



## **Statement by the NIHR on the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women**

**Manama on November 25, 2019**

On the 25<sup>th</sup> November each year, the States of the world, including the Kingdom of Bahrain, celebrate the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, in order to maintain the rights of women in general and protect them against violence in particular. The UN is celebrating this year's day under the theme of "Orange the World: Generation Equality Stands Against Rape" in order to remind everyone of the urgent need for a future free from violence, as recent studies and statistics show that there is widespread impunity in sexual violence and rape, and therefore violence against women remains a barrier to achieving equality, development and peace, as well as the fulfillment of human rights of women and girls.

The Kingdom of Bahrain has ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). In addition, Law No. (17) of 2015 has been promulgated on the Protection from Family Violence. Under the generous guidance of Her Royal Highness Princess Sabika bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa, President of the Supreme Council for Women, Bahrain was able to be in the list of countries that support women, where the Council has prepared database and statistics on family violence in the Kingdom of Bahrain "TAKATUF", which aim to monitor and follow-up on various cases of domestic violence through an advanced electronic platform in order to access studies and statistics that contribute to strengthening the position of the Kingdom of Bahrain in international reports and enable the relevant authorities to provide the necessary support for cases of violence, in addition to facilitating access to health, psychological and social services provided by institutions, as well as the large role played by civil society institutions in the Kingdom of Bahrain to promote and safeguard women's rights and protect them from violence.

The NIHR states that it works, with its broad mandate stressed by its Incorporation Law in accordance with the Paris Principles, to follow-up and monitor the extent of compliance with international agreements and treaties ratified by the Kingdom of Bahrain on the promotion and protection of the rights of women. It further states that it will continue its tireless work in order to contribute to the elimination of violence against women through adherence to what is contained in the relevant agreements in this regard, and also calls on everyone to participate in the United Nations campaign on social media in this regard under the hash tag #orangetheworld #GenerationEquality.