Mr. President,

Amnesty International highlights here some of the many human rights situations that it is following with concern.

Amnesty International continues to document serious human rights violations in Ethiopia. Members of this Council must take immediate steps to resume scrutiny of the human rights situation in Ethiopia and establish a process to follow up on the findings of the International Commission of Human Rights Experts on Ethiopia.

On China Amnesty International condemns the recent passage of Hong Kong’s Safeguarding National Security Ordinance contrary to Hong Kong’s human rights obligations, and calls for it not to go into effect. We further call on this Council to follow up on OHCHR’s assessment on Xinjiang published in 2022, request further updates from the High Commissioner and pursue options for accountability including through the establishment of an independent, impartial and international mechanism.

Finally, in India, minorities continue to face violations of their right to education, housing, work, religion, employment and nationality. Recent events in Manipur and the intensification of repression of the people of Indian-administered Jammu and Kashmir are illustrations of this. Coupled with the rising advocacy of hatred and violence against minority and marginalized groups by the member of the ruling political party and their supporters, this has instilled a grave sense of insecurity and fear. The government has imposed dangerous restrictions on civil society by weaponizing laws to criminalise freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association. The gradual weakening of autonomous institutions such as the National Human Rights Commission of India has profound implications on people’s ability to enjoy their human rights. We call on States through this Council to address these violations, including in the context of the Council’s prevention mandate.

Thank you.