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ORAL STATEMENT
Item 6:
Consideration of UPR reports: Republic of Moldova

UN Human Rights Council
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13 June – 8 July 2022

Mr. President,

Amnesty International welcomes the Republic of Moldova's support for recommendations on eradicating torture and other ill-treatment¹ and to improve conditions of detention.² Authorities should speed up the long-overdue construction of new prison and detention facilities and ensure they are in full compliance with international standards.³

In order to improve current shortcomings in the medical care of detainees, we urge Moldova to resubordinate medical units from the National Administration of Penitentiaries to the Ministry of Health and bring these facilities in line with international health standards.

Mr. President,

We welcome the Republic of Moldova's support for the recommendations to ensure that all children, including those who are in the most vulnerable situations, have equal, inclusive and safe access to quality education.⁴

Unfortunately, child human rights defenders have faced many of the same challenges as adult human rights defenders, such as threats and intimidations. The consequences of these are likely to be more harmful for children.

It is imperative that child human rights defenders are empowered to assess risks to human rights and access multiple, safe, child-appropriate mechanisms, including for educational settings, alternative care, and child protection, so they are able to report violations of their rights and receive appropriate support and care.

¹ UN Human Rights Council, Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review: Republic of Moldova, 29 March 2022, UN Doc. A/HRC/50/13 and its addendum, 14 June 2022, UN Doc. A/HRC/50/13/Add.1, recommendations 127.80-87 (Germany, Russian Federation, Japan, Germany, Egypt, Australia, Czechia, Germany) and recommendation 127.95 (Luxembourg)

² A/HRC/50/13 and A/HRC/50/13/Add.1, recommendations 127.88 - 93 (Russian Federation, Lithuania, Iraq, Germany, Fiji, Austria) and 12796-99 (Ireland, Czechia, Austria, Indonesia)

³ These include the Convention against Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and the Nelson Mandela Rules.

⁴ A/HRC/50/13 and A/HRC/50/13/Add.1, recommendations 127.149 - 156 (Maldives, Luxembourg, Bangladesh, Uruguay, Romania, Qatar, Marshall Islands, Malta)

We call on the Republic of Moldova to ensure that all children in school (as part of the compulsory national curriculum), and out of school, receive human rights education, to enable them to learn about their rights as child human rights defenders and how to promote and claim their rights, both in school and elsewhere.

Mr President,

Finally, we encourage the Republic of Moldova to implement supported recommendations as soon as possible and urge the government to submit a mid-term progress report and to use an Item 6 General Debate to bring this to the attention of Member States.

Thank you.