

Amnesty International

*Oral statement on the outcome on Brazil under the UPR*

*10 June 2008*

*Check against delivery*

Mr. President,

The report submitted by Brazil as well as its presentation in the UPR Working Group focused on a general defence of existing government programs and policies rather than actual analysis of the effectiveness of such measures to address human rights violations and whether additional measures are needed. During the review, a number of states raised key human rights issues challenges, including the continuing impunity for crimes committed under the former dictatorship, violence and extrajudicial killings committed by the police, torture and other ill-treatment, violence against women, and harsh prison conditions. Again, Brazil responded by describing initiatives undertaken or planned by the government, including the adoption of a national action plan to fight torture, the creation of a national committee and the establishment of a national day on torture. The recent report presented by the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, following his recent visit to the country, further highlights the extent of problem faced in this area.

Mr President,

Some of the key recommendations made during the review called on Brazil to evaluate with rigour initiatives and activities designed to address serious violations of human rights, including violence and killings by the police, torture, and violence against women, prison conditions, and to intensify efforts to protect human rights defenders. Amnesty International welcomes the statement by Brazil that it supports all the recommendations made in the UPR Working Group and calls on Brazil to give full and early effect to these. Amnesty International also calls the government undertake thorough investigations of all allegations of torture and reports of killings, including by police; to make the findings of these public, and to bring to justice those responsible in accordance with international standards for fair trial.

Thank you Mr. President.

[494 words]