

**VERBATIM RECORD OF THE SIXTH
GENERAL MEETING (CONCLUDING
SESSION) HELD ON FRIDAY, 6TH
JULY 2007 AT 6.30 PM**

Her Excellency Mrs. Brigitte Sylvia Mabandla, President of the Forty-Sixth Session in the Chair

Madam President: Thank you. Now we start the concluding session and I give the floor to Uganda to give a vote of thanks on behalf of Africa.

Statement by the Leader of Delegation of Uganda on behalf of the African Member States

Madam President Hon'ble Sylvia Brigitte Mabandla, MP and Minister for Justice and Constitutional Development, Republic of South Africa; Vice President of the Session, Hon'ble Eddy Pratomo, Director of International Treaties Division, Ministry of External Affairs, Republic of Indonesia; His Excellency Amb. Dr. Wafik Zaher Kamil Secretary-General of AALCO, Your DSG's, the Hon'ble Ministers present, Your Excellencies, Distinguished participants, the unsung heroes of Drafting Committee who made this work a very big success.

Distinguished participants, as a practice to me, allow me to speak from my heart, because I don't have a written speech, unlike the ancient fighter who said, I came, I saw, I conquered. With me, allow me to say that I came, I saw and I was conquered. First, I was conquered by the love, hospitality and by the organizational framework of this meeting made possible by the Secretary-General and his team. The hospitality, love of the host country, our host minister, our host president, I don't think we have words to express our gratitude. I have traveled many places. I have attended many seminars and most of my colleagues particularly those who are asked to speak from the African region will agree with me that I don't know we shall ever pay back that we owe you so much.

Madam President, This is a conference on legal intercourse-the intercourse on legal matters. Changing the way will be doing things in order to make the world a better place to live in, to create neighborhood environment, to create prosperity and unity. As I said before, we may be different ideologically, we may be different in terms of tribal background, religious background, but certainly we are united in quest for peace, quest for development and quest for unity. The lawyers who are here know very well that our public image has never been better. Let me give an example. A very brilliant engineer died and when he died unfortunately, he went to hell. And when he was in the hell, he fixed it up so well the sewage system in hell and started working very well. The sanitary infrastructure started shining and everything started glittering in hell and God glanced there and realized that the engineer is supposed not to be in hell and supposed to be in heaven. So he rang Satan and said release than man immediately, so that he can live in heaven. Satan said forget it, he never be with you, he will be here. So God said if that is the case, I am taking it to the court, I am going to sue you. Then Satan said, you can go ahead and sue me, but who will represent you in court, because all the lawyers are in hell. That is the image that everybody has about the lawyers. Among the public, it is up to us to make sure we change that image for the better. Let me tell you that we in AALCO, this organization, to me the unity and the love found here should be maintained and it should be broadened. And that also reminds me that two fellows went in to a national park, when they started walking, a lion approached them and one of them started putting up his running boots to begin taking off. The other fellow said you must be dumped, who said you can leave the lion, can you run faster than the lion. And the other one said who says I want to leave the lion, I want to leave you.

Madam President, We are committed to the resolutions of this meeting, we are committed to the implementation, and we

are committed to continuing the work together in solidarity. Thank you so much.

Madam President: Thank you very much. On behalf of Asia, I give the floor to Indonesia.

Statement by the Leader of Delegation of the Republic of Indonesia on behalf of Asian Member States

President of the Forty-Sixth Annual Session of AALCO, Her Excellency Madam Brigitte Sylvia Mabandla; Secretary-General of AALCO, His Excellency Dr. Wafik Z. Kamil; Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Asian Countries which delegates had participated at this Forty-Sixth Session of the AALCO, I would like to congratulate Your Excellency for the wisdom and guidance throughout the Session. Under your able leadership, the deliberations of each agenda were conducted in a fruitful and beneficial manner and achieved complete success.

Let me also express my profound appreciation for the efforts made by the Secretary General of AALCO and the Secretariat for the well organized preparation of this important session including, the early dissemination of documents for discussion.

I would also like to convey sincere gratitude to the Government of the Republic of South Africa for the warm welcome and gracious hospitality shown to all delegates.

It is our commitment to continue nurturing the excellent relations between the Asian-African nations, which shall be firm basis for our future cooperation in addressing common issues for the benefit of our community. I thank you Madam President.

Madam President: Thank you very much. An Observer State, Lesotho you have the floor.

Statement by the Representative of Lesotho on behalf of the Non-Member Observer States

Thank you. Madam President, Vice President, Distinguished Delegates, Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I take this opportunity on behalf of Observer States to thank the AALCO for inviting us to participate in this Forty-Sixth Session. It was a great opportunity for us to learn about the functioning of the organization. We have greatly benefited from the Session. We commend the President of AALCO, Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development Ms. Mabandla; the Secretary-General of AALCO and the Secretariat for conducting the Session in an efficient manner.

We also on behalf of the observers, thank all the Excellencies and delegates from the Member States for the excellent participation, debates and discussions that took place during the session from which we learned a lot. Finally, let me take the opportunity to thank South Africa for your warm hospitality and for organizing the session very efficiently. I thank you Madam President.

Madam President: Thank you very much. On behalf of the International Organizations, UNEP you have the floor.

Statement by the Representative of United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) on behalf of the International Organizations

It is very honour to give vote of thanks at the end of this important meeting on behalf of the international organizations which were invited and present in this Forty-Sixth session.

We appreciate the invitation extended to all of us by AALCO to discuss with member states those international law issues of relevance to our organizations within our

institutional mandates. I am sure I can speak for all invited International Organisations that each of our bodies will continue our commitment to collaborate, assist and support, as appropriate, the work of the Member States here to effectively implement both at national and regional level their international commitments and obligations as adhered to by the Member States.

We thank our host, the Government of South Africa for all excellent organizational aspects for this meeting which made all of us really feel at home. To our President, for your excellent leadership and flexibility shown throughout the week have really facilitated the work of this meeting. To all those behind the scenes, we say thank you so much. To the AALCO Secretariat under the able leadership of Amb. Dr. Wafik Z. Kamil together with him the team we equally support and appreciate the effort put in place until today. Together we should be able to take the subject of international law with all its components to richer heights for sustainable development. Thank you all.

Concluding Remarks of Secretary-General: Madam President, At last we have finished our work very successfully. We have been enjoying great hospitality from the host country. I have seen how much each and every one in the host committee was really aware of his/her duty and really aware that he/she must do his work to make this session a great success.

Madam President, I would like to tell you on behalf of all of us, it has been a great success, we have really felt how much love and efforts you have put from your heart to make us all comfortable on all aspects. On behalf of all my colleagues and on behalf of all the Member States present here, I thank you and I present you my deepest gratitude.

Now, allow me on behalf of all of you to handover the Message of Thanks to the President of the Republic of South Africa to the Excellency the President of AALCO.

Since I have the floor Madam President, I wish all the delegates, Excellencies, the Hon'ble Ministers, ladies and gentlemen a warm voyage and please return sound and safe to your capitals. We all meet at the Forty-Seventh Session as united as the Minister of Uganda said we have to unite ourselves. Thank you very much Madam President.

President: Thank you Secretary-General for your kind words. All the representatives that spoke on behalf of our continents, international organizations, and our sister neighbour countries-thank you very much for the magnanimity. The Forty-Sixth Annual Session of AALCO is now closed. Thank you very much.