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MEDIA ADVISORY

Launch of a two-volume document entitled: "Kosovo -- A Decade of Unheeded Warnings"

On Wednesday 12 May, Amnesty International's Secretary General Pierre Sané will launch a two-volume report that documents a decade of evidence about the torture and ill-treatment, "disappearances" and killings in Kosovo. Many of the case studies preceded the events of March 1999, when military intervention began by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

The 30-documents report will be presented at a press conference at 1700 (local time) in The Netherlands Congress Centre, Commission Room 5 (next to the plenary discussion room) Churchillplein 10, The Hague, during the Hague Appeal for Peace Conference, which is being held from 11 to 15 May, 1999 in The Hague, The Netherlands

In reaction to the recent G-8 Summit statement of principles for peace in Kosovo, Secretary General Pierre Sané will protest the lack of any mention of bringing human rights perpetrators to justice or giving any role to the International Criminal Tribunal for Former Yugoslavia, headquartered at The Hague.

"In agreeing and implementing any form of peace settlement, will the kind of human rights guarantees that could prevent a repetition of this tragic history be insisted upon?" Pierre Sané asks. "Will the regional and local human rights and democracy NGOs -- and other civil society actors whose voice and vision has too often been ignored in the past -- be guaranteed a seat at the negotiating table?" ENDS.../

For more information about the launch of *Kosovo: A Decade of Unheeded Warnings*, please call Karen Buschman at Amnesty International press office in The Netherlands on mobile no (31) 622-10-99-64 or (31) 20-262-4436.

To arrange an interview, or to receive copies of the document, please contact the International Secretariat press office in London on (44) 171-413-5566. ISDN available.