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**UN Human Rights Council  
Fifteenth, 13 September – 1 October 2010**

**Item 6:  
Consideration of UPR reports**

**Kiribati**

Mr. President,

Amnesty International notes with concern the difficulties that prevented a delegation from Kiribati from attending the current session. This situation is a reminder that arrangements to support the participation of small least developed countries in the UPR need to be reinforced.

Amnesty International welcomes the Kiribati government's forthrightness in outlining its human rights situation and its positive engagement in the dialogue with other States in the Working Group.

We regret that the government considers that it is not feasible to consider ratifying the International Covenants and other human rights instruments.<sup>1</sup> We note the government's preparedness to consider the establishment of a national or regional human rights institution subject to the provision of capacity building and financial support.<sup>2</sup>

Mr President,

Amnesty International welcomes the government's efforts to address violence against women, particularly through its partnership with the Secretariat of the Pacific Community in conducting a survey on partner violence.<sup>3</sup> The 2009 survey showed that 68% of women in Kiribati have experienced physical and or sexual violence by their partners and illustrates how women and girls continue to suffer from violence, discrimination and stereotyping due to pervading cultural notions.

<sup>1</sup> A/HRC/15/3, paragraphs 66.6, 66.7, 66.8, and 66.9.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid, paragraphs 7 and 8 and Addendum.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid, paragraphs 11 and 12.

We urge the government to endeavour to implement in full its obligations under CEDAW and the CRC to protect women and children from violence, as recommended in the review,<sup>4</sup> and to eradicate cultural practices that contribute to discrimination against women and girls.

Mr President,

Amnesty International urges the government to realize its plans to develop specific legislation on eliminating violence against women.<sup>5</sup> Adequate resources are required for a specific domestic violence unit within the police; for a women's crisis centre; and for awareness-raising activities on eliminating violence against women in communities. We encourage UN Member States and regional bodies to support the government's efforts in the protection of women and children.

Thank you, Mr President.

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<sup>4</sup> Ibid, paragraphs 66.12, 66.13, 66.14, and 66.15.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid, paragraph 41.