



Statement by NIHR on World Environment Day

Manama on June 05, 2019

The World Environment Day (WED), which is celebrated by all countries on 5 June every year, aims to raise awareness of the importance of cooperation among all in the preservation, maintenance and improvement of the environment. This day also represents an opportunity to state the risks and issues relating to the environment in order to take appropriate measures to preserve it, as well as to assess the outcome of the initiatives and programs that have been completed in order to protect it. In addition, it represents an opportunity to educate individuals, companies and communities about the preservation of the environment.

This year's theme is "Air Pollution", which is a call for action to address this global crisis. It is hoped that this year's theme would contribute to reducing global warming and its impact on health by reducing the amount of air pollution caused by humans, which will positively affect the well-being of peoples and economic development throughout the world.

The National Institution for Human Rights (NIHR) takes this opportunity to express its great appreciation for the efforts of the Kingdom of Bahrain in protecting and preserving the environment and natural resources, which resulted in joining many regional and international conventions aimed at preserving the environment. This is fully in line with Article (9) Sub-Clause (h) of the Constitution of Bahrain, which stipulates that: "The State shall take the necessary measures for the protection of the environment and the conservation of wildlife". The NIHR also takes this opportunity to pay tribute to the role of the Supreme Council for the Environment in protecting natural and human environment of the Kingdom of Bahrain by spreading environmental culture, raising



environmental awareness among citizens and residents and promoting the use of eco-friendly technologies.

In line with the competencies of the NIHR set forth in its Establishment Law No. (26) of 2014, as amended by the Decree-Law No. (20) of 2016, which aim at the promotion and protection of human rights in the Kingdom of Bahrain, the NIHR's Strategy and Action Plan for 2019 – 2021 focused on environmental impact on human rights, as environmental safety is one of the most fundamental requirements of human rights and one of the main pillars of human dignity, being fully linked to the right to life, health, food, water and hygiene. The NIHR calls for the integration of all governmental and non-governmental efforts to work together to protect the environment, pursuant to Sustainable Development Goals aimed at "Ensuring permanent protection of the planet and natural resources", where Goals 14 and 15 of Sustainable Development are to "Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development" and "Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss".