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**UN Human Rights Council
Thirty-First session
29 February – 24 March 2016**

Item 10: Technical assistance and capacity-building

General Debate

Mr. President,

Since this Council's 30th session, parties to the conflict in Yemen have continued to commit violations of international humanitarian and human rights law, including possible war crimes, with devastating consequences for civilians. They are fuelled by a reckless flow of arms from states - including the USA and UK. The Saudi Arabia-led coalition continues to carry out attacks that strike civilians and civilian objects, including schools, hospitals, markets and mosques, and has been responsible for more than half the civilian casualties in the conflict. Huthi/Saleh forces also continue to conduct indiscriminate or reckless ground attacks and use imprecise battlefield weapons in residential areas, with utter disregard for civilians.

According to Amnesty International's information, six months after its creation, Yemen's national independent commission has failed to carry out any substantive work or share information about its structure, work methods or work plan. This raises significant concerns about its ability to deliver a prompt, independent and impartial investigation into violations committed by all sides.

Amnesty International reiterates its call on this Council to establish an international investigation into alleged violations of international humanitarian and human rights law, including possible war crimes, by all parties to the conflict in Yemen. The organisation also urges all states to halt all transfers of arms for use in the Yemen conflict in order to stop the fuelling of violations that have had devastating consequences for civilians.

Thank you Mr. President.