



Statement by NIHR on International Women's Day

Manama on 8 March 2018

On March 8 every year, the world celebrates the International Women's Day, on which the main and pivotal role women play around the world on all levels is internationally highlighted, stressing their role as one of the most important contributors to the achievement of sustainable development.

This was stressed by the UN Secretary-General at the opening of the 61st session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (UNCSW) when he said "we are all in a better position when we open opportunities for women and girls in classrooms, corporate boards of directors, military ranks, peace talks and all aspects of productive life. He also emphasized women empowerment and the transformation of such empowerment into reality.

For its part, the National Institution for Human Rights (NIHR), along with the United Nations and the world, is celebrating this occasion under the theme "Time is Now: Rural and Urban Activists Transforming Women's Lives". The idea of this theme is to accelerate the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals 2030, especially the 4th Goal on achieving inclusive and equitable quality education for all and the 5th one on Gender Equality, where the NIHR praises the scientific and practical status of Bahraini women under the Reform Project of His Majesty the King of Bahrain and the great support of Her Royal Highness Princess Sabeeka bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa, wife of His Majesty the King and President of the Supreme Council for Women.

The NIHR also welcomes the efforts by various bodies in the State to ensure women's enjoyment of their civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, as well as the efforts by the Supreme Council for Women and its strive to be a home of expertise in all matters related to empowering women, activating their role in building themselves, their families and their homeland and ensuring that there is no discrimination against them, through the continuous follow-up, cooperation and coordination with all parties and the support of the private sector and civil society institutions, in addition to the efforts by women's associations and women's committees in civil society institutions as platforms to monitor the reality of Bahraini women and their needs.

The NIHR affirms that it works with its broad mandate under its Incorporation Law in accordance with the Paris Principles, to follow up on the commitment to the international conventions and treaties ratified by the Kingdom of Bahrain on women's issues to ensure that they are being adopted by everyone, looking forward to further cooperation and partnership with UN bodies concerned with the rights of women in the area of training and education, in order to promote human rights awareness in society, improve the role of women and increase their participation in all areas alongside men, by enhancing the status of women and raising their efficacy in the productive process, in line with the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals of 2030.