



**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN**

**THE SECRETARIAT OF THE ASIAN-AFRICAN LEGAL
CONSULTATIVE ORGANIZATION**

AND

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

The Secretariat of the Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization at New Delhi, India (hereinafter referred to as the "AALCO Secretariat") and the International Council of Environmental Law at Bonn, Germany (hereinafter referred to as "ICEL");

Considering that the AALCO was established to serve as an advisory body to its Member States in the field of international law and provide a forum for cooperation in legal matters of common concern, as well as to establish cooperative arrangements with the United Nations, its Agencies and other International Organizations or bodies with a view to promoting such cooperation in the field of international law in the Asian and African regions and that the AALCO Secretariat is entrusted with the responsibility of establishing such cooperative arrangements;

Also Considering that ICEL is one of the internationally renowned public interest organisations which aims at promoting the exchange of information on the legal, administrative and policy aspects of environmental conservation and sustainable development, to support new initiatives in this field, and to encourage advice and assistance through its network;

Convinced that the development and strengthening of the cooperation between the AALCO Secretariat and ICEL in matters of common interest in environmental law and sustainable development matters would be of mutual benefit to both Organizations, and bring about better coordination and effective implementation of their respective objectives;

Have agreed as follows:



Article I

Objectives and Representation

1. The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as the "MoU") is to provide a framework between the AALCO Secretariat and ICEL to promote cooperation in matters of common interest relating to their purposes and functions, and particularly in the interest of the Member States of AALCO.
2. The AALCO Secretariat and ICEL shall extend mutual invitation to participate, as an observer, in their respective meetings on matters of particular concern to them.
3. The AALCO Secretariat and ICEL may consider extending mutual invitation to serve in joint delegations, as advisers or observers in meetings of third parties on matters of particular concern to them.

Article II

Exchange of Information

1. Subject to their respective policies and rules regarding disclosure of information and within the framework of this MoU, the AALCO Secretariat and ICEL agree to exchange relevant information and documents, including survey and study results, position papers, policy reports and reports of important meeting and seminars.
2. The AALCO Secretariat and ICEL shall also keep each other informed of current and planned activities of mutual interest for the purpose of identifying areas in which cooperation between them may prove desirable.

Article III

Technical Cooperation

1. In pursuing their respective objectives, the AALCO Secretariat and ICEL would seek each other's technical cooperation as appropriate to assist in



the development and implementation of such activities which would include mainly areas such as:

- Exploring the feasibility of cooperation on legal matters of common concern;
- Conducting training programmes jointly on international environmental law, particularly for young diplomats, government officials, academic scholars and in-house research Staff.

These areas could be extended by mutual consent as and when it is deemed necessary.

2. Wherever appropriate, the AALCO Secretariat and ICEL may carry out joint studies and cooperate in the implementation of specific programmes or projects, relating to matters of common concern; conduct periodically, seminars, workshops and training programmes on areas of common interest and for the realization of their shared objectives; and any other areas of cooperation that may be deemed necessary.

3. Wherever convenient, the AALCO Secretariat may consider providing exchange offer of their research Staff with ICEL researchers that would enhance the capacity-building of the in-house research Staff of both the Organisations, subject to further consultations regarding the details.

Article IV

Financial Implications

1. Any minor and ordinary expenditure relating to the implementation of this MoU shall be borne by the respective parties to the MoU.

2. If the cooperation proposed by one of the Parties to the other in accordance with this MoU entails expenditure beyond minor and ordinary expenditures, consultations shall be held between the Secretary-General of the AALCO and the Executive Governors of ICEL to determine the availability of resources required, the most equitable way of meeting such expenditure and, if resources are not readily available, the most appropriate ways to obtain the necessary resources.



Article V

Implementation of the MoU

The Secretary-General of the AALCO and an Executive Governor of ICEL may enter into supplementary arrangements for the implementation of this MoU by exchange of letters that would become part of this MoU.

Article VI

Modification of the MoU

The present MoU may be modified in writing by mutual consent.

Article VII

Termination of the MoU

Either Party may terminate this MoU, subject to six month's written notice. If one of the Parties decides to terminate this MoU the obligations previously entered into through projects being implemented under this MoU shall not be affected thereby.

Article VIII

Entry into Force

This MoU shall enter into force upon signatures by the Secretary-General of the AALCO and an Executive Governor of ICEL.


IN WITNESS THEREOF the undersigned, Secretary-General of the Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization and the Executive Governor of the International Council of Environmental Law, respectively, sign the present Memorandum of Understanding.




Done in duplicate in English in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, on this 7th day of August 2010. Both originals are equally authentic.

For the Asian-African Legal
Consultative Organization
(the AALCO Secretariat)

For the International Council of
Environmental Law (ICEL)



Rahmat Mohamad
Secretary-General



Wolfgang E. Burhenne
Executive Governor



Donald W. Kaniaru
Governor, Region 6 (Southern Africa)