

Statement by NIHR on the Occasion of the International Day of Peace

Manama on 21 September 2017

The National Institution for Human Rights (NIHR) participates in the UN celebration of the International Day of Peace on 21 September every year, based on United Nations General Assembly Resolution No. (36/87) of 1981, to coincide with the date of opening of the General Assembly session held in September every year, as the first day of peace was celebrated in September 1982, as well as the date in which the General Assembly voted unanimously in 2001 on the Resolution No. (55/8282) setting the date of 21 September as a day of the prevention of violence and cease-fire, to be a day devoted to strengthening the foundations and ideals of peace among and between nations and peoples.

In conjunction with this anniversary of the UN Declaration on the Right of Peoples to Peace, it was decided that the theme of this year's International Day would be "Together for Peace". This anniversary offers a unique opportunity to reaffirm the United Nations commitment to the goals for which the Organization was established and the principles on which it was founded. The Declaration indicated that the promotion of peace was vital to the enjoyment of all human rights.

On this occasion, the NIHR stresses the importance of this day in establishing the culture of international peace and security, avoiding the dangers and scourge of war and violence in the world, eliminating all weapons of mass destruction and moving towards further intertwining relations and exchange of interests among countries, hoping for real peace to be based upon justice, fairness, equity, right and respect for human rights and dignity.

The NIHR further takes this opportunity to express its absolute support for the UN's call upon all nations and peoples to commit themselves to the cessation of hostilities during this day and to revive it by educating and raising public awareness of themes and issues related to peace.

At the same time, the NIHR calls upon all social sectors in the Kingdom of Bahrain to cooperate in order to affirm respect for human rights and values of peace and to guide efforts towards development, renunciation of strife and extremism and respect for the rule of law. At the same time, it appreciates efforts that are being made by official bodies and civil society organizations to revive, educate and disseminate awareness among citizens and residents of the themes and issues related to peace, democracy and human rights.