



AI Index: IOR 41/028/2012
12 November 2012

United Nations: Amnesty International oral and written statements to the 21st regular session of the Human Rights Council (10-28 September 2012)

Amnesty International delivered the oral and written statements available at the links below at the 21st session of the UN Human Rights Council, which took place in Geneva from 10 to 28 September 2012. The links are organized by agenda item.

Item 1- Organizational and procedural matters

- Decisions and conclusions followed by general comments from stakeholders

Amnesty International wrap-up statement on some of the developments at the 21st session of the UN Human Rights Council (AI Index: IOR 41/025/2012, 28 September 2012) (Not delivered for lack of Council's time)
<http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/IOR41/025/2012/en>

Item 2 – Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and reports of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Secretary-General

- Update by the High Commissioner, followed by general debate

The Gambia: halt further executions and establish an official moratorium. The Maldives: address impunity for human rights violations by the police (AI Index: IOR 41/027/2012, 11 September 2012)
<http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/IOR41/027/2012/en>

- Introduction of thematic reports by the Secretary-General and High Commissioner followed by general debate

Death penalty: The Council must do more for abolition: Oral intervention at the 21st session of the UN Human Rights Council (AI Index: ACT 50/011/2012, 14 September 2012)
<http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/ACT50/011/2012/en>

- Written statements

The question of the death penalty: Written statement to the 21st session of the UN Human Rights Council (AI Index: ACT 50/008/2012, UN Index: A/HRC/21/NGO/123) <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/ACT50/008/2012/en>

Item 3: Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development

- Interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence

Transitional justice: Four central cross-cutting issues: Joint oral intervention by the International Commission of Jurists and Amnesty International (AI Index: IOR 53/024/2012, 12 September 2012)

<http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/IOR53/024/2012/en>

- Interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation

Protect the human rights to water and sanitation in informal settlements¹ (AI Index: IOR 41/023/2012, 12 September 2012) <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/IOR41/023/2012/en>

- Interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes

Improving the enforcement of global rules to prevent exposure to toxic wastes: Trafigura's dumping in Cote d'Ivoire and the need for corporate disclosure of information (AI Index: IOR 41/022/2012, 13 September 2012)

<http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/IOR41/022/2012/en>

- Panel Discussion on the issue of intimidation or reprisal against individuals and groups who cooperate or have cooperated with the UN, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights

Intimidation and reprisals against individuals cooperating with the United Nations are an attack on the United Nations: Oral intervention at the 21st session of the UN Human Rights Council (AI index: IOR 41/024/2012, 13 September 2012) <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/IOR41/024/2012/en>

<http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/IOR41/024/2012/en>

- Interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedom of Indigenous Peoples

Protecting the rights of Indigenous Peoples in the context of extractive industries (AI Index: IOR 41/026/2012) (*Not delivered for lack of Council's time*) <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/IOR41/026/2012/en>

- Written statements

Americas: Right to consultation and consent of Indigenous peoples in the Americas (AI Index: AMR 01/007/2012, UN Index: A/HRC/21/NGO/124) <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/AMR01/007/2012/en>

Item 4 – Human rights situations that require the Council's attention

- Interactive dialogue with the Commission of Inquiry on Syria

Syria: Accountability to be at the heart of any future resolution to the conflict (AI Index: MDE 24/086/2012, 17 September 2012) <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/MDE24/086/2012/en>

¹ See also **Amnesty International public statement, United Nations: States must recognise and not undermine the content of the rights to water and sanitation** (Index: IOR 41/020/2012, 29 October 2012) <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/IOR41/020/2012/en>

- Country reports by the Secretary General and High Commissioner followed by general debate

Sudan: The Council must establish a robust monitoring mandate for the Independent Expert under item 4² (AI Index: AFR 54/048/2012, 17 September 2012) <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/AFR54/048/2012/en>

- Written statements

Democratic Republic of Congo: The Human Rights Council must act for better protection of civilians and an end to threats and intimidation against human rights defenders, journalists and political opponents (AI Index: AFR 62/011/2012, UN Index: A/HRC/21/NGO/126) <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/AFR62/011/2012/en>

Ethiopia must improve its human rights record to be a credible candidate for election to the Human Rights Council (AI Index: AFR 25/012/2012, UN Index: A/HRC/21/NGO/125) <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/AFR25/012/2012/en>

The Maldives: A real danger that recent progress in respect for human rights will be lost and an old pattern of repression and injustice re-established (AI Index: ASA 29/006/2012, UN index: A/HRC/21/NGO/122) <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/ASA29/006/2012/en>

Sri Lanka: No real will to account: Shortcomings in Sri Lanka's National Plan of Action to implement the recommendations of the LLRC (AI Index: ASA 37/010/2012, UN Index: A/HRC/21/NGO/72) <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/ASA37/010/2012/en>

Item 5 – Human rights bodies and mechanisms

- General debate

Russian Federation: The Pussy Riot case exemplifies use of traditional values to undermine human rights (AI Index: EUR 46/044/2012, 21 September 2012) <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/EUR46/044/2012/en>

Item 6 – Universal Periodic Review

Bahrain's acceptance of key UPR recommendations welcome, but implementation must follow (AI Index: MDE 11/054/2012, 20 September 2012) <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/MDE11/054/2012/en>

Brazil: Amnesty International urges the government to protect Afro-Brazilians from racism-related violence and welcomes its support for establishing a National Human Rights Institution (AI Index: AMR 19/013/2012, 20 September 2012) <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/AMR19/013/2012/en>

Ecuador: Amnesty International urges for a meaningful consultation with Indigenous peoples and expresses concern about unfounded prosecutions (AI Index: AMR 28/006/2012, 19 September 2012) <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/AMR28/006/2012/en>

Finland: Limited inquiries into rendition programme fail to meet obligation of investigation under international human rights law (AI Index: EUR 20/001/2012, 19 September 2012) <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/EUR20/001/2012/en>

² See also: **Sudan: Human rights situation continues to deteriorate: Amnesty International written statement to the 20th session of the UN Human Rights Council** (AI Index: AFR 49/026/2012; UN index: A/HRC/20/NGO/113) <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/AFR54/026/2012/en>

India: Amnesty International urges India to promptly ratify the Convention against Torture and invite the Special Rapporteur on torture to visit India (AI Index: ASA 20/034/2012, 24 September 2012)
<http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/ASA20/034/2012/en>

Indonesia: Amnesty International regrets rejection of key recommendations on freedom of expression and religion despite commitments to protect these rights (AI Index: ASA 21/037/2012, 19 September 2012)
<http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/ASA21/037/2012/en>

Netherlands: Amnesty International urges implementation of recommendations on immigration detention, discrimination and developing a national human rights action plan (AI Index: EUR 35/001/2012)
<http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/EUR35/001/2012/en>

Philippines: Amnesty International urges authorities to end impunity for grave human rights violations (AI Index: ASA 35/005/2012, 21 September 2012) <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/ASA35/005/2012/en>

Poland: Amnesty International regrets the lack of transparency and adequate access to information for victims in the investigation into government's involvement in CIA's rendition and secret detention programmes (AI Index: EUR 37/001/2012, 20 September 2012) <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/EUR37/001/2012/en>

South Africa: Amnesty International encouraged by initial steps to strengthen protections against torture but condemns continued use of excessive force by police and the failure to uphold refugee rights (AI Index: AFR 53/005/2012, 21 September 2012)
<http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/AFR53/005/2012/en>

Tunisia: Amnesty International regrets rejection of recommendations regarding decriminalization of defamation, non-discrimination against women and on the basis of sexual orientation, and abolition of the death penalty (AI Index: MDE 30/009/2012, 20 September 2012) <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/MDE30/009/2012/en>

United Kingdom: Amnesty International welcomes new investigation into UK complicity in torture and other ill-treatment abroad, but deplores the continued use of diplomatic assurances (AI Index: EUR 45/013/2012, 20 September 2012) <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/EUR45/013/2012/en>

Item 10: Technical assistance and capacity-building

- Interactive Dialogue with the Independent Expert on the human rights situation in Somalia

Somalia: Investigate killings of journalists and hold perpetrators to account (AI Index: AFR 52/011/2012, 26 September 2012) <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/AFR52/011/2012/en>

- Country reports by the Secretary-General and High Commissioner followed by general debate

Yemen: Ensure accountability and remedy for human rights violations (AI Index: MDE 31/014/2012, 26 September 2012) <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/MDE31/014/2012/en>

- Written statements

Yemen can no longer delay taking concrete steps to improve its human rights situation (AI Index: MDE 31/011/2012, UN Index: A/HRC/21/NGO/115) <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/MDE31/011/2012/en>

South Sudan: Strengthen human rights and accountability mechanisms: Human Rights Council: Establish an Independent Expert mandate (AI Index: AFR 65/004/2012, UN Index: A/HRC/21/NGO/134)
<http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/AFR65/004/2012/en>