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PRESS BRIEFING

VENEZUELA

THE SILENT CRY: GROSS HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS AGAINST CHILDREN

Amnesty International will be launching its first report on human rights violations against children in Venezuela at a press briefing to take place at the organization's International Secretariat. The report, entitled *The silent cry: gross human rights violations against children*, shows that minors in Venezuela -- particularly those from the poorest sectors of society -- are being subjected to torture, extrajudicial executions and arbitrary detention, mostly in the context of alleged anti-crime operations carried out by the security forces with complete disregard for children's lives and well being.

The report will be presented by Javier Zúñiga, Programme Director for the Americas Region, and Morris Tidball, Researcher on Venezuela, who will be available for individual interviews after the briefing. The briefing will take place at:

11 am, Thursday 30 October 1997
Amnesty International, International Secretariat
1 Easton Street, London WC1X 8DJ
(in the conference room)

For further information, please contact: Soraya Bermejo, Amnesty International Press Office,
on 0171 413 5562.