflect on our Newsletter which is as much a window to the future as it is to the past and revert with your valuable comments and views on the work of AALCO which shall motivate us all the more to strengthen our resolve in the journey ahead.

Happy Reading!

# SEMINARS/TRAINING PROGRAMS/CAPACITY BUILDING

## AALCO-UNHCR INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR



Standing: Mr. Jeremy England, Head of Regional Delegation of ICRC, New Delhi addressing the seminar Sitting: Mr. Mohsen Baharvand, Deputy Secretary General of AALCO moderating the session

AALCO in collaboration with UNHCR conducted an international seminar on "Responding to Large Scale Refugee Movements" at the Indian Habitat Center, New Delhi, on 18 and 19 April 2018. The seminar took place in the backdrop of the huge number of people still being forcibly displaced, as well as the remedial milestones

aspiring to be realized in the . 2018 Global Compacts. 64 participants from Member and non-Member States, academia, and international organizations attended the seminar. The seminar was spread over seven sessions dealing with pertinent topics relating to the refugee situation today. The sessions were addressed as well as presided over by eminent practitioners and academicians in the field.

Inaugural addresses were presented by the Secretary-General of AALCO, H.E. Prof. Dr. Kennedy Gastorn, the High Commissioner of Kenya to India, H.E. Mrs. Florence Weche who spoke on behalf of the President of AALCO and Senior Policy Adviser (Protection), Division of International Protection, UNHCR, Ms. Ellen Hansen. The speakers presented a concise yet comprehensive prelude to the seminar.

Session 1 that was dedicated to Global Overview of the Refugee Situation, was addressed meticulously by Ms. Yasuko Shimizu, Chief of Mission, UNHCR, India and Maldives, who delved into extant and emerging refugee issues by referring to historical trends as well as statistical analyses. Session 2 focused on the CRRF as well



H.E. Prof. Dr. Kennedy Gastorn addressing the participants

as the prospective Global Compact on Refugees 2018, and was addressed once again by Ms. Ellen Hansen. She informed the audience on the preparation process being presently undertaken for the Global Compacts on Refugees and Migrants, as well as the CRRF roll out.



Session 3 was centered on the Contemporary Issues in International Refugee Protection, being addressed by Dr. Burra Srinivas, Assistant Professor, South Asian University. He presented a critique on the existing legal framework for refugee protection, including addressing compliance challenges, alternative approaches to the subject, and the preferred centrality of States in such issues.



Session 4 of the Seminar that was dedicated to the Efficacy of Regional Cooperation in Addressing Refugee Movements, was addressed by Dr. Prof. Sanoj Ranjan, India Chair Visiting Professor, Chinese University of Hong Kong, who spoke on specific issues that regional cooperation in this regard must address. Session 5 on Interface between

Refugee Law and International Humanitarian Law was accurately dealt with by Mr. Fahad Ahmed, Legal Advisor, ICRC, New Delhi, who explained the exact role of ICRC as well as International Humanitarian Law in assisting and remedying refugee situations. Session 6 was on the Interface between Refugee Law, Migration Frameworks and the Law of the Sea. This subject was dealt with by Mr. Jeremy England, Head of Regional Delegation, ICRC, New Delhi, who explained how IHL can fill in some very crucial gaps in the existing legal regime under UNCLOS. The final session took place in two parts, dedicated to Good Practices across Asia and Africa respectively. The first part was addressed by Ms. Roshni Shanker, Founder of

Migration and Asylum Project, who spoke on how State actors, CSOs and corporate sector have come together to strengthen the refugee protection regime in various jurisdictions. The second part was addressed by Ms. Tsion Tadesse Abebe, Senior Researcher, Migration Program, Institute for Security Studies, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, who very meticulously



Standing second from left: H.E. Dato Paduka Sidek Ali, High Commissioner for Brunei Darussalam to India

addressed the question on Can Ethiopia use CRRF to Give Durable Solution to Mass Displacement of People? The seminar was complemented by valuable inputs from the audience that further enhanced the knowledge component as well as the effectiveness of the seminar.

# OFFICIAL CEREMONIES AT THE SECRETARIAT

## DONATION CEREMONY

Whilst AALCO celebrates and cherishes 35 years of AALCO-China diplomatic relations this year, the donation by the Government of the People's Republic of China of office equipment to the Secretariat is yet another evidence of the magnanimity of the Member



L-R: H.E. Prof. Dr. Kennedy Gastorn and H.E. Mr. Luo Zhaohui, Ambassador of the P.R.China to India

State. A Ceremony was held on 20 April 2018 at the Headquarters to appreciate the kind gesture and unveil the items donated. The ceremony was attended by representatives from 24 Member States.

The representative of the Government of the People's Republic of China at the Ceremony, H.E. Mr. Luo Zhaohui, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to India, was warmly welcomed by H.E. Prof. Dr. Kennedy Gastorn, the Secretary-General, AALCO. The Secretary-General profusely thanked the Government of People's Republic of China for its continued support to AALCO and for the pivotal role the



Member State has played vis-à-vis the functioning of the Organization.

H.E. Mr. Luo Zhaohui highlighted the cooperation between China and AALCO, appreciating AALCO's initiatives and achievements in providing platform for Asian and African countries to participate in international legal cooperation, to reflect the

aspirations and common interests of developing countries, and to contribute to the progressive development of International Law since its inception.

Admiration towards this munificence of China was articulately voiced by the representatives of the Member States India, Islamic Republic of Iran, Tanzania and South Africa. The gesture and the equipment would definitely motivate the Secretariat towards better performance and instill confidence in the workforce. The international media was also present at the event.

# INTERNSHIPS AT AALCO



Of the primary functions of the Centre for Research and Training (CRT) at AALCO is to encourage students of International Law from the Member States of AALCO to participate in the internship program at AALCO. The aim of the internship is to familiarize the students with the functioning of international organization dedicated to the development and promotion of International Law. It is the endeavor of the Secretariat to provide exposure to the students, to the role of an intergovernmental organization, its day to day tasks including research, and preparation of studies in International Law, as well as undertake their own study on the topics on AALCO's agenda.

The internship program is open throughout the year, and attracts students from the various prestigious Universities of the Member States. Till date in 2018, 8 students have successfully completed their internships at AALCO, during their enrolment in a graduate or post graduate course in institutions such as the South Asian University, Delhi University, Chanakya National Law University, National Law University Kochi, Nirma University, Rajiv Gandhi National Law University, and Bhartiya Vidyapeeth Deemed University. Their topics of research included contemporary issues arising in the Law of Sea, the topic of Violent Extremism and Terrorism, Permanent Sovereignty over Natural Resources, and the Question of Palestine. It is also expected that during the month of July, 3 students from China University of Political Science and Law (CUPL), and 1 student from Wuhan University shall be commencing their internship at AALCO.

# ACTIVITIES OF THE PERMANENT OBSERVERS OF AALCO

AALCO has benefitted immensely from the work of its two Permanent Observers Mr. Roy S. Lee (Permanent Observer of AALCO to the UN in New York) and Mrs. Nemoto (Permanent Observer of AALCO to the UN in Vienna)

## **Dr. Roy S Lee, New York, United States of America**

The Permanent Observers continuously keep updating their activities to the Secretariat and are integral to the functioning of AALCO.

The Permanent Observer office in New York held two sessions of informal consultations with members of the ILC and the Sixth Committee of the UNGA in which all the members were invited to participate. Ten ILC members were invited to serve as panellists. An exchange of views followed the panel presentation. The topics discussed were as follows:

1. The interplay between immunity and impunity in International Law with specific reference to the Rome Statute.
2. The advantages and challenges of having an international treaty dealing with Crimes against Humanity.
3. Legal issues pertaining to the codification of Customary International Law.

## **Madame Christine Nemoto, Vienna, Austria**

Ms. Nemoto represented AALCO in the following activities:

1. 1st Intersessional meeting of the Commission on the Narcotic Drugs (CND): The event was held on 21 Feb 2018 in Vienna.
2. Commission on the Narcotic Drugs, 61st Session: The 61st session of UNDOC for the Commission on the Narcotic Drugs that took place from 12-16 March, 2018 in Vienna. It was regarding the increase of drugs and what measures to be taken, amendments of laws and the confiscation of drugs.
3. Consultations on the Initiative for the IOM-UNODC joint platform on Countering Migrant Smuggling: The objective of the seminar was to enhance the prevention of migrants and their protection. The speakers focussed on the need for a global joint effort to eliminate the illegal ways to migrate and the prevention required for migrant smuggling.
4. UNDOC Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, 27th Session: The event was held from 14-18 May 2018 in Vienna discussing on the responses on how to prevent and counter cybercrimes in all its forms.
5. Programme and Budget Committee UNIDO, 34th Session: The 34th session that took place from 19-20 June 2018, Vienna. The next session will be held from 14-16 May 2019.



# VISITORS TO THE SECRETARIAT

Visit by Dr. Aniruddha Rajput, the Indian member of the International Law Commission of the United Nations to the AALCO Headquarters on 9 January.



Visit by H.E. Mr. K. Yechunyong, Ambassador of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) to India to the AALCO Headquarters on 26 February.

Visit of Hon. Wilfred Ikatari, Director of Regional Centre for International and Commercial Arbitration Lagos, Federal Republic of Nigeria (RCICAL) to AALCO Headquarters on 27 March.



Standing fifth from left: Mr. Zahidullah Jalali

Visit of Mr. Zahidullah Jalali, Director General, SAARC Arbitration Council (SARCO) and his team to the AALCO Headquarters on 17 May. SAARC Arbitration Council is a specialized body of South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation.

# VISITS OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL: ISIL



H.E. Prof. Dr. Kennedy Gastorn delivered the Chief Guest's address on the General Theme 'Indian Approach to International Law' at the 47th Annual Conference of the Indian Society of International Law (ISIL) held on 12-13th May, 2018 in New Delhi. The address elucidated the historical role that India has played in the world to put forward the views of the Asian African

Asian African States towards International Law. The address also recalled the contribution of Indian Scholars, to field of International Law and its critical approaches, and also towards its dissemination and progressive development. Briefly, the themes of the conference comprising of Trade and Investment, International Dispute Settlement, Private International Law and Environmental Law were also touched upon, along with an exposition of the topics of contemporary relevance within the aforesaid themes. Further, the Secretary-General of AALCO also commended the Indian Society of International Law for its role in the promotion of the study of International Law in India, and its smooth functioning of the Indian Academy of International Law & Diplomacy.



L-R: Prof. S.K. Verma, Secretary General of ISIL, H.E. Prof. Dr. Kennedy Gastorn, Dr. E.M.S. Natchiappan, President of ISIL and Prof. V.G. Hegde, Treasurer of ISIL



H.E. Prof. Dr. Kennedy Gastorn addressing the audience



# CAHDI



L-R: Ms. Päivi Kaukoranta, Chair of CAHDI & Director General, Legal Service Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland and H.E. Prof. Dr. Kennedy Gastorn

Pursuant to the grant of "Participant Status" to AALCO in the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe vide a communication dated 11 December 2017, H.E. Prof. Dr. Kennedy Gastorn attended the 55th Meeting of the Committee of Legal Advisors on Public International Law (CAHDI) held from 22-23 March 2018 in Strasbourg, France. The meeting was chaired by Ms. Päivi Kaukoranta, Director General, Legal Service, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland and was participated by the Member States of CAHDI as well as participant states and International Organizations. AALCO's participation in CAHDI revitalizes and strengthens the existing relationship between the Council of Europe and AALCO since the exchange of letters between the two organizations in 1976.

## DELHI UNIVERSITY

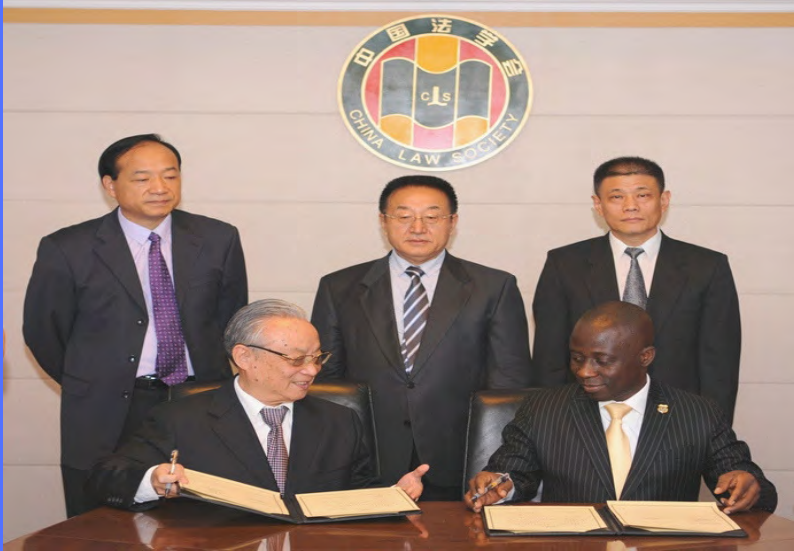
H.E. Prof. Dr. Kennedy Gastorn upon invitation from Law Centre-II, Delhi University addressed the students and faculty of the institution on the topic "The Role of AALCO in the Development of International Law: Recent Contributions" on 19th March, 2018.



Dr. V.K. Ahuja, Incharge of the Law Centre, DU with H.E. Prof. Dr. Kennedy Gastorn

His lecture covered diverse aspects of AALCO's contributions to International Law including a brief elaboration of the three primary functions of AALCO, namely, consultative, expressive and advisory. The role of special studies and the engagement with the work of the International Law Commission was highlighted as well. In-depth thematic focus on Law of the Sea, Status and Treatment of Refugees, Legal Protection of Migrant Workers, International Trade Law, UNCITRAL, International Criminal Law, Violations of International Law in Palestine, Violent Extremism and Terrorism (Legal Aspects) and International Law in Cyberspace was a feature of the address.

# COLLABORATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS: MOU WITH CHINA LAW SOCIETY



Sitting L-R: Mr. Chen Jiping, Executive Vice President of China Law Society and H.E. Prof. Dr. Kennedy Gastorn

A Memorandum of Understanding for cooperation was signed on 29 June 2018 between H.E. Prof. Dr. Kennedy Gastorn and Mr. Chen Jiping, Executive Vice President of China Law Society in Beijing, China. China Law Society is a national association of legal scholars, jurists, law practitioners, bestowed with the authority to perform regulatory,

Supervisory and professional guiding duties over legal associations nationwide. The Society plays an important role in organizing and mobilizing legal professionals in China, and contributes to progress in legislation, justice administration, law enforcement and the popularization of legal knowledge in China.

Under the terms of the MoU, note is taken of both the parties' desire to develop relations and enhance their respective capacities to address international issues within the Asian-African region in accordance with and through their relevant policies and activities relating to training and research, and clauses pertaining to cooperation agreed upon.

On this visit to China, H.E. Prof. Dr. Kennedy Gastorn was accompanied by Ms. Wang Liyu, Deputy Secretary-General of AALCO from China.



# ASIA ADR WEEK, MALAYSIA



Top (L-R): H.E. Prof. Dr. Kennedy Gastorn and Prof. Datuk Sundra Rajoo, Director of AIAC at the Asian International Arbitration Centre (AIAC)

Bottom: Participants at the Inaugural of Asia ADR Week



ecosystem, the keynote address furnished a backdrop to the sessions held during the course of two days in the ADR Week. After delving into the connotation of ADR, the Secretary-General assessed the Asian experience on ADR, presenting ADR as a part of customs in the region. This evaluation of Asian attitude and institutions on ADR was followed by the specific case study of Indian law, practice and trends on the matter. Thereafter, he pondered upon the possibility and potential of an institutional ADR convergence in Asia. He urged the gathering to attempt to perceive ADR in practice more holistically as a product of harmonization and syncretisation of both Western and Eastern values, instead of practicing a popular strain of ADR that myopically subscribes to the Western tenets thereof. In poignant words, he highlighted the benefits and advantages of resorting to ADR, as opposed to litigious methods.

The ADR Week also heralded the official launch of the Asian Institute of Alternative Dispute Resolution (AiADR).



# HOST COUNTRY AGREEMENT WITH MALAYSIA



Signing ceremony at Malaysia



L-R: Honourable Tan Sri Dato' Sri Haji Mohamed Apandi bin Haji Ali, the Attorney General of Malaysia, Honourable Dato' Sri Azalina binti Othman Said, the Minister in the Prime Minister's Department, Prof. Dr. Kennedy Gastorn and Dato' Prof. Rahmat Mohamad, former Secretary General of AALCO

H.E. Prof. Dr. Kennedy Gastorn, attended the Signing Ceremony of the Supplementary Agreement to the Host Country Agreement between the Government of Malaysia and AALCO at Bangunan Sulaiman, Kuala Lumpur on 7 February 2018. At this occasion, he delivered a Special Address celebrating the decision of the Government of Malaysia, as the host country to elevate the status of KLRCA as a global ADR hub, especially in regards to its historic name change to Asian International Arbitration Centre (AIAC).

Under the auspices of AALCO, the first Regional Centre for Arbitration had been established in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in 1978 vide a Host Country Agreement between the Government of Malaysia and the then AALCC, renewed periodically ever since. Considered an important landmark in the movement for promoting Asian-African solidarity in international legal matters and economic relations, this agreement has enabled the Kuala Lumpur Regional Centre for Arbitration (KLRCA) to function in Kuala Lumpur as part of AALCO's integrated disputes settlement system in the international economic and commercial field. In an initiative at rebranding, in view of the vision of the Centre to expand into holistic dispute management and dispute avoidance, a supplementary agreement to the Host Country Agreement has recently been entered into on 7 February 2018.

# VISITS OF DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL

## AARDO General Conference



First from left: Mr. Yukihiro Takeya, Deputy Secretary General of AALCO

Mr. Yukihiro Takeya, Deputy Secretary General of AALCO participated and represented AALCO in the 19th General Session of the Asian-African Rural Development Organisation (AARDO) Conference held from 1-3 March 2018 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. the conference was attended by 18 countries and number of international organisations.

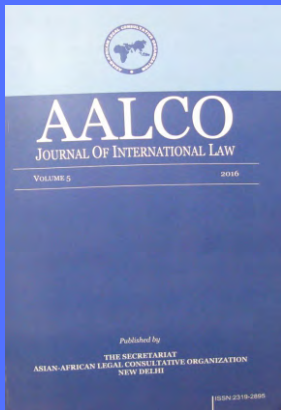
## WFUNA International Model United Nations

Mr. Yukihiro Takeya, Deputy Secretary General of AALCO made presentations at the WFUNA (World Federation of United Nations Associations) International Model United Nations (WIMUN) India 2018, which was co-produced by the WFUNA and Worldview Education. WIMUN is the world's most accurate simulation of the United Nations.

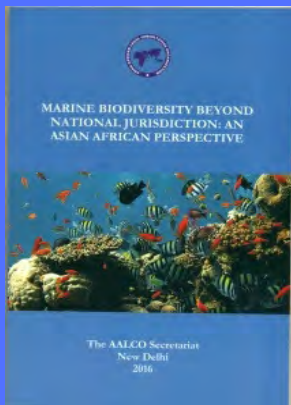
The third session of WIMUN India took place in Agra from 27th April to 1st May 2018. Deputy Secretary-General, Mr. Yukihiro Takeya presented introductory remarks on the topic, "Sustainable Future: People, Prosperity, Planet and Peace"; and on the basis of model Secretary General's reports provided, he presented two formal statements followed by candid remarks on the topics, "Peace in West Africa", as a Briefer to the model UN Security Council, and "Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice: Improving Coordination of Efforts against Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants", as a presenter to a model Committee Session at the UN General Assembly; at the WIMUN India 2018.



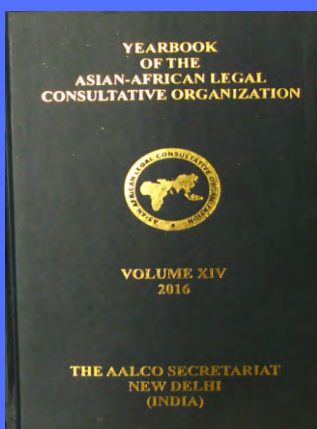
# PUBLICATIONS



AALCO journal of International Law



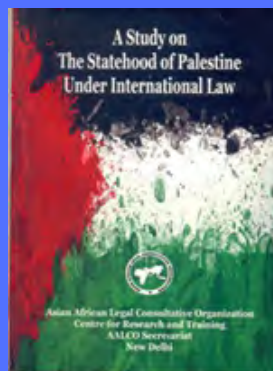
Study on Marine Biodiversity beyond National Jurisdiction: An Asian African Perspective



Yearbook of the Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization.

In order to ensure wider and periodic dissemination about the various activities of AALCO, the Organization has revamped and re-oriented its existing publications and made them more reader friendly, apart from enhancing the quality and content of the publication. In all the Secretariat of AALCO, publishes the AALCO Journal of International Law and the AALCO Yearbook of International Law. The 5th Volume of the AALCO Journal of International Law was published earlier this year, and the Call for Papers for the 6th Volume has also been announced. AALCO, invites contributions from scholars, academics, students, lawyers and judges of the AALCO Member States for the forthcoming 6th Volume of the AALCO Journal of International Law.

Keeping in view the former practice of publishing the Newsletter, this year AALCO is re-introducing the Newsletter with effect from, 2018. The Newsletter will be published bi-annually and will be available both at the AALCO Secretariat and the official website of AALCO: [www.aalco.int](http://www.aalco.int)



A Study on the statehood of Palestine under International Law

## From the Library!!

- A Study on Special and Differential Treatment under WTO Agreements (2003)
- Rights and Obligations under the UN Convention against Corruption (2006)
- A Preliminary Study on the Concept of International Terrorism (2006)
- Essays in Contemporary Issues in International Law (2009)
- Blockade of Gaza (2010)
- A Study on the Statehood of Palestine under International Law (2013)
- Unilateral Secondary Sanctions: an International Law Perspective (2013)
- Marine Biodiversity beyond National Jurisdictions: An Asian African Perspective (2016)

For more information on Publications visit: [www.aalco.int](http://www.aalco.int) or write an email to [mail@aalco.int](mailto:mail@aalco.int)



# HUMAN RESOURCES



Members of the AALCO Secretariat at the Constitution Day of AALCO

## 1. New Recruitments

In view of the increasing activities being undertaken by the Secretariat, the Government of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has sent Mr. Mohammad Alrihieli on secondment to the Secretariat. He has been assigned the designation of Senior Legal Officer.

Three new legal officers have also been employed on contractual basis — Ms. Devdatta Mukherjee; Mr. Shujoy Muzamdar and Mr. Abraham Joseph. Also, to assist in the administrative tasks and documentation, an office assistant Ms. Vimal Jeet has been appointed on contract. A new Private Secretary for the Secretary-General has also been employed on contract.

## 2. Promotions

Mrs. Anuradha Bakshi was recently promoted to the post of Deputy Director from her previous position as Principal Legal Officer.

Ms. Geetika Sharma was promoted to the post of Senior Private Secretary to the Secretary-General from her earlier position as Private Secretary to the Secretary-General.

## 3. Farewells

Mr. Pandiaraj S. who worked in the Secretariat for 13 years (2006-2018) first as Legal Officer and then as Senior Legal Officer took up an academic assignment in a private university in Chennai. The Secretary-General, H.E. Prof. Dr. Kennedy Gastorn and the staff of AALCO bid him a fond farewell on 26 February 2018 and wished him well for his new assignment.

# REGIONAL ARBITRATION CENTRES INTRODUCTION

With a view to promote institutional arbitration in the Asian African Member States, AALCO has, so far, established 5 Regional Arbitration Centres who have been providing services for institutional arbitration since their establishment. The first centre for arbitration was established in Kuala Lumpur in Malaysia that become functioning in the year 1978, followed by the Cairo Regional Centre for International Commercial Arbitration, Cairo, Egypt in 1979. In 1980, an Agreement was concluded with the Federal Government of Nigeria for the location of a third Center in Lagos. The Lagos Regional Centre for International Commercial Arbitration was formally inaugurated in March 1989. Further, the Tehran Regional Arbitration Centre and the Nairobi International Arbitration Centre were established in the years 1997 and 2007 respectively.

The Regional Arbitration Centres regularly send reports describing their activities and future program of work to Secretary-General of the AALCO for his guidance and comments. A culture of close cooperation and mutual assistance has been nurtured over the years between AALCO and the Regional Arbitration Centres and it is the endeavor of both parties to take this cooperation forward to achieve their common goals. The website of the Regional Arbitration Centres are as follows, that is regularly updated with news and information regarding their activities.

1. Asian International Arbitration Centre.  
<https://www.aiac.world>



2. Cairo Regional Centre for International Commercial Arbitration.  
<http://crcica.org>



3. Regional Centre for International Commercial Arbitration.  
<http://www.rcicalagos.org>



4. Tehran Regional Arbitration Centre.  
<http://trac.ir>



5. Nairobi Centre for International Arbitration.  
<https://ncia.or.ke>





# AIAC JAN-JUN ACTIVITIES

AIAC (previously called KLRCA) established under auspices of AALCO was one of the first not-for-profit, non-governmental international arbitral institution under AALCO. The year 2018 witnessed remarkable events at AIAC.

First, was rebranding of KLRCA as Asian International Arbitration Centre on 7th February 2018 aiming to strengthen its regional footprint and presence globally. Besides, launch of Asian Institute of Alternative Dispute Resolution (AiADR) to provide affordable and accessible education and development of the profession across the continent and its neighbours.

AIAC also organised 2nd AIAC-ICC Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Pre-Moot in March 2018 for law students with 72 teams from 21 countries participating in it.

AIAC to raise awareness related to Construction Industry Payment & Adjudication Act 2012 organised AIAC Certificate in Adjudication to train future adjudicators to be part of AIAC Panel of Adjudicators.

AIAC's flagship event for 2018 was Asia ADR Week from 5-7 May 2018 and the theme was promoting business and investment within the region and how ADR complement the expansion and commercial growth.

3rd July 2018 AIAC launched its Design and Build Contracts and organised Roadshow in Penang, Johor, Sabah & Sarawak provinces of Malaysia for promoting the same.

AALCO Annual Arbitration Forum 2018 organised from 21-22 July 2018 commemorating 40th anniversary of AIAC on theme Connecting Asia & Africa: Investment & ADR with presence of AALCO Secretary General H.E. Dr. Prof. Kennedy Gaston.

The AIAC Talk Series organised by AIAC-Young Practitioners' Group (YPG) is regular monthly talks held at Centre which is a free forum that's informative for ADR enthusiasts. There were 25 talks organised on different themes such as sports law, maritime industry, domain name disputes, mediation, investment treaty arbitration, etc. which saw participation of over 400 participants.

From signing a highly anticipated memorandum of understanding (MOU) on 6th February, 2018 with the Kenya-Chinese Chamber of Commerce (KCCC), which not only leads to increased ease of engaging in trade and investment but decreased hostility and consequently infuses a sense of security between the two countries.

To being a strategic partner at the Women in Arbitration Conference on 23rd March, 2018 organised by the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators Kenya (CIARB) procuring gender diversity in arbitration and promoting emerging female talent within the region. NCIA has been able to expand its horizons; while benefiting society in the process.

Organisation of a Stakeholders Consultative Forum on 12th and 13th April, 2018 for the creation of awareness of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) in partnership with the Judiciary and International Development Law Organisation (IDLO). Anticipated to lead to development of harmonized legal and policy framework to deepen the use of ADR in Kenya.

NCIA participated in the SOAS Conference from 2nd to 4th May, 2018 in Kigali, Rwanda which addressed the role of arbitration in the development of arbitration in Africa with the primary aim to examine how African arbitration practitioners can better support the development of both domestic and international arbitration in their individual countries, regions and collectively across the continent and globally.

The Centre also participated in the ICCA Conference held from 15th to 18th April, 2018 in Sydney, Australia!

The first half of the year has indeed been a beehive of activities with the Centre being involved in a joint China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission (CIETEC) seminar on Arbitration Practice in China and Kenya on 24th May, 2018 and concluding with the first ADR National Conference and the launch of the China Africa Joint Arbitration Centre (CAJAC) Nairobi on 4th 5th and 6th June, 2018



# CRCICA JAN-JUN ACTIVITIES

On 30 June 2018, the total number of cases filed before the Cairo Regional Centre for International Commercial Arbitration ("CRCICA") reached 1261 cases, with 35 new cases filed since January 2018.

The cases involved various types of contracts, including lease agreements, finance leasing, contracts for works, consultancy agreements, supply agreements, management agreements, sub-license agreements, agency agreements, media and entertainment, oil and gas and insurance agreements.

Parties involved in these cases came from Egypt, Italy, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Lebanon, UAE, USA, Cayman Islands, Belgium and Germany.

In these cases, appointed arbitrators came from Egypt, Lebanon, Italy, UAE, Tunisia and the UK.

During the first half of 2018, CRCICA organized a number of successful events with OECD, EU, CIArb Cairo, American Bar Association, Shearman and Sterling, the British Egyptian Business Association, the French Arbitration Committee and the Francarbi. A wide range of themes were tackled in those events including the New York Convention, the New FIDIC Contracts (2017), Dispute Adjudication Boards, investment arbitration, drafting of arbitration agreements and French as the language of Arbitration.

In June, CRCICA co-organized two OECD events on investment dispute management and prevention as a part of the EU-OECD Programme on Promoting Investment in the Mediterranean. The events were attended by governmental officials and stakeholders from Algeria, Austria, Djibouti, Egypt, France, Greece, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Lithuania, Morocco, Palestine, Russia, Spain, Tunisia, United Kingdom and the European Union.

Also, tutorials in the first half of the year aimed at qualifying junior lawyers and helping them to cope with international best practices; "the power of advocacy" and "the ABA Training of Trainers" were fundamental examples in this concern.

This year is one of special significance for CRCICA Media Profile. A variety of publications highlighting remarkable features of CRCICA activities and practices were published in various prestigious Reviews. The most prominent of which is Arbitration Costs Compared published by the GAR in January 2018. According to this study, compared to other 16 major arbitration institutions, and until the amount of US\$ 1 million, CRCICA is the cheapest in case of one arbitrator and among the top three most affordable in case of three arbitrators. For cases worth US\$ 500,000, CRCICA is also the cheapest, irrespective of the size of the tribunal. As of the amount of US\$ 5 million and beyond, CRCICA's arbitration costs slightly fluctuates within the middle level.

It is worth noting that costs cover the use of the Centre's hearing rooms and related facilities without additional charges.

Also, an "Overview of CRCICA" with a focus on media and entertainment disputes was published by the GAR in its Middle Eastern and African Arbitration Review 2018.

In the first half of the year, CRCICA attended and contributed to various regional and international events in many countries around the globe including Bahrain, the UK, Italy, Austria, Cameroon, Nigeria, Australia and the U.S.A.

Reaching mid-2018, CRCICA aspires to achieve various progresses along the year.

## Former Mentors of AALCO



B. Sen  
(1956-87, India)



Tang Chengyuan  
(1994-2000, China P.R.)



Rahmat B. Mohamad  
(2008-16, Malaysia)



Frank X. Njenga  
(1988-94, Kenya)



Wafik Z. Kamil  
(2000-08, Egypt)



# PROJECTED ACTIVITIES (JULY- DECEMBER)

## **AALCO Annual Arbitration Forum (AAAF) 2018**

AALCO will be establishing an annual forum among AALCO's Regional Arbitration Centres with participation of national institutions from Member States, styled as 'AALCO Annual Arbitration Forum' (AAAF), with the resolve to share best practices and experiences in conducting arbitration proceedings. This new initiative is proposed to be held this year at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 21-22 July 2018 in collaboration with Asian International Arbitration Centre, in pursuance of Asian International Arbitration Centre (AIAC) Kuala Lumpur agreeing to host the event.

## **57th Annual Session of AALCO**

The 57th Annual Session of AALCO is scheduled to take place in Tokyo, Japan from 8 – 12 October 2018. The relevant documents will be uploaded both in English and Arabic on the website of AALCO [www.aalco.int](http://www.aalco.int)

## **Constitution Day of AALCO**

The 62nd Constitution Day of AALCO will be celebrated on 15 November 2018.

## **Meetings and seminars/training programmes**

- (i) 70th Session of the International Law Commission: July 2018
- (ii) 4th Session of the China AALCO Exchange and Research Programme: September 2018
- (iii) Legal Advisors Meeting in New York: October 2018
- (iv) A Seminar on "Reviewing International reforms to the Investment regime and to the Investor-State Dispute Settlement Mechanism: Perspectives from Asian African Regions: November 2018
- (v) The Liaison Officers Meetings (LOM) is held at the AALCO HQ on the last Thursday of every two months.

