

**RESOLUTION ON THE SPECIAL MEETING ON  
“THE LAW OF THE SEA”**

*The Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization at its Forty-Eighth Session,*

**Having considered** the Secretariat Document No. AALCO/48/PUTRAJAYA/2009/S 2;

**Having heard** with appreciation 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” jointly organized by the Government of Malaysia, the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) and AALCO on 19 August 2009 at Putrajaya, Malaysia;

**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 AALCO in the elaboration of the UNCLOS;

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

**Hoping** that, in view of the importance of the law of the sea, 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 on Ocean Affairs and Law of the Sea (UNICPOLOS) established by the General Assembly to facilitate annual review of the developments in ocean affairs;

**Being deeply concerned** about the phenomenal increase in piracy, and its adverse effect on human life, trade and commerce;

**Appreciating** the efforts taken by Member States to combat piracy;

**Welcoming** the active role being played by the ITLOS in the peaceful settlement of disputes with regard to ocean related matters:

1. **Commends** the Government of Malaysia, the ITLOS and the AALCO Secretariat for their earnest efforts in organizing this Special Meeting on the “Law of the Sea”;

2. **Extends gratitude to** the Panelists who have given valuable insight on the important aspects of the topic on the issues of “Maritime Security and Piracy” and “Delimitation of Maritime Boundaries” during this Special Meeting;
3. **Reaffirms** that in accordance with Part XI of the UNCLOS, the “Area” and its resources are the common heritage of mankind and should be used for the benefit of mankind as a whole;
4. **Urges** the full and effective participation of its Member States in the work of the International Seabed Authority and other related bodies established by the UNCLOS, as well as in the UNICPOLOS so as to ensure and safeguard their legitimate interests;
5. **Decides** to place this item on the provisional agenda of its Forty-Ninth Annual Session.