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**UN Human Rights Council  
Thirty-sixth Session  
11 September – 29 September 2016**

Item 10: Technical assistance and capacity building for Yemen in the field of human rights - Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Mr. President

At least 1,345 civilians have been killed in Yemen since the Council failed to establish an international inquiry into the conflict one year ago. This brings the total civilian casualties since the start of the airstrike campaign by the Saudi Arabia-led coalition in March 2015 to 5,144 deaths and over 8,749 wounded. Children account for 1,184 of those killed and 1,592 of those injured.

All parties to the conflict continue to commit violations of international humanitarian law and other serious violations and abuses of human rights law, which must be investigated as possible war crimes.

In Amnesty International's assessment, the national commission established by the internationally recognized government of Yemen, and backed by Saudi Arabia, lacks the independence, impartiality and practical authority necessary to carry out its work effectively and credibly. We are also of the view that investigations by the Saudi Arabia-led coalition's Joint Incidents Assessment Team lack transparency, independence and impartiality. Ultimately, both these mechanisms have to date failed to deter violations by all parties to the conflict, promote respect for the law, and provide justice, truth and reparation for all victims and their families.

Amnesty International therefore reiterates its call on the member states of Council to support the High Commissioner's recommendation and promptly establish an independent international investigation, capable of establishing the facts about alleged violations by all sides to the conflict and identifying alleged perpetrators to ensure justice and accountability for victims and their families. This is crucial for the credibility of this body.

Thank you Mr. President.