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**UN Human Rights Council
Thirty-sixth session, 11-29 September 2017**

**Item 6:
Consideration of UPR reports**

BRAZIL

Mr. President,

Amnesty International welcomes Brazil's support of most of the recommendations. However, the organization is seriously concerned about the current situation of human rights in Brazil. There is a gap between Brazil's willingness to accept the recommendations made to it during the review and the trend of the laws and policies being adopted in the country.

While Brazil has accepted recommendations¹ to investigate killings by the police and to prevent abuses by law enforcement officials, the number of people killed during police operations is increasing dramatically. The police forces claim they acted in self-defence, however, many of those killings are clearly the result of unnecessary or excessive use of force or extrajudicial executions. Amnesty International urges Brazil to take all measures to end police unlawful killings.

Similarly, at the same time as Brazil accepts recommendations² to combat violence against Indigenous Peoples and to promote the rights of Indigenous Peoples and People of African Descent, its authorities have proposed amendments to the Constitution changing the land demarcation process which will have a negative impact on Indigenous Peoples. Changing the requirements for Free, Prior and Informed Consent in cases of development projects that affect Indigenous Peoples' land will violate their rights as set out in international standards. Amnesty International urges Brazil to robustly reject any changes to its Constitution or laws that could violate the rights of Indigenous Peoples and African Descent rural communities (*quilombolas*).

¹ Recommendations 61, 62, 63, 64, 71, 32, 33, 42, 58, 59, 71, 98

² Recommendations 35, 46, 47, 218, 228, 60, 65, 219, 223, 239, 231, 236, 225, 237,

Brazil has accepted recommendations³ to guarantee the safety of human rights defenders and maintains that the Programme of Protection for Human Rights Defenders is operating throughout the country.⁴ Amnesty International wishes to put on record that the Programme of Protection is not operational and has in fact been dismantled in the past year, putting hundreds of defenders at risk. Amnesty International urges Brazil to restore the Programme of Protection and to take all measures to end killings, threats and attacks to human rights defenders.

While Brazil has supported recommendation⁵ s to protect in theory the rights of the child its authorities have proposed legislation and constitutional amendments, which are currently before Congress, that would reduce the age of criminal responsibility. Lowering the age at which children can be tried as adults to below 18 contravenes international law. Amnesty International urges Brazil to reject all proposed constitutional amendments that lower the age at which children can be tried as adults to under 18.

Mr. President, Amnesty International urges Brazil to set a timeframe for the implementation of these recommendations in practise and to establish a mechanism with the participation of civil society to monitor the implementation of the recommendations accepted in this review.

Thank you, Mr. President.

³ Recommendations 111 o 122

⁴ Addendum [rec 136.114]

⁵ Recommendations 138, 199, 200, 203, 165, 166, 165,166, 165, 167, 168