



Statement by NIHR on some Third-Party Reports on Human Rights in the Kingdom of Bahrain

Manama, 25 June 2018

The National Institution for Human Rights (NIHR) of Bahrain, in its legal capacity, being an active member of the society, accredited by the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI) and complying with the Paris Principles governing the work of national human rights institutions around the world, expresses its absolute emphasis on respecting human rights and abiding by the relevant international conventions, treaties and covenants, and constantly works precisely to monitor the human rights situation in the Kingdom without prejudice to any of its functions and terms of reference in this regard, as stipulated by its Incorporation Law No. (26) of 2014 amended by Decree-Law No. (20) of 2016.

The NIHR has reviewed some reports from third parties on human rights in Bahrain, which referred to a number of cases and convicts and commented on judgments issued by Bahraini courts. The NIHR has always dealt seriously with the reports on human rights situations and practices, at the national, regional and international levels, believing in the importance of respect for human rights and public freedoms. The NIHR also confirms that it is committed to attending all relevant court sessions, whether civil courts, Sharia courts (the family) or criminal courts, and has issued a number of reports thereon, in light of its keenness on the course of the trials, in order to ensure that they comply with the standards related to fair trial guarantees and bring justice to the trial of the defendants under the powers granted to it.

The NIHR welcomes the cooperation and communication with all the stakeholders and Government and non-Governmental organizations on human rights, aiming to verify any unclear or inaccurate information before being included in any reports, confirming its full readiness to provide assistance in this regard.

It is worth mentioning that the NIHR receives complaints and requests for legal assistance either personally or via the toll-free hotline 80001144, the NIHR's website www.nihr.org.bh, or the NIHR Bahrain smartphone application.