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**UN Human Rights Council
Thirty-third Session
13 September – 30 September 2016**

Item 10: Technical assistance and capacity building for Yemen in the field of human rights - Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Thank you Mr Vice President,

Nearly 1,500 more civilians have been killed in Yemen in the year since this Council failed to create an international inquiry into the conflict. This brings the total civilian casualties to 3,799 deaths and more than 6,700 wounded since the Saudi Arabia-led coalition began airstrikes in March 2015.

All parties to the conflict have continued to commit violations and abuses of international human rights and humanitarian law, including some that may constitute war crimes.

In Amnesty International's assessment, the national commission established by the internationally recognized government of Yemen and backed by Saudi Arabia has failed to meet key criteria set out in international standards, including those of independence, impartiality and effectiveness. Investigations by the Saudi Arabia-led coalition's Joint Incidents Assessment Team (JIAT) into violations have also failed to meet international standards. The team's methodology, including its verification of information and the choice of incidents investigated remain unclear.

Members of this Council must demonstrate their commitment to securing justice and accountability for the victims of the Yemen conflict. This will ensure that the Council's credibility is maintained.

Amnesty International urges the Council to support the High Commissioner's recommendation and promptly establish an international investigative body capable of establishing the facts about allegations of violations by all sides to the conflict and identifying alleged perpetrators to ensure justice and accountability for victims and their families.

Thank you Mr Vice President.