

**AMNESTY
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UN Human Rights Council
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Item 10: Technical assistance and capacity-building

Oral update of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the technical assistance and capacity-building to improve human rights in Libya, with the participation of Mr. Bernardino León, Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for Libya

Mr President,

Since mid-2014, all parties to the ongoing conflicts in Libya have carried out serious human rights abuses and violations of international humanitarian law, including war crimes.

Civilians continue to be targeted in reprisals for their political affiliation, origin or tribal belonging. Abductions, hostage-taking, torture, summary killings of fighters and abducted civilians, indiscriminate attacks, and direct attacks against civilians and their property continue to be reported on an alarming scale. They have caused mass internal displacement.

Amnesty International assesses that these violations and abuses are perpetrated by all parties regardless of whether they are affiliated with the self-declared government in Tripoli, the internationally recognized government in Tobruk, or are pursuing their own agendas such as the group calling itself Islamic State (IS).

This Council, its members and observer States must explicitly condemn crimes carried out by all forces, militias and armed groups, including those that operate with a mandate from the internationally recognized government. This Council must remind all parties of their obligations to protect civilians and that they are liable to prosecution for crimes under international law.

Amid lawlessness, migrants and refugees have increasingly faced abductions for ransom, torture and sexual violence by traffickers, smugglers and armed groups. Many are subjected to indefinite detention in appalling conditions.

The Libyan criminal justice system, weakened by the instability, is unable to carry out meaningful investigations into such abuses and violations. The recent trial of former al-Gaddafi officials, which resulted in nine death sentences, was marred with serious flaws and highlighted Libya's inability to administer justice effectively in line with international standards.

This Council should call on the International Criminal Court to expand its investigations to incorporate war crimes and crimes under international law committed by all armed groups and militias since February 2011 and demand that anyone who is suspected of ordering, committing, aiding or abetting the commission of such crimes is apprehended and brought to justice in a fair trial and without recourse to the death penalty.

Thank you Mr President.