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**UN Human Rights Council  
Fortieth session, 25 February – 22 March 2019**

**Item 6:  
Consideration of UPR outcomes**

**MEXICO**

Mr. President,

Amnesty International welcomes Mexico's cooperation with the UPR and its acceptance of most of the recommendations made to it by other states. These include recommendations on some of the most pressing issues in the country, such as the situation of human rights defenders and journalists, the human rights of women and girls, and the widespread disappearance of people.

Human rights defenders and journalists are at high risk of attacks and harassment in Mexico, and most of the aggressions against them go unpunished.<sup>1</sup> In 2019 alone, six human rights defenders have been killed. We urge Mexican authorities to fully and promptly implement the recommendations made to it in this regard, including taking all necessary steps to prevent further attacks and end impunity for these crimes.<sup>2</sup>

Women and girls continue to be at risk of gender-based violence, including an alarming number of gender-based killings, and their rights are not adequately protected, respected and fulfilled.<sup>3</sup> The "Gender Alert Mechanism" established in 2007 by the

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<sup>1</sup> Amnesty International, *Mexico: Reformed laws, unchanged reality: Amnesty International submission for the UN Universal Periodic Review, 31<sup>st</sup> session of the UPR working group, November 2018* (Index: AMR 41/8372/2018), and Amnesty International, *Amnesty International, Amnesty International Report 2017/18: The state of the world's human rights* (Index: POL 10/6700/2018).

<sup>2</sup> Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, Mexico, A/HRC/40/8, recommendations 132.72 (France), 132.75 (Hungary), 132.78 (Argentina), 132.79 (New Zealand), 132.82 (Sweden), 132.99 (Italy), 132.120 (Finland), 132.122 (Greece), 132.137 (Estonia), and 132.138 (Lithuania).

<sup>3</sup> Amnesty International, *Mexico: Submission to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women* (Index: AMR 41/8465/2018).

General Act on Women’s Access to a Life Free from Violence to address and eradicate gender-based killings and other forms of violence needs deep reform to be able to achieve its goals, including effective and coordinated action at the federal, state and municipal levels, and specific deadlines for the different stages of the process in order to avoid unjustified delays in activating the Mechanism.<sup>4</sup> We call on Mexico to review and amend the procedure and rules of the Mechanism, in full consultation with civil society.

We welcome Mexico’s commitment to tackle the ongoing crisis of enforced disappearances, including disappearances committed by non-state actors. Any substantive action into this plight must include a nation-wide registry of detentions in line with international human rights law and standards.<sup>5</sup> We call on Mexico to accept the competence of the UN Committee on Enforced Disappearances to receive and consider individual communications, to facilitate access to justice for the victims of these serious human rights violations.<sup>6</sup>

Mr. President,

We recognise the importance of this review to address the central human rights issues in the country and encourage Mexico establish a mechanism to fully engage with victims of human rights violations and with civil society in the implementation of the UPR recommendations.<sup>7</sup>

Thank you, Mr. President.

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<sup>4</sup> A/HRC/40/8, recommendations 132.200 (Austria), 132.205 (France), 132.214 (Norway), 132.220 (Republic of Moldova), and 132.221 (Spain). Amnesty International, *Mexico: Submission to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women* (Index: AMR 41/8465/2018).

<sup>5</sup> A/HRC/40/8, recommendation 132.60 (Norway), and Amnesty International, *False Suspicions: Arbitrary detentions by police in Mexico* (Index: AMR 41/5340/2017).

<sup>6</sup> A/HRC/40/8, recommendations 132.7 (Paraguay), 132.8 (Benin), 132.9 (Uruguay), and 132.10 (Costa Rica), and Amnesty International, *Mexico: Memorandum for the president-elect: human rights recommendations for the next government* (Index: AMR 41/8911/2018).

<sup>7</sup> /HRC/40/8, recommendations 132.14 (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela), 132.15 (Indonesia), 132.16 (Myanmar), and 132.17 (Paraguay).