

(vii) **Closing statement by the Secretary General**

Thank you Mr. Chairman. You can't believe how much I am relieved now after the conclusion of the first session in my mandate. I do not know how to express my gratitude, my thanks to all the Delegates who have really shown the spirit of consensus which prevails always in this august assembly. The aim of it is co-operation, co-operation and nothing else. Excellencies, when I took the decision on the 1st of June 2001 to hold this meeting in the headquarters it was the first experience in the whole history of AALCO and I could not believe, but I had to take decision, that within twenty days I will manage with my colleagues, with the help of the hotel and with the help of so many people in twenty days to bring this session to this success. I am sure that the Almighty has helped me and helped us a lot. Mr. Chairman, I will fail in my duties if I don't thank you and thank H.E. Chief Bola Ige again for the great help you have given us by chairing this meeting. Your wisdom and his wisdom have together brought us to the shore. My thanks also go to all my colleagues and my team without them we could not or I could not achieve this, all the interpreters who have really helped us to understand each other and to pass the message very quickly to each other. They are an excellent team which is working with us since ten years. So they know us and they know our language. At the end, Mr. Chairman, on behalf of all of you I thank H.E. Chief Bola, and the Government of Nigeria for the invitation to host the 41st Session. I would like to tell Chief Bola on behalf of all of you that it is also our honour to be in Abuja next year. I wish all of you bon voyage and back to your countries with the great experience and impression that you had during this Session. Thank you very very much.

Dr. P.S.Rao: Now as the Chairman I will always have the final word, even after vote of thanks. You know, as Secretary General was speaking, it came to my mind and it is true when you say Asian African Legal Consultative, Consultative is always translated into co-operation and never conflict. So consultative you can substitute with co-operation, Asian-African legal Co-operative Organization. Remember that word and you will do a lot of good for you and for us, for the world community and I wish you all well and have a nice evening. Good luck.