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**ORAL STATEMENT**  
**Item 6:**  
**Consideration of UPR reports: Netherlands**

UN Human Rights Council  
52nd session,  
27 February - 4 April 2023

Mr. President,

In the context of racial and ethnic profiling still being rife in the Netherlands, Amnesty International welcomes the Netherlands' support of recommendations to improve policies against ethnic and racial profiling and discrimination and racism.<sup>1</sup> We are disappointed, however, that the Netherlands merely noted those on eradication of racism and discrimination by law enforcement agencies and officials, including the police.<sup>2</sup>

Mr President,

Amnesty International welcomes the support for recommendations on the need to ensure a dignified reception of asylum seekers, in compliance with human rights standards. We urge the government to confirm that relevant policies will be extended to all the countries of the Kingdom of the Netherlands.<sup>3</sup>

We regret that the government only noted several recommendations relating to detention measures applied to people whose asylum claims have been rejected or who are undocumented as well as forced returns of people to unsafe countries. In this regard, it is also troubling that the Netherlands only noted recommendations to prohibit the use of solitary confinement as a punitive measure.<sup>4</sup> Since plenty of studies show the opposite, we believe the comment 'The Netherlands does not agree that it implements policies which violate rights of migrants' is not based on facts and we urge the government to reverse its position on these recommendations.<sup>5</sup>

Mr President,

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<sup>1</sup> UN Human Rights Council, Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review: Netherlands, UN Doc. A/HRC/52/16 and its Addendum UN Doc. A/HRC/52/16/Add.1., Recommendations 147.32 (Panama), 147.58 (Turkey), 147.59 (Ukraine), 147.61 (Nigeria), 147.66 (Sweden), 147.78 (Eswatini), 147.81 (Australia), amongst others.

<sup>2</sup> UN Human Rights Council, Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review: Netherlands, UN Doc. A/HRC/52/16 and its Addendum UN Doc. A/HRC/52/16/Add.1., Recommendations 147.62 (Azerbaijan), 147.63 (Canada), 147.64 (Costa Rica) and 147.71 (Philippines), amongst others.

<sup>3</sup> UN Human Rights Council, Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review: Netherlands, UN Doc. A/HRC/52/16 and its Addendum UN Doc. A/HRC/52/16/Add.1., Recommendations 147.241 (Philippines), 147.242 (Sweden), 147.243 (Slovakia), 147.244 (Norway)

<sup>4</sup> UN Human Rights Council, Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review: Netherlands, UN Doc. A/HRC/52/16 and its Addendum UN Doc. A/HRC/52/16/Add.1., Recommendations 147.227 (China), 147.234 (Argentina), 147.240 (Zambia), 147.246 (Costa Rica)

We encourage the Netherlands to implement supported recommendations as soon as possible. We urge the government to submit a mid-term report on progress towards implementation of supported recommendations and to use an Item 6 General Debate to bring this to the attention of UN Member States.

Thank you.