



Statement by NIHR on Human Rights Day

Manama on December 10, 2019

The National Institution for Human Rights (NIHR) joins the countries of the world and all their human rights organizations and bodies in the celebration of the 71st anniversary of the UN General Assembly's adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on the 10th of December 1948, which the UN called "Human Rights Day". The Universal Declaration of Human Rights is a historical document that contained a set of inalienable rights, as this Declaration has stated in all its 30 Articles that everyone has the right to enjoy a set of rights regardless of their race, color, religion, gender or language.

The theme of this year was "Youth Standing Up for Human Rights", in order to highlight the leadership role of youth as a source of inspiration for a better future. This theme was also chosen to celebrate the potentials of young people as constructive elements of change, to make their voices heard and to engage them in the promotion and protection of human rights to achieve sustainable development for all, as this group is often marginalized, and they often face difficulties in accessing and enjoying their rights because of their age.

The NIHR affirms that the Kingdom of Bahrain has made great progress in establishing the rules of democracy, coexistence and economic, social, cultural, political and civil development, which were stipulated by the National Action Charter and the Constitution of the Kingdom of Bahrain. It is also worth mentioning that the Kingdom of Bahrain's interest extends also to the need to provide all guarantees for maintenance and respect for human rights. Perhaps one of the most prominent examples of this is the establishment of the NIHR along with a number of other national mechanisms, which reflect the great interest that the human rights system enjoys in the Kingdom of Bahrain in light of the royal high directives of His Majesty the King, to place the Kingdom of Bahrain at the front in pursuing the best policies that are fully consistent with the international principles of human rights.

The NIHR affirms that it works with its wide mandate as stated by its Incorporation Law pursuant to the Paris Principles to follow-up and monitor commitment to international agreements and treaties ratified by the Kingdom of Bahrain on the promotion and protection of human rights through cooperation with all the concerned parties to ensure that they are implemented and respected by all.