

**SUMMARY RECORD OF THE  
SECOND MEETING OF  
DELEGATIONS OF AALCO  
MEMBER STATES HELD ON  
MONDAY, 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2008 AT 2.30 PM**

**His Excellency Mr. Narinder Singh,  
President of the Forty-Seventh Session, in  
the Chair.**

1. The **President** invited Amb. Dr. Wafik Z. Kamil, Secretary-General of AALCO to present the **“Report on AALCO’s Permanent Headquarters Building”**.

2. **Amb. Dr. Wafik Z. Kamil, Secretary-General of AALCO**, while introducing the item stated that the AALCO Secretariat had started functioning from the new Headquarters Building, located at 29-C, Rizal Marg, Diplomatic Enclave, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi-110021 since April 2008. He said that shifting to the Permanent Headquarters Building marked a new beginning in the history of AALCO. On behalf of the AALCO Secretariat, the Member States and on his own behalf, he expressed his deep gratitude to the Government of India for the generous gesture. He also thanked the Ministry of External Affairs and several other departments and agencies of the Government of India for their tireless efforts in finalising the Headquarters Building project.

3. However, he also added that in due time the two blocks of the Building would be handed over to the Secretariat. However, after taking over of the Building the Secretariat would have to meet the full expenditure that could incur in the maintenance and up-keeping of the Building and this had to be met from the regular budget of AALCO.

4. He also took the opportunity to draw the attention of the Member States to some of the immediate expenditures in the

Building. They were: first, the furnishing of the Secretary-General’s Residence. It may be noted that the furnishing of the Secretary-General’s Residence (excluding the Kitchen and pantry) was the sole responsibility of the Organization. Only after the residence had been furnished, the new Secretary-General could use the Residence. However, he said that, because of the deep financial crisis faced by AALCO, the Secretariat was not able to meet the expenditure that could incur in furnishing the Secretary-General’s Residence. As long as the Residence was not furnished, he said that the Secretary-General had to take a rented house or to shift to a hotel. He also said that the best way out could be to find a company to furnish the whole building of the Residence and the Secretariat could pay for it in five or six installments. In pursuance to that, he informed that a tender was invited and one company had come forward and it could be finalized soon.

5. Second, the expenditure involved in the annual maintenance of the building. It was estimated that the maintenance cost for the entire building (civil and electrical works) would amount to approximately USD 100,000 (Rs. 40 lakhs) almost half of the budget of AALCO. That offer was, however, rejected.

6. Finally, the Secretariat would incur an additional expenditure on electrical/electronic and other requirements for the Office building and training programmes. Further, for the up-keeping of the Building, he said that the Secretariat could require more staff in the administrative and subordinate category. All these expenditure were far beyond the scope of the Organization’s current budget which was stagnant for the last 15 years.

7. The Secretary-General noted that keeping in view the heavy burden on the Organization and taking into consideration the financial situation, the Secretariat had requested support from its Member States in

the form of revision of scale of assessment, clearing of arrears and through voluntary contributions.

8. In this regard, he thanked the People's Republic of China for providing the AALCO Secretariat with eight Desktop computers, three Laptops, two Cameras and a special Wall Carpet. He also informed that the Delegation of State of Kuwait had offered a gift to the Secretariat. He called on the Member States to contribute generously for the effective functioning of the Secretariat from the new Building.

9. **The President** invited the Deputy Secretary-General Dr. Xu Jie to present the **"Report on AALCO's Centre for Research and Training"**.

10. **Dr. Xu Jie, Deputy Secretary-General of AALCO** while introducing the item stated that in pursuance of the resolution RES/46/ORG 4 adopted at the Forty-Sixth Session recalled that the Centre for Research and Training (CRT), functioning in the Secretariat of AALCO since November 2001, evolved from the 'Data Collection Unit' established in 1989. This transformation marked a new beginning in the efforts of the Secretariat towards undertaking research as well as training activities.

11. He noted that since its inception, the Centre had endeavoured to provide Member States with research studies entitled: *'Special and Differential Treatment under WTO Agreements'*, *'International Corruption: A Legal Analysis'*, *'The Concept of International Terrorism'*, *'The United Nations Convention against Corruption: Rights and Obligations'*, which were released during the previous Sessions and in commemoration of the Fifty Years Golden Jubilee Session of AALCO, a publication titled *'Fifty Years of AALCO: Commemorative Essays in International Law'* was released during the Forty-Sixth (Cape Town) Session in 2007. Apart from

these studies, the Centre was in the process of preparing a special study, namely: *'Definition of Aggression: An Analysis'*, which could be published soon.

12. The DSG said that in accordance with the assigned mandate, the website of the AALCO had been significantly modified, upgraded and updated in order to make it more user-friendly, interactive and informative. As part of its revitalization process, a new domain name of www.aalco.int had been assigned to the website recently. In that context, he requested all the Member States to provide information and other relevant materials, including the name and address of the focal point with e-mail and URL of the Ministry concerned and Officials in charge of AALCO, in their respective governments as well in New Delhi. This would facilitate in improving communications between the Secretariat and its Member States.

13. He said that one of the primary and key objectives of the Centre, as stipulated in resolution RES/40/ORG.4, was to organize training programmes for officials from Member States on various international law issues. As AALCO had entered into a number of cooperation agreements with UN and its specialized agencies and other international organizations, AALCO's future plan within the CRT was to organize training courses with each of these Organizations on relevant subjects. These training programmes would be held with the trilateral cooperation of the Organization concerned, AALCO Secretariat and the Member States wishing to send their officials to attend these courses. Towards achieving this objective, he said that the Secretariat had prepared a draft proposal of the training programme and elaborated in the Secretariat document.

14. Further, in order to materialize all these plans, he noted that the CRT should be placed in a financially sound position. While the infrastructure, in terms of Seminar and

Conference rooms with modern facilities and equipments was provided by the Government of India in the new Headquarters Building, the operational cost of the CRT was still dependent on the regular budget of the AALCO. However, the regular budget itself had many difficulties due to non-payment of the contributions and non-revision of the scale of contribution of AALCO for many years.

15. The DSG noted that keeping in view that the Secretariat had shifted to the new Headquarters Building, the Member States were requested to fund adequately the 'CRT Fund' in order to facilitate its future activities effectively. AALCO welcomed Member States to provide the Secretariat with necessary directions and recommendations regarding research topics as well as its specific training programmes and could also suggest topics of common interest and concern for conducting in-depth research studies.

16. The **President** invited the Member States to intervene in the next agenda item 'Any other matter'.

17. **The Delegate of Pakistan** inquired from the President about the schedule of the election of the new Secretary-General.

18. **The President** thanked the delegation of Pakistan for inviting the attention towards the matter relating to the election of the new Secretary-General. He called upon the delegations of Member States to make all efforts towards achieving a consensus candidate. Upon consultations, the President found that there being no possibility of consensus, he proposed for holding an indicative voting to arrive at a consensus candidate. Thereafter, he called upon the Secretary-General of AALCO to elaborate upon the procedure of voting to elect the new Secretary-General.

19. The **Secretary-General** explained that there could be two round of secretive

balloting to select one of the three candidates nominated by the Member States of Islamic Republic of Iran, Malaysia and Pakistan, in which the delegations of 37 Member States would be invited by him to cast their ballot. In the first round, since Pakistan received the least number of votes, its candidate could not make it to the second round. In the second round of voting, Malaysia received maximum support from the Member States. The **President** proposed that the Heads of Meeting of Delegations could appoint by consensus Prof. Dr. Rahmat Mohamad as Secretary-General of the Organization for a four-year term. The Meeting of Delegations endorsed the appointment of Prof. Dr. Rahmat Mohamad as the consensus candidate and elected him as the new Secretary-General of AALCO by acclamation. Then the **President** thanked the Member States for their participation in the election process of Secretary-General. He congratulated Prof. Dr. Rahmat Mohamad on his election as Secretary-General of the AALCO. He hoped that with his great experience in the legal field, he would strengthen the activities of the Organization. Thereafter, the **President** invited Prof. Dr. Rahmat Mohamad to make a statement.

20. **Prof. Dr. Rahmat Mohamad** thanked the President of the Forty-Seventh Session of AALCO and the Secretary-General, Amb. Dr. Wafik Z. Kamil. He also thanked all the Member States for electing him as Secretary-General of AALCO. He assured that he would definitely take forward the mandate and vision of the AALCO and help the Organization to proceed in a new direction. He also sought stronger cooperation and support from all the Member States in the activities of AALCO.

21. The **President** also thanked the candidates nominated by the Governments of Islamic Republic of Iran and Pakistan.

**Thereafter the Meeting was adjourned.**