

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

The Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization at its Fifty-Eighth 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/58/ DAR ES SALAAM/2019/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 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 Fifty-Eighth Annual Session held in Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania from 21 to 25 October 2019,

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 1 December 2008, in New Delhi (Headquarters), India,

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

Noting with satisfaction the increased co-operation 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 - 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 Member States to depute at least one senior official to the Secretariat as Assistant Secretary-General or Deputy Secretary-General;
5. **Further requests** 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 20 August 2009;
7. **Requests** the Secretary-General to exploring the possibility of establishing a Permanent Observer Mission of AALCO at the United Nations Offices at Geneva and Nairobi to strengthen AALCO's presence and activities in these nerve centres of the UN;
8. **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; and
9. **Further requests** the Secretary-General to report on the activities of the Organization at its Fifty-Ninth Annual Session.

AALCO'S BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 2020

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

Having heard with appreciation the introductory statement of the (Deputy) Secretary-General on the Proposed Budget for the Year 2020 as contained in the Document No. AALCO/58/DAR ES SALAAM/2019/ORG 2,

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

Noting further that the Proposed Budget for the year 2020 was placed before the 346th and 347th Meetings of the Liaison Officers held on 13th December 2018 and 7th February 2019 respectively at the Headquarters, New Delhi, and was submitted to the Fifty-Eighth Annual Session for final approval,

Considering that the Proposed Budget for the year 2020 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 2020 as proposed;
2. **Requests** Member States who have not paid their annual contribution for the year 2019, 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 Fifty-Ninth Annual Session.

REPORT ON THE AALCO'S REGIONAL ARBITRATION CENTRES

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

Considering the Report on the AALCO's Regional Arbitration Centres contained in Document No. AALCO/58/DAR ES SALAAM/2019/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, Arab Republic of Egypt, Federal Republic of Nigeria, the Islamic Republic of Iran, and the Republic of Kenya 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 the Arbitration Clause of AALCO's Regional Arbitration Centres;
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 Fifty-Ninth Annual Session.