



Statement of the National Institution for Human Rights on the International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances

Manama- 30 August 2013

In tandem with the United Nations' celebration of the International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances, corresponding to 30 August of each year, in implementation of the UN's General Assembly Resolution No. 133/47 "The United Nations' Declaration on the Protection of Persons against Enforced Disappearances, promulgated on 18 December 1992, as a set of principles whose implementation is mandatory on all nations. The International Convention on the Protection of all Persons against Enforced Disappearances was approved on 20 December 2006. The convention aims at the prevention and incrimination of enforced disappearances of persons, penalization of the persons who commit this crime and protection of its victims. By its Resolution No. 65/209, promulgated on 21 December 2010, the UN General Assembly welcomed the ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of all Persons against Enforced Disappearances and approved 30 August of each year as an international day for the victims of enforced disappearances to be celebrated as of the year 2011."

Today coincides with the celebration of the intentional day for prevention of enforced disappearances. Enforced disappearance is regarded not only as the most serious and heinous crime but also an act which negates the essence of humanity and runs contrary to the loftiest of the values of any community. It is still being practiced in some countries to oppress and intimidate people from claiming their rights.

Enforced disappearance is regarded as serious violation of human rights. During the disappearance process, the civil and political rights of the individual can easily be violated and tramped on such as the right of a person to be



recognized as a legal entity, the right to self-freedom and security, the right not to be subjected to torture or any other form of cruel, inhumane or abusive treatment, the right to life in the cases where the person may be killed, the right to his/her entity, the right to fair trial and judiciary warranties, the right to effective justice, including mitigation and compensation and the right to knowing the truth with respect to the circumstances of the disappearance .

The enforced disappearance also generally violates the economic, social and cultural rights of the victims and their families alike, such as the right to enjoy the protection and assistance of the family, the right to the appropriate standard of living, the right to health and the right to education .

On this occasion, the National Institution for Human Rights calls on all nations to eliminate this crime and ratify the International Convention on the Protection of Persons against Enforced Disappearances, and asks the Government of the Kingdom to ascribe to the convention, which features among the recommendations raised by the UN's Human Rights Council during the periodic and comprehensive review of the Kingdom of Bahrain so as to complement the package of legal systems of the international charters concerned with human rights.