

## **Statement by NIHR on International Day of Older Persons**

Manama on October 1, 2018

The Kingdom of Bahrain is participating in the celebration of the International Day of Older Persons, celebrated annually on October 1st. This year the occasion is held under the theme “*Celebrating Older Human Rights Champions* “. The importance of this celebration lies in the focus on the needs and challenges faced by many of the elderly around the world. It also highlights the achievements made by this group of society at all levels. Furthermore, this day comes to give thanks to the efforts of this group of society in education and construction to raise the interest of their country and participate in its progress and development.

The National Institution for Human Rights (NIHR), through its wide mandate affirmed by its Incorporation Law according to the Paris Principles, stresses Bahrain’s keenness to provide the best services and means of care for the elderly, as well as its commitment to provide social, health, legal and rehabilitation programs for this group to ensure them a dignified life, through the development of legislation and the implementation of the National Plan for Older Persons, as the Law No. (58) of 2009 on the Rights of Older Persons affirms the protection of the elderly and their dignity, in addition to the role of the National Committee on the Older Persons in developing strategies for this group, focusing on the pivots of development, providing them with health and well-being and creating a supportive environment for them.

The NIHR calls on government institutions, civil society organizations and the private sector to stress the importance of concerted national efforts to further activate the foundations of communication between all society groups, especially the elderly.