



Statement of the National Institution for Human Rights on the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

21 March 2013

Coinciding with the United Nations celebration of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on March 21 of each year, which has been adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution No. (2142 (d -21)) issued on October 26, 1966, the National Institution for Human Rights expresses its sincere appreciation and gratitude to the wise leadership of the Kingdom of Bahrain on the steadfast stances of transparent and impartial cooperation in all efforts to eliminate all forms of racial discrimination.

For its part, the National Institution for Human Rights celebrates this occasion along with the United Nations and the world. The celebration this year carries the theme "racism and sport," affirming that well organized sports activities which interpret the best values of sport in the discipline, mutual respect, sportsmanship and teamwork can contribute to the integration of marginalized community groups and help to get individuals to be acquainted with the necessary values to prevent conflict and reduce social tensions.

The declaration and action program of Durban conference in 2001 asserted the involvement of sport with human rights principles in many of the goals and core values. The declaration is the document which is in the heart of the international community's efforts to eradicate racism, and related acts of intolerance. It urges states to cooperate with international government organizations, International



Olympic Committee and international and regional sports federations for the promotion of the efforts fighting against racism in sport activities.

The United Nations General Assembly has adopted the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination on March 7, 1966, and entered into force on January 4, 1969. It is worth mentioning that the Kingdom of Bahrain has acceded to it on March 27, 1990 by Decree-Law No. (8) for the year 1990.

The National Institution for Human Rights calls, on this occasion, to the need for paying greater attention to human rights and to seriously work on the rejection of all forms of discrimination on the national and international levels, stressing the importance of providing appropriate safeguards for human dignity not to be exposed to assault in order to ensure the promotion of the principle referred to in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights issued on December 10, 1948 which stated in its first article that: "All people are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience". The institution wished more constructive cooperation with the esteemed government to promote and protect human rights in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

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