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**UN Human Rights Council
Fourteenth Session, 31 May – 18 June 2010**

**Item 6:
Consideration of UPR reports**

Angola

Mr. President,

Amnesty International welcomes Angola's engagement with the Universal Periodic Review.

We note that Angola took all 166 recommendations made to it under consideration. We regret that Angola's position on these recommendations was not communicated to the Council in advance of today's discussion.

Among the key recommendations calling for Angola's support and urgent implementation were those aimed at ending forced evictions.¹ Amnesty International has received reports that in early March this year over 3,000 families were forcibly evicted from their homes in the southern city of Lubango and transported to an area outside the city with no facilities or services. Some were provided with tents, but most were left to fend for themselves in the open. Seven people reportedly died as a direct or indirect result of these evictions; however, no official investigation is known to have taken place.

Mr President,

Angola undertook to consider the ratification of human rights treaties, including the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR aiming at the abolition of the death penalty,² the Convention against Torture and its Optional Protocol,³ the

¹ A/HRC/14/11. paragraph 87, recommendations 131-137 (Netherlands, Malaysia, Spain and Uruguay)

² Ibid, paragraph, 87, recommendations 1, 6, 13 and 19 (Brazil, Belgium, Portugal and the Philippines)

Convention on Enforced Disappearances⁴; and the Optional Protocol to ICESCR.⁵ Amnesty International considers it important that Angola support these recommendations as a matter of urgency and implement them in national law.

Mr President,

We call on Angola to support recommendations to ensure respect for freedom of expression and the press as well as freedom of association and assembly,⁶ and to protect and respect the work of human rights defenders and other civil society groups by allowing them to carry out their work unhindered.⁷ These recommendations are particularly pertinent in view of the government's refusal to allow peaceful demonstrations in Benguela in March against forced evictions, and in late May in Cabinda to protest against alleged arbitrary detentions

Thank you, Mr President.

³ Ibid, paragraph 87, recommendations 1,3, 6, 8, 9, 11,14, 15, 16,19,20, 21, 73, 75 (Brazil, Hungary, Belgium, Czech Republic, Azerbaijan, USA, Mexico, Germany, UK, Philippines, South Korea and Cote d'Ivoire, Sweden, Italy)

⁴ Ibid, paragraph 87, recommendations 5, 14 and 17 (France, Mexico, Spain)

⁵ Ibid, paragraph 87, recommendations 12 and 17 (Portugal and Spain)

⁶ Ibid, paragraph 87, recommendations 101-104 (Czech Republic, Norway, USA, UK) 107-110 (France, Norway, Canada, UK)

⁷ Ibid, paragraph 87, recommendations 104-107 (Norway, Ireland, Slovakia)