



NIHR's Statement on the Occasion of International Day for Elimination of Violence against Women

Manama on 25 November 2016

On the 25th of November every year, the UN celebrates the International Day for Elimination of Violence against Women, since the UN General adopted the Resolution No. 54/134 in its 54th session Assembly held in 1999, which announced an international day for elimination of violence against women. As per Article (1) of the Declaration issued in 1993 on the elimination of violence against women, the term "violence against women" is defined as any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life. Furthermore, as per Article (3) of the Declaration, women are entitled to the equal enjoyment and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms in the political, economic, social, cultural, civil or any other field, including, inter alia, the right to life, the right to equality, the right to liberty and security of person, the right to equal protection under the law, the right to be free from all forms of discrimination, the right to the highest standard attainable of physical and mental health, the right to justice and favorable conditions of work and the right not to be subjected to torture, or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

Proceeding from the NIHR's conviction that violence against women is one of the forms of human rights violation, due to the fact that women are ranked among the categories that are most vulnerable to violation, it invites all official



and civil bodies to perform their role in combating violence against women. Meanwhile, the NIHR appreciates efforts of the Supreme Council for Women in putting into action the vision of His Majesty King Hamad Bin Isa Al Khalifa, King of Bahrain, may God protect him, resulting in the launch of the National Strategy to Protect Women against Domestic Violence, which goes in line with the sustainable development goals, especially Goal 5 on elimination of all forms of violence against women and girls as a prerequisite to prevent domestic violence against women and eliminate its manifestation within the Bahraini society, through the introduction of necessary programs for prevention and treatment as well as the provision of appropriate legal frameworks and services.

It is worth noting that, last year, the NIHR, in cooperation with the Asia and Pacific Forum, published a book entitled “Fostering and Protection of Human Rights for Women and Girls: the Role of National Human Rights Institutions”, which was translated into Arabic under supervision of the NIHR. You can visit the NIHR’s editions section on the website www.nihr.org.bh and download copy of the book.

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