

Statement of the Observer of World Metrological Organization (Mrs. Iwona Rummel-Bulska) on behalf of Observer Organizations

Thank you very much Mr. President

On behalf of Observer present at the Session from the system of the United Nations and the representatives of the specialized agencies I would like to thank you very much. First of all to you, Mr. President, Senator Agabi, Hon'ble Attorney General of the Federation and Ministry of Justice in Nigeria and through you to all your staff from the Minister of Justice, all your colleagues from Ministry of Foreign Affairs who really offered us an unbelievable warm, pleasant, welcome here in Nigeria and then after the fantastic stay, we all appreciated very much. I would say that being part of Africa myself, since I stayed 11 years in Kenya, I can say that I am part African. I know how pleasant are the people in Africa, but I would like to emphasize that the efforts of the Nigerian representatives and all staff taking part in this conference was enormous. I can say on behalf of all of us the warmth, which we representatives of the United Nations family got in Nigeria went over what we were expecting. That is why, I would like to thank you very much and I am sure all of us really appreciate very much the lovely Bubos and the beautiful briefcases which we received were real and important souvenirs of Nigeria. I think everybody realize how beautifully the men and women are dressed in Nigeria and now we are going to follow this example in the other parts of the world and show our Nigerian links. I would also like to thank very much the Secretary-General of AALCO, Amb. Dr. Wafik Z. Kamil, first of all for his idea about extending the invitations to the organizations of the United Nations system, as well as for really leading this session, of course, as a supporting part to the President but in a very efficient way. I know how important it is for every President, the support received from the Secretariat and being on the side of the Secretariat for many years in various United Nations System Organizations, I know how much work it needs to provide all participants, the documentation on time. We see arrangement for the meetings, preparation of documentation for the session not only before the session but towards the end of the session, I think that the co-operation between the Secretariat and the Government of Nigeria was extremely close and it is reflected in the way, how we were all received here and how well our landing arrangement in Lagos and Abuja and then being brought to the hotels. It shows how good idea it was for the AALCO to hold this meeting here in Nigeria we, are all grateful for this. I would not really hide that my Secretary-General, Mr. Abbasi was extremely happy since he is Nigerian national, to hear that this meeting of the important body is taking place in this beautiful new town of Abuja. I wish to emphasize that being a lawyer myself I have been following the work of AALCO for several years and this Organization is really becoming one of definitely most important voice in the field of law and legal matters which are important for every one. I would like to emphasize that it is not only for the general issues of law but for every legal issue. There are no legal aspects which are not somehow looked at by the AALCO. I would also like to emphasize the fact that we had here very important other activities such as the election of the members of the International Court of Justice. So, apart from looking at the agenda, one can see how large importance the former judges of International Court of Justice really linked with this particular organization. I wish this organization, of course, all countries of Asian-African region all the best in their endeavors of law and the Government of Nigeria, more of this sort of meetings and I think that all of us will be very happy to spread this news how well we were received here and that Nigeria is the country to come to and visit and to feel well. Thank you very much.

President: Thank you very much for the very beautiful Vote of thanks. Before I finally declare the session concluded let me make some announcements. Please for your travel arrangements contact the Protocol Desk, the official desk so that your travel arrangements are confirmed and your travels are made easy for you. For those who have not done yet, because you know ours is a country where we have to go to Lagos before we proceed further. So please for those who have not done that get the officials and do that. Well, since our arrival here, we treated so many dishes, we had AALCO dish by courtesy of H. E. the Secretary-General, Nigeria decided to give us its own kind of dish, we had it, Japan called us to take some Japanese food and we did, Germany said that we should go for Germany dish and we did and People's Republic of China yesterday treated us with some Chinese meal. Let me make a confession, I had the privilege of meeting Lordship Justice Shi and I found him a very perfect gentlemen, an intellectual and frankly speaking if we support his candidature, it is of great asset of one to all. And I believe that here all of us will give him support because by supporting him to be there, we are supporting one of our

good friend and I want to assure you that even though he was not here, as I said yesterday, we here in Nigeria will give him support and we walk with our other brothers in the West Africa sub-region in the AU to see that he retains his position in the International Court of Justice and the importance of that is the fact that he is likely to be the next President of ICJ, if we all support him. The current President is about to retire. I think sometime this year or early next year. And it would be very beautiful to have one of our own sitting at the apex Courts as the President of that Court and we know that this is our own. I think it is very important that we give him the support of ours. I wish him a very good luck. Lastly, we are going to be treated to the Saudi dish today. The Kababs are ready and other things also. We were supposed to be there by 7.00 O'clock but the day is far spent. I request all of you to move from here up and get there. The Saudi Arabian delegation is waiting for us, so that we go and treat ourselves to Saudi meal and let me thank you very much once again and I pray to God that we shall meet again in Seoul and in other places. With That I say Bon Voyage, and with this the session comes to end. Thank you.

The 41st session was thereafter declared closed