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ORAL STATEMENT
Item 6:
Consideration of UPR reports: Ecuador

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Amnesty International welcomes Ecuador's support for 164 recommendations of the 174 directed to it during its fourth Universal Periodic Review.¹

In particular, the organization encourages swift implementation of the recommendations supported by Ecuador in relation to Indigenous peoples, to guarantee their right to free, prior and informed consent² and also in relation to human rights defenders, including the adoption of a policy and mechanism for their protection.³ These recommendations are particularly relevant given recent lethal attacks against Indigenous human rights defenders in the country.

Ecuador has enormous challenges to guarantee truth, justice and reparation for the deaths of detainees in the penitentiary system. In this respect, the State's support of recommendations to improve the prison system and conduct thorough investigations into these deaths represents an opportunity to move forward on this urgent issue.⁴

Amnesty International welcomes Ecuador's support of recommendations to safeguard the right to peaceful assembly and ensure any use of force complies with international standards,⁵ yet regrets Ecuador's decision to merely note the recommendations to end impunity for human rights violations committed by security forces, including during protests in 2019.⁶ The failure to do so is particularly concerning in the current context of deliberations in the legislative branch regarding the role of military forces in public security tasks.

¹ UN Human Rights Council, Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review: Ecuador, UN Doc A/HRC/52/5, 22 December 2022 and its addendum A/HRC/52/5/Add.1, 4 January 2023

² UN Doc A/HRC/52/5, recommendations 100.131 (Islamic Republic of Iran) and 100.132 (Namibia, Estonia, Slovenia, South Africa), and (Canada)

³ UN Doc A/HRC/52/5, Recommendations 100.29 (Romania, Costa Rica, Greece, Peru), 100.35 (Slovenia); and 100.42 (Honduras)

⁴ UN Doc A/HRC/52/5, Recommendation 101.1 (Portugal); 101.2 (Indonesia); 101.3 (Belgium); 101.4 (Australia); 100.14 (Iraq); system (Romania); 100.15 (Chile); 100.16 (India); 100.17 (Ireland); 100.18 (France); ; 100.19 (United States of America); 100.26 (Switzerland)

⁵ UN Doc A/HRC/52/5, recommendations 100.30 (Romania) and 100.37 (Australia)

⁶ UN Doc A/HRC/52/5 and its addendum A/HRC/52/5/Add.1, recommendations 102.4-5 (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, France)

Ecuador's failure to support recommendations to fully decriminalize abortion⁷ undermines the human rights of thousands of Ecuadorian women. We exhort Ecuador to urgently examine these recommendations and take steps to revert any obstacles to their implementation.

Finally, we encourage Ecuador to implement supported recommendations as soon as possible. We urge the government to submit a mid-term report on progress towards their implementation and to use an Item 6 General Debate to bring this to the attention of UN Member States.

Thank you.

⁷ UN Doc A/HRC/52/5 and its addendum A/HRC/52/5/Add.1, recommendations 101.13-14 (Iceland), Mexico)