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**ORAL STATEMENT**  
**Item 6**  
**Consideration of UPR reports: Jordan**

UN Human Rights Council  
56<sup>th</sup> session  
18 June – 12 July

Mr. President,

Amnesty International welcomes Jordan's acceptance of some recommendations related to respect for the rights to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly, and the protection of Human Rights Defenders from harassment and attacks. However, we remain deeply concerned that since making similar commitments in its previous UPR, the Jordanian authorities have escalated their crackdown on civic space and increasingly used repressive legislation, such as the draconian Cybercrime Law, to stifle dissent.<sup>1</sup> Since 7 October 2023, the authorities have harassed, detained or prosecuted thousands of individuals for expressing pro-Gaza sentiments, criticizing the government's policies, or calling for public strikes and protests. Dozens continue to be held in administrative detention without charge or access to due process guarantees. The authorities also continue to prosecute political dissidents, such as Ayman Sanduka, before the State Security Court, an exceptional military court that fails to meet fair trial standards.<sup>2</sup>

We deeply regret that Jordan has only noted recommendations to amend the Penal Code, the Press and Publications Law, the Anti-terrorism Law, and the 2023 Cybercrime Law to remove provisions that criminalize forms of expression protected under international law.<sup>3</sup> We also regret that Jordan refused to repeal or amend the Crime Prevention Law, which governors continue to use to

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<sup>1</sup> UN Human Rights Council, *Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review: Jordan*, UN Doc A/HRC/56/10, 15 March 2024, Recommendations 136.41-59 (Argentina, Slovakia, United States of America, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Sweden, Germany, Kingdom of the Netherlands, Spain, Kuwait, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Estonia, France, Gambia, Holy See, Ireland, Lithuania, Montenegro)

<sup>2</sup> Amnesty International, "Jordan: End draconian crackdown against pro-Palestinian activism", 6 February 2024, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2024/02/jordan-end-draconian-crackdown-against-pro-palestinian-activism/>; Amnesty International, "Jordan: Stop cracking down on pro-Gaza protests and release those charged for exercising their freedoms of assembly and expression", 11 April 2024, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2024/04/jordan-stop-cracking-down-on-pro-gaza-protests-and-release-those-charged-for-exercising-their-freedoms-of-assembly-and-expression/>; Amnesty International, "Jordan: Political Activist Facing Trial Before Military Court for Facebook Post: Ayman Sanduka", 22 March 2024, <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde16/7865/2024/en/>

<sup>3</sup> UN Human Rights Council, *Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review: Jordan*, UN Doc A/HRC/56/10, 15 March 2024, Recommendations 137.38-44 (Norway, Canada, United States of America, Iceland, Chile, Luxembourg, Switzerland)

administratively detain individuals – including activists and women at risk of “honour crimes” – without charge or trial.<sup>4</sup>

Mr. President,

We regret that Jordan did not commit to amend the Nationality Law granting women the right to pass their nationality to their children on an equal basis with men.<sup>5</sup>

We are also appalled by Jordan’s rejection of the recommendations to abolish the death penalty and ratify the Optional Protocol to the Torture Convention.<sup>6</sup>

Finally, we encourage Jordan to implement supported recommendations as soon as possible and urge the government to submit a mid-term report on progress towards implementation of supported recommendations.

Thank you.

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<sup>4</sup> UN Human Rights Council, Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review: Jordan, UN Doc A/HRC/56/10, 15 March 2024, Recommendations 137.31-33 (Australia, Iceland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), 137.36 (Canada)

<sup>5</sup> UN Human Rights Council, *Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review: Jordan*, UN Doc A/HRC/56/10, 15 March 2024, Recommendations 137.79-83 (United States of America, Slovakia, Costa Rica, Mexico, Chile)

<sup>6</sup> UN Human Rights Council, *Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review: Jordan*, UN Doc A/HRC/56/10, 15 March 2024, Recommendations 137.10 (Iceland), 137.11 (Lithuania, Mexico), 137.12 (Brazil, France, Finland, Portugal), 137.13 (Nepal, Rwanda), 137.24-29 (Sweden, Cabo Verde, Paraguay, Australia, Holy See, Chile, Spain, Slovenia, Switzerland, Ukraine, Italy, Timor-Leste); 137.5-6 (Chile, Estonia, France, Romania, Spain, Switzerland, Ghana)