

**RESOLUTION ON HALF-DAY SPECIAL MEETING ON  
“THE LAW OF THE SEA  
RESPONSES TO PIRACY: INTERNATIONAL LEGAL CHALLENGES”  
(Deliberated)**

*The Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization at its Fifty-First Session,*

**Considering** the Secretariat Document No. AALCO/51/ABUJA/ 2012/S 2;

**Noting** with appreciation the introductory remarks of the Deputy Secretary-General and the views expressed by the Chairperson and the Panelists and the statements of the Member States during the Special Meeting on “The Law of the Sea – Responses to Piracy: International Legal Challenges” jointly organized by the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, AALCO and the **United Nations Division of Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea** held on 20<sup>th</sup> June 2012 at Abuja, Nigeria

**Recognizing** the universal character of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea 1982 (UNCLOS), and its legal framework governing the issues relating to the management of the oceans;

**Mindful** of the historical contribution made by the Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization in the elaboration of the UNCLOS;

**Conscious** that the AALCO has been regularly following the implementation of the UNCLOS and its implementing agreements;

**Hopeful** that in view of the importance of the law of the sea issues, AALCO would maintain its consideration on the agenda item and continue to perform its historical role on the law of the sea matters;

**Taking note** of the deliberations at the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process established by the United Nations General Assembly to facilitate annual review of the developments in ocean affairs;

**Welcoming** the pre-eminent contribution and active role being played by the institutions established under the UNCLOS in relation to the peaceful settlement of disputes with regard to ocean related matters, the establishment of the outer limits of the Continental Shelf and the administration of the “Area”;

**Noting** with satisfaction the upcoming commemoration of the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the opening for signature of UNCLOS on 10 December 2012;

**Being aware** of the challenges faced by the international community on account of piracy:

**Condemning** the increasing incidents of all acts of piracy and armed robbery against vessels;

1. **Reaffirms** that in accordance with the UNCLOS, the “Area” and its resources are the common heritage of mankind.
2. **Encourages** the full and effective participation of its Member States in the work of the International Seabed Authority, and other related bodies established by the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, as well as in the United Nations Informal Consultative Process and also through effective contribution to the work of the Commission on the Limits of Continental Shelf, so as to ensure and safeguard their legitimate interests.
3. **Calls upon** the Member States that have not yet done so to ratify or accede to and implement fully the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.
4. **Requests** the Secretary-General to forward this resolution to the Secretariat of UNCLOS in commemoration of the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the UNCLOS.
5. **Also Requests** the Secretary-General to explore the possibility of bringing out a comprehensive study on anti-piracy legislations in order to assist the Member States on the subject matter.
6. **Decides** to place this item on the provisional agenda of the Fifty-Second Annual Session.