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**UN Human Rights Council
Twenty-ninth session, 24/25/26 June 2015**

**Item 6:
Consideration of UPR reports**

Guyana

Mr. President,

Amnesty International is concerned that death sentences continue to be imposed in Guyana. At least five people were sentenced to death in 2013, and as of June 2014 there were reportedly 14 people on death row.

During the review of Guyana, a large number of recommendations called for the abolition of the death penalty.¹ Amnesty International welcomes Guyana's accept of some of these.² We call on Guyana to implement all the recommendations on the death penalty in full and without delay.

Amnesty International also welcomes Guyana's accept of recommendations to strengthen the protection of LGBTI persons, including by taking measures to ensure that hate crimes and discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity are vigorously investigated and appropriately prosecuted.³ Currently, national legislation does not provide protection from discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity. Moreover, Guyana continues to criminalize consensual same-sex conduct. This legislation creates a discriminatory environment in which LGBTI persons are not able to fully enjoy their human rights. We call on the government to implement

¹ Human Rights Council, *Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review – Guyana*, A/HRC/29/16, 13 April 2015, recommendations 130.28 (Spain), 130.29 (Italy), 130.30 (Slovenia), 131.3 (Australia), 132.1 (Italy, Paraguay, Uruguay), 132.2 (Namibia), 132.3 (Switzerland), 132.4 (Timor-Leste), 132.5 (Australia), 132.6 (Germany, Portugal), 132.43 (Panama), 132.44 (Montenegro), 132.45 (Uruguay), 132.46 (Brazil), 132.47 (Chile), 132.48 (Costa Rica), and 132.49 (France).

² A/HRC/29/16, 13 April 2015, recommendations 130.28 (Spain), 130.29 (Italy), 130.30 (Slovenia), 131.3 (Australia),

³ A/HRC/29/16, 13 April 2015, recommendations 130.25 (Brazil), 130.26 (USA), and 130.27 (Thailand).

with immediate effect the numerous recommendations to repeal all provisions that discriminate against persons on the basis of their sexual orientation or gender identity, including those that criminalise consensual same-sex relations among adult.⁴

Finally, Mr. President, Amnesty International continues to receive allegations of excessive use of force by the Guyana Police Force during arrests and detentions. We welcome Guyana's acceptance of recommendations to increase the capacity and strengthen the independence of the Police Complaints Authority to undertake prompt and impartial investigations of police abuse.⁵ We urge the government to implement these recommendations as a matter of priority.

Thank you, Mr. President,

⁴ A/HRC/29/16, 13 April 2015, recommendations 132.30 (Italy), 132.31 (Netherlands), 132.32 (Slovenia), 132.33 (Switzerland), 132.34 (USA), 132.35 (Argentina), 132.36 (Canada), 132.37 (Chile), 132.38 (Norway), 132.39 (Spain), 132.40 (UK), 132.41 (Uruguay) and 132.42 (Colombia).

⁵ A/HRC/29/16, 13 April 2015, recommendations 130.31 (Italy), 130.55 (Italy) and 130.57 (USA).