

**REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON ORGANIZATIONAL,
ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL MATTERS**

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

Recalling the functions and purposes of the Organization as stipulated in Article 1 of the Statutes of AALCO,

Having considered the Report of the Secretary-General on Organizational, Administrative and Financial Matters pursuant to Rule 20 (7) of the Statutory Rules as contained in Document No. AALCO/61/BALI/2023/ORG 1,

Having heard with appreciation the introductory statement of the Secretary-General on the Report of the Secretary-General on organizational, administrative and financial matters,

Also having heard with keen interest and appreciation the statements of the Heads of Delegations of AALCO Member States on the Report of the Secretary-General,

Recognizing the need to take forward the spirit of the Bandung Conference in the current era which has witnessed many international legal challenges for the States of Asia and Africa,

Appreciating the efforts of the Secretary-General to enhance the activities of the Organization and to implement its work programme as approved at its Sixtieth Annual Session held in New Delhi (Headquarters), the Republic of India from 26th September to 28th September 2022,

Also appreciating the continued practice towards the rationalization of its work programme, including consideration of the agenda items during its Annual Sessions,

Reiterating the mandate of the Putrajaya Declaration on Revitalizing and Strengthening the Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization, and the Action Plan as explained in Document No. AALCO/ES (NEW DELHI)/2008/ORG.1 adopted by the Extraordinary Session of AALCO Member States held on 1st December 2008, in New Delhi (Headquarters), India,

Welcoming the efforts by the Secretary-General for revitalizing and strengthening AALCO,

Noting with satisfaction the increased cooperation between the Organization and the United Nations and its Specialized Agencies, other international organizations and academic institutions,

1. **Approves** the work plan of the Organization as set out in the Report of the Secretary-General and urges Member States to extend their full support to the implementation of that work plan;
2. **Encourages** Member States to make voluntary contributions to support the capacity-building activities under the approved work plan of the Organization;
3. **Requests** the Secretary-General to continue his efforts and explore the ways and means to enlarge the Membership of the Organization in Asia and Africa, in particular, to increase the representation from the African States and Central Asian States;
4. **Also requests** the Secretary-General to discuss with African and Arab Member States to encourage them to depute at least one senior official to the Secretariat as an Assistant Secretary-General or Deputy Secretary-General from each of the two regions;
5. **Further requests the** Member States, in their bilateral relations, to encourage Non-Member States to join AALCO;
6. **Requests** the Secretary-General to take appropriate actions in accordance with the Action Plan adopted on 20th August 2009;
7. **Directs** the Secretary-General to take appropriate actions, in consultation with Liaison Officers, to ensure active participation of all Member States in the activities of AALCO, independent of their financial contributions;
8. **Directs** the Secretariat to report on the progress achieved by the open-ended sub-committee of Liaison Officers to comprehensively review the scale of assessed contributions at the Sixty-Second Annual Session;
9. **Also directs** the Secretariat to report on the progress achieved by the open-ended sub-committee of Liaison Officers to review the Statutory Rules of AALCO at the Sixty-Second Annual Session; and
10. **Further requests** the Secretary-General to report on the activities of the Organization at its Sixty-Second Annual Session.

AALCO'S BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 2024

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

Having heard with appreciation the introductory statement of the Deputy Secretary-General on the Proposed Budget for the Year 2024 as contained in the Document No. AALCO/61/BALI/2023/ORG 2,

Taking note of the comments of the Member States on the Proposed Budget,

Noting further that the proposed budget for the year 2024 was placed before the 356th and 357th Meetings of Liaison Officers held on 1st December 2022 and 15th February 2023 respectively at the Headquarters, New Delhi and submitted to the 61st Annual Session for the final approval,

Considering that the Proposed Budget for the year 2024 is a realistic budget depending on the actual contributions to be received,

Acknowledging the need to replenish the Reserve Fund of the Organization, with the objective of ensuring that it always has a six-month operational fund for the functioning of the Organization,

Considering all the above mentioned reasons to place the Organization on a firm financial footing,

1. **Approves** the Budget for the year 2024 as proposed;
2. **Requests** Member States who have not paid their annual contribution for the year 2023, to do so at the earliest in order to ensure the effective functioning of the Organization;
3. **Strongly** urges Member States, who are in arrears, to fulfill their financial obligations in accordance with the Statutes and Statutory Rules of AALCO, in order to expeditiously clear the same and directs the Secretary-General to report on the status thereon in the next Annual Session;
4. **Encourages** Member States to make voluntary financial contribution in order to improve the financial situation of AALCO;
5. **Mandates** the Secretary-General to explore ways and means of raising funds by additional sources in accordance with the Statutes and Statutory Rules of AALCO; and

6. **Decides** to place this item on the provisional agenda of the Sixty-Second Annual Session.

RESOLUTION ON THE AGENDA ITEM

REPORT ON THE AALCO'S REGIONAL ARBITRATION CENTRES

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

Considering the Report on the AALCO's Regional Arbitration Centres contained in Document No. AALCO/61/BALI/2023/ORG 3,

Noting with appreciation the introductory remarks made by the Secretariat and the report of the Directors of the Regional Arbitration Centres,

Reaffirming the commitment by the Governments of the Member States towards enhancing the role of the Regional Arbitration Centres,

Recalling decision relating to the Integrated Scheme for the Settlement of Disputes in Economic and Commercial Transactions adopted at its Doha Session in 1978,

Expressing satisfaction over the increasing use of the facilities and the opportunities offered for both domestic and international arbitrations under the auspices of its Regional Arbitration Centres,

Appreciating the efforts and contributions of the Governments of the Malaysia, the Arab Republic of Egypt, the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Republic of Kenya and the People's Republic of China for hosting the respective Regional Arbitration Centres,

Further appreciating the promotional activities undertaken by the Directors of the Centres, including organization of seminars and training programmes, to promote international commercial arbitration in the Asian and African regions,

Reiterating the earlier decision of the AALCO on the necessity for the Governments of the Member States to promote and support the use of the Regional Arbitration Centres,

Further reiterating its proposal, after consultation with the Directors of the respective Regional Arbitration Centres, for the holding of International Arbitration Conference biennially, by rotation in each of the Centres, with the support of the Member States,

1. **Requests** the Member States to continue their support to the Regional Arbitration Centres and use the AALCO's Regional Arbitration Centres for resolving their disputes and in particular to consider in their contracts, the inclusion of such Arbitration Clauses;

2. **Urges** the Regional Arbitration Centres to consider to the extent possible, among themselves, the formation of a common system both administratively and financially between the Centres and common standards for the qualification of arbitrators;
3. **Directs** the Regional Arbitration Centres to meet at every AALCO Annual Session to enable an exchange of ideas and to report the outcome to the Organization; and
4. **Decides** to place this item on the provisional agenda of the Sixty-Second Annual Session.

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VENUE OF THE SIXTY-SECOND ANNUAL SESSION

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

Taking note with great appreciation, of the invitation received from the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand to host the Sixty-Second Annual Session of AALCO in 2024:

1. **Decides** to accept the invitation of the Kingdom of Thailand
2. **Requests** the Secretary-General to hold consultations with the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand to prepare administrative arrangements of the Session, including the dates of the Session and inform the Member States accordingly.