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## ORAL STATEMENT

### ITEM 3: INTER-ACTIVE DIALOGUE WITH THE SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR ON THE PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS WHILE COUNTERING TERRORISM

#### **HUMAN RIGHTS IMPACT OF COUNTER-TERRORISM AND COUNTERING (VIOLENT) EXTREMISM POLICIES AND PRACTICES ON THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN, GIRLS AND THE FAMILY.**

UN Human Rights Council  
Forty-sixth Session  
22 February- 23 March 2021

Madame President,

Amnesty International welcomes the Special Rapporteur's report on the Human rights impact of counter-terrorism and countering (violent) extremism policies and practices on the rights of women, girls and the family.

Madame Special Rapporteur,

We share your concerns that women and girls bear heavy and unseen burdens resulting from the impacts of counter-terrorism law and practice. Counter-terror legislation has been exploited for reasons that include the detention of women standing up for their rights. Women have also been unjustly detained simply because they are related to individuals suspected of affiliation with non-state armed groups. Counter-terrorism measures also have a range of adverse impacts on the family. Enforced disappearances of individuals suspected of terrorism-related offences, for example, do not only violate the rights of the person disappeared, but they often also violate the rights of family members. Psychological harm is sometimes compounded by additional abuses, such as denial of necessary civil documentation.

Madame President,

States must give consideration of the gendered human rights impacts of their CT measures, and ensure that families as a whole are not punished for the real or perceived acts of a single member.

Thank you.