

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

*The Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization at its Fifty-Seventh 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/57/ TOKYO/2018/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-Sixth Annual Session held in Nairobi, Republic of Kenya from 1 to 5 May 2017,

**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. **Mandates** the Secretariat to prepare a review of the existing assessed scale of contributions, and make recommendations based on such review to be considered by the Liaison Officers, and thereafter submit it to the Annual Session for its consideration and approval; and
8. **Further requests** the Secretary-General to report on the activities of the Organization at its Fifty-Eighth Annual Session.

**AALCO'S BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 2019**

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

**Having heard** with appreciation the introductory statement of the (Deputy) Secretary-General on the Proposed Budget for the Year 2019 as contained in the Document No. AALCO/57/TOKYO 2018/ORG2,

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

**Noting further** the Proposed Budget for the year 2019 was placed before the 341<sup>st</sup>, 342<sup>nd</sup> and 343<sup>rd</sup> Meetings of the Liaison Officers held on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2017, 15<sup>th</sup> February 2018 and 26<sup>th</sup> April 2018 respectively at the Headquarters, New Delhi, and was submitted to the Fifty-Seventh Annual Session for final approval,

**Considering** that the Proposed Budget for the year 2019 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 2019 as proposed;
2. **Approves** the long-term implementation of the recommendations of the 7<sup>th</sup> Pay Commission of the Government of India in the context of the salaries and allowances of the locally recruited staff of AALCO beyond 31 December 2018;
3. **Decides** to apply the recommendations of the 7<sup>th</sup> Pay Commission of the Government of India in the context of the salaries and allowances of the locally recruited staff of AALCO from 1 January 2016 to 4 May 2017 which will not be considered as a precedent in the future. The method and source of payment will be decided by the Secretary General of AALCO provided that it will not affect the six month viability of the Reserve Fund;
4. **Requests** Member States who have not paid their annual contribution for the year 2018, to do so at the earliest in order to ensure the effective functioning of the Organization;
5. **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;
6. **Encourages** Member States to make voluntary financial contribution in order to improve the financial situation of AALCO;

7. **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
8. **Decides** to place this item on the provisional agenda of the Fifty-Eighth Annual Session.

**REPORT ON THE AALCO'S REGIONAL ARBITRATION CENTRES**

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

**Considering** the Report on the AALCO's Regional Arbitration Centres contained in Document No. AALCO/57/TOKYO/2018/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. **Requests** the Secretary-General to take an initiative towards establishment of another Regional Arbitration Centre in any interested Member State in the South-African, East-Asian and South Asian regions;

4. **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
5. **Decides** to place this item on the provisional agenda of the Fifty-Eighth Annual Session.