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## Oral Statement

Item 2 Interactive Dialogue on the High Commissioner's Report on Yemen  
UN Human Rights Council  
Forty-Second session  
9 September – 27 September 2019

Mr. President,

Amnesty International welcomes the work of the Group of Eminent Experts, and their strong second report and conference room paper. Despite access constraints and lack of cooperation by all sides, the Group successfully and thoroughly investigated and reported on violations by all. We urge states to take up the Group's own recommendations to this Council, including regarding the collection and preservation of evidence and adequate resourcing.

This past year at least 2,081 civilians have been killed and injured. This brings the total number of documented civilian casualties to approximately 20,000 since March 2015. Actual civilian casualties are likely to be significantly higher.

Based both on GEE reporting and my recent mission to Yemen, all parties to the conflict continue to commit violations of international humanitarian law and other serious violations and abuses of human rights law.

All parties to the conflict continue to carry out detention-related violations. Indiscriminate shelling and planting of landmines by the Huthis have killed and maimed civilians. Indiscriminate and disproportionate air strikes by the Saudi and Emirati-led Coalition have also killed and injured civilians and displaced millions of them.

The catalogue of violations continues to grow, and the actors continue to multiply, making the Group's work of attributing responsibility and identifying individual perpetrators even more imperative.

Mr. President, we have witnessed first-hand and documented the impact of arms and the violations and suffering they facilitate. Since 2015, we have been calling for the suspension of arms transfers to all parties to the conflict where there is a risk that these arms would be used in Yemen. With this Group's reporting, no one can pretend that they do not know of the risks associated with

arms transfers to parties to this conflict.

All sides to the conflict have failed to conduct credible independent investigations into abuses. Currently, the GEE is the only mechanism that can do so.

Mr. President, more than 14 million Yemenis are at risk of starvation, with around 130 children under the age of five dying every day. The Yemenis are looking at this Council seeking not only words of solidarity but action.

Strengthen the GEE. Thank you.