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**UN Human Rights Council
Eighteenth session, 12-30 September 2011**

**Item 6:
Consideration of UPR reports**

GREECE

Madame President,

We welcome Greece's commitment to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture,¹ and call on the government to swiftly set up or designate a national mechanism to conduct periodic visits to places of deprivation of liberty in order to prevent torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

We also welcome Greece's support of recommendations to establish an asylum system consistent with international and regional standards on the protection and reception of asylum-seekers² and urge the government to ensure its early and effective establishment.

We have noted a dramatic rise in racially motivated crimes against third-country nationals, including refugees and asylum-seekers. We call on Greece to act swiftly on accepted recommendations to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,³ in order to eliminate this scourge.

Madame President,

Amnesty International is deeply concerned at the treatment of unaccompanied minors. We have consistently documented their prolonged detention in very poor detention conditions in immigration detention facilities, including instances where they have

¹ Paragraphs 84.3 (Palestine), 84.4 (Cyprus), 84.5 (Armenia, Brazil), 84.6 (Slovenia).

² Paragraphs 83.11 (Australia), 83.12 (Netherlands), 83.65 (Switzerland), 83.66 (Lebanon), 83.67 (Poland).

³ Paragraph 83.24 (Algeria), 83.27 (Egypt), 83.39 (Turkey), 84.14 (Egypt).