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## ORAL STATEMENT

Item 4: Interactive dialogue on the report of the High Commissioner for Human Rights on the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

## GLOBAL CALL FOR THE IMMEDIATE AND UNCONDITIONAL RELEASE OF ALL THOSE WRONGLY DETAINED IN VENEZUELA

UN Human Rights Council Fifty sixth session 18 June – 12 July 2024

Mr President.

Amnesty International notes the High Commissioner's report. We regret to see that the fears of an escalation in the Venezuelan government's policy of repression during the electoral context were well-founded.

For years and throughout 2024, we have condemned the use of <u>politically motivated arbitrary detentions</u> to silence dissent. These detentions are closely connected to other <u>grave human rights violations</u>, including enforced <u>disappearances</u>, <u>torture</u> and other ill treatment, blatant lack of <u>fair trial</u> and due process guarantees, and withholding critical <u>healthcare</u> and other basic needs for detainees.

Today, before this Council, we share a call from 36,324 activists in 119 countries across the world who signed our petition for the release of all those wrongly detained in Venezuela. These 36,324 people call on Venezuelan authorities, including those present at this Council meeting, to take action to ensure the immediate and unconditional release of, amongst others, Rocío San Miguel, Carlos Julio Rojas, Javier Tarazona, Emirlendris Benítez, María Auxiliadora Delgado, Juan Carlos Marrufo, Robert Franco and Darío Estrada.

We call on this Council to sustain its scrutiny and support for genuine and meaningful accountability for international crimes and human rights violations committed in Venezuela. Now is the time for more justice, and more truth.

Thank you.