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ORAL STATEMENT

ITEM 10: Interactive Dialogue on the High Commissioner's oral update on Libya

**THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL MUST ADDRESS IMPUNITY FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
VIOLATIONS AND ABUSES IN LIBYA**

UN HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

Thirty-sixth session

11 – 29 September 2017

Mr. President,

The political stalemate and power struggle in Libya has created a situation in which armed groups and militias are more likely to be able to commit serious human rights violations and abuses with total impunity.

Militias and armed groups on all sides are responsible for violations of international humanitarian law and violations and abuses of international human rights law. These include arbitrary detentions, abductions, enforced disappearances, torture and ill-treatment, unlawful killings, indiscriminate attacks and forced displacement. In many cases, these militias and armed groups are affiliated with -- and on the payroll of -- the Government of National Accord, the Government of National Salvation or the Libyan National Army.

Refugees and migrants are particularly vulnerable to abuse at the hands of these groups acting in complicity of the authorities. They are often indefinitely detained in official and unofficial centres, where many suffer torture and ill-treatment, and are subjected to forced labour, extortion, and sexual violence.

All parties to the conflict must take steps to end the suffering of the Libyan people, including by making it clear that those who order or carry out human rights violations and abuses, or violations of international humanitarian law, will be held to account.

Amnesty International therefore calls on the Human Rights Council to consider the creation of an Independent Expert on Libya to monitor and report on the human rights situation, and progress made towards accountability.

Finally, Amnesty International welcomes the arrest warrant issued by the ICC in August against the LNA field commander. We call on the Libyan authorities to hand the suspect over to the ICC and urge the ICC to expand its investigations in Libya to include other crimes under international law being committed throughout the country.

Thank you Mr. President