



“UPDATED VERSION”*

**The Parallel Report of the National Institution for Human Rights
on The Fourth Parallel Report of the Kingdom of Bahrain
on The Progress Made in Implementing the Provisions of
The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women**

Submitted to:

The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)

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First: The role of the National Institution for Human Rights (NIHR) in the promotion and protection of women's rights

1 Role of the NIHR in promoting women's rights¹

- 1.1. The NIHR held a number of events during the years (2016-2022), targeting women directly or indirectly, whether through the theme of the event, its participants, or speakers. In partnership with Shaikha Hessa Girls' School, the NIHR organized an awareness lecture entitled "Rights of the Girl Child" targeting elementary level girl students, to enhance their culture and knowledge on the rights of the girl child and the fundamental rights that all girls and children are entitled to.
- 1.2. The NIHR, in partnership with the Supreme Council for Women, the Bahrain Institute for Political Development, and the Judicial and Legal Studies Institute, organized two awareness programs, "My Rights 2" and "My Rights 3", in the constitutional field and on human rights for government entities and civil society organizations, which included a series of workshops related to the constitutional, legal, and human rights fields. A group of national experts and specialists participated in the workshops that aimed to advance the culture of the public sector's employees as well as members of civil society organizations with regard to constitutional, legal and social rights and duties, and legislation related to the legal status of women.
- 1.3. The awareness program included (5) events dedicated to women's affairs: the first event: "The role of the Supreme Council for Women in promoting and protecting women's rights", the second event: "Mechanisms for achieving equal opportunities and gender balance at the national level", the third event: "The general framework of women's rights and the fundamental laws and resolutions supporting the integration of women's needs," the fourth event: "Women's Political Participation in the Constitution and Bahraini Legislation," and the last event: "International Reporting Methodology on Women's Rights."
- 1.4. In its third edition, the awareness program included (4) events dedicated to women's affairs: the first event: "The Role and Competence of the Supreme Council for Women in Supporting the Advancement of Bahraini Women", the second event: "The Role of the Legislative Authority in Following up on the Implementation of Laws Supporting Women and the Family", the third

¹ For more information on the efforts and activities undertaken by the NIHR in promoting human rights, in particular, women's rights, please refer to NIHR's annual reports published on the NIHR's website: Annual Reports Section: www.nihr.org.bh

event: "Role of the National Model for Integrating Women's Needs in the Government of Equal Opportunity Implementations", and the fourth event: "Management of Knowledge in the Area of Political Participation".

- 1.5. The NIHR organized a panel discussion on women's rights and equal pay, highlighting the applicable legislation for the implementation of the principle of equal pay and equal treatment irrespective of religion, gender, ethnic origin, color or age.
- 1.6. Regarding building bridges of cooperation between the NIHR and non-governmental organizations, the NIHR organized its fourth meeting with civil society organizations working in the field of women's and child's rights, to discuss the encountered difficulties and challenges and the way to support them with the aim of developing these organizations and urging the government to provide further support.
- 1.7. To build the capacity of the NIHR's employees in the area of women's rights, the NIHR participated in the training course on "International mechanisms for protecting women's rights" organized by the Geneva Institute for Human Rights. It has also participated in the regional training course on "Promoting sexual and reproductive health and rights of girls and women through human rights mechanisms" organized by the Arab Organization for Human Rights, in addition to participating in the proceedings of the general discussions on "Discrimination against women and girls" organized by the United Nations Working Group on Discrimination against Women and Girls and the Asia Pacific Forum (APF), and participating in the symposium on "Bahraini women in crises: a story of reflection and evaluation" organized by the Supreme Council for Women and the Bahrain Institute for Political Development.

**Total number of events held by the NIHR during the years (2017-2022),
number of participants, percentage of women participants in particular,
and percentage of women speakers**

Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Total number of events	56	49	79	73	92	66
Number of participants	1218	2773	4330	1600	2217	2831
Percentage of women participants	48%	54%	54.5%	56%	55.8%	52%
Percentage of women speakers	33%	42%	41%	49%	59%	42%

2 Role of the NIHR in protecting women's rights²

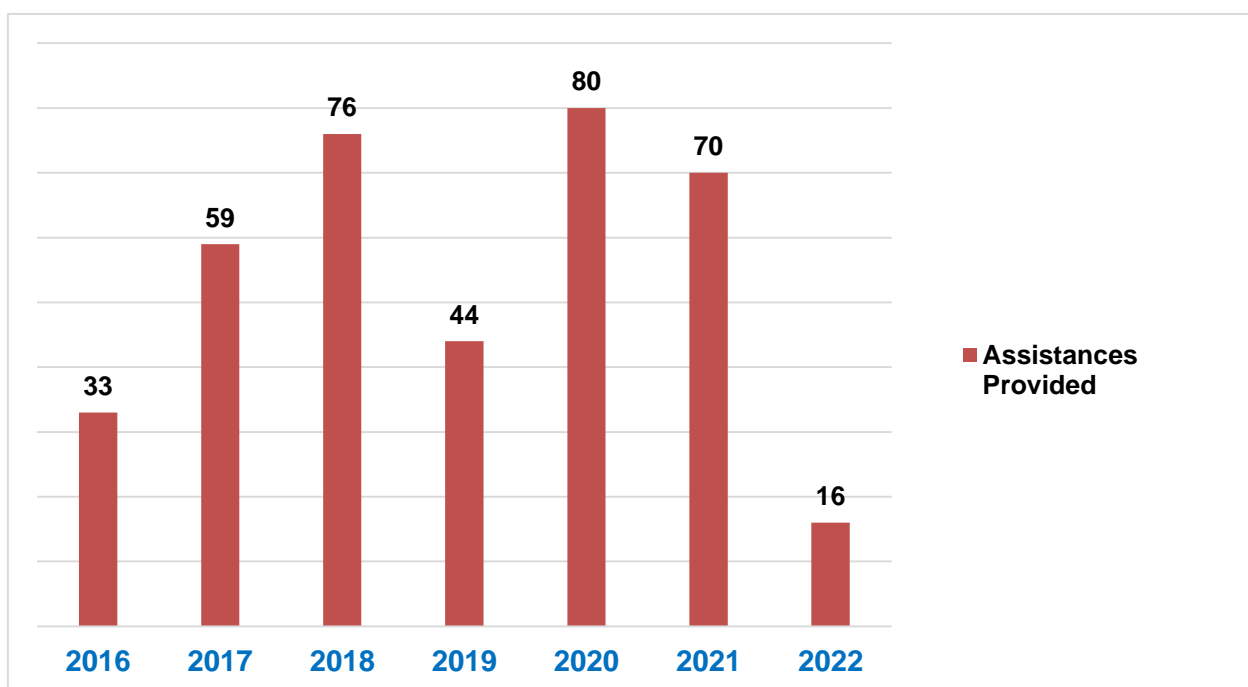
- 2.1 Within the NIHR's mandate to receive complaints and provide legal aid relevant to women's rights, it received (52) complaints on various rights and provided (374) legal aids during the period (2016-2022).

Table indicating the number of complaints received by NIHR and the related rights

Year	No. of received complaints	Right to work	Right to health	Right to an adequate standard	Right to freedom of movement	Right to education	Social security	Right to fair trial guarantees	Right to nationality	Right to physical and mental health	Discrimination before the law and not renewing	Suspicion of human trafficking	Right to a healthy environment
2016	13	3		2	6			1		1			
2017	14	2		4	4			1			2	1	
2018	7	2	2		1	1					1		
2019	3					1					2		
2020	3	2								1			
2021	9	1	1				1		1	3			2
2022	3	2								1			
Total	52	12	3	6	11	2	1	2	1	6	5	1	2

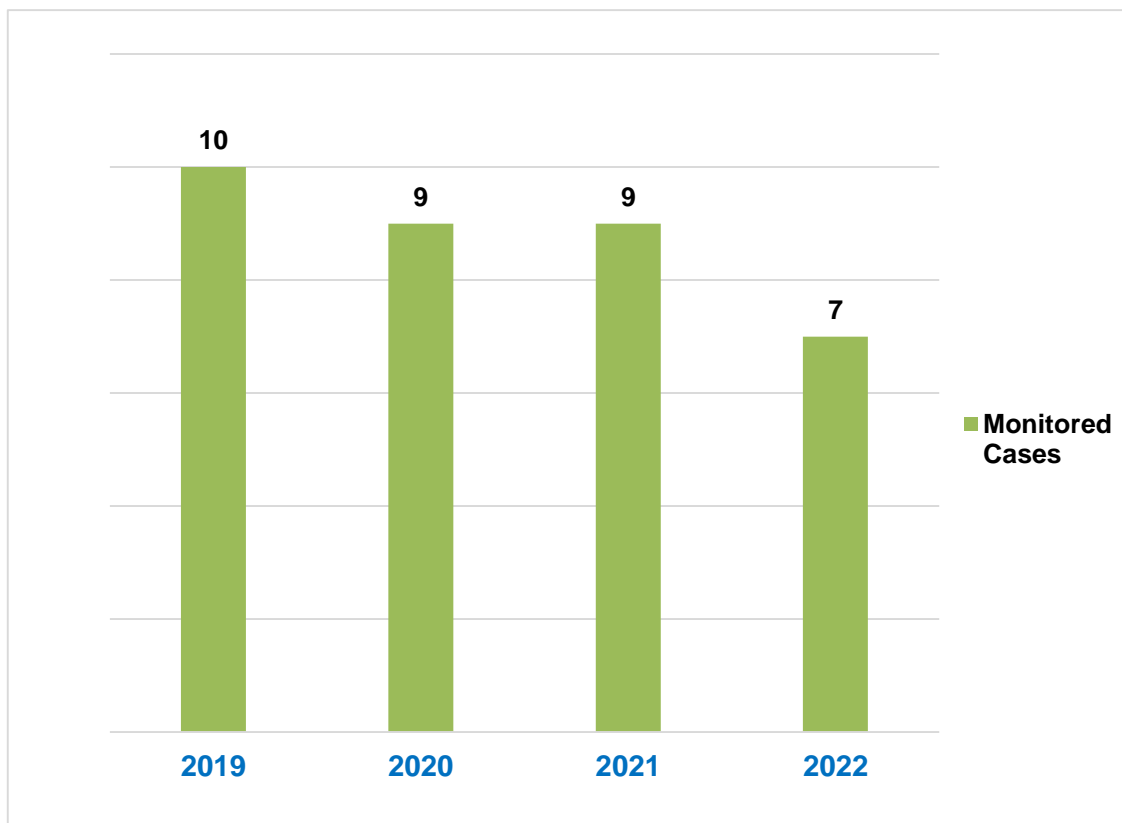
² For more information on the efforts and activities undertaken by the NIHR in promoting human rights, in particular, women's rights, please refer to NIHR's annual reports published on the NIHR's website: Annual Reports Section: www.nihr.org.bh

- 2.2 The NIHR dealt with all the complaints received as required, by communicating with the competent authorities to establish the veracity of the complaint contained therein, and coordinating to hold bilateral meetings between the NIHR and the relevant authorities regarding a number of complaints to reach a settlement. In addition, the NIHR conducted field visits, taking into account adherence to the relevant best practices.
- 2.3 In line with the NIHR's prescribed broad mandate, it provides legal aid to individuals and entities, whether when filing a complaint which the NIHR does not have jurisdiction over, or when requesting such legal assistance, by advising the complainants of the procedures to be followed and assisting them in taking such measures, while clarifying that all administrative or legal remedies and grievances should be exhausted, as the case may be, or by filing a report to the competent authorities, or referring the complaint to another authority with inherent jurisdiction to consider the complaint application.
- 2.4 During the years (2016-2022), the NIHR provided (374) legal assistances related to women's rights, some of which were related to personal issues or disputes between individuals, or issues considered before a judicial or administrative investigating authority, or request for commutation of penalty, or topics that the NIHR does not have jurisdiction over because it took place outside the territorial borders of the Kingdom. In some cases, the necessary legal assistance was provided to them, and in other cases, the concerned authorities were communicated with for humanitarian reasons, despite that



the NIHR lacked jurisdiction over it.

2.5 In implementation of the NIHR's competence to monitor and investigate human rights violation cases, it monitored ten cases during the years (2019-2022) pertaining to women's rights, some of which were related to personal issues or disputes between individuals, while others were on violations of the rights of migrant workers, or the right to health. The NIHR communicated and corresponded with the concerned authorities in connection with these cases.



Second: Progress achieved in implementing the provisions of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

1 Violence against women

- 1.1 The NIHR appreciates the issuance of Law No. (17) of 2015 on Protection against Domestic Violence, as it constitutes a significant legal framework for the protection of the rights of the child and the family. The Law defines domestic violence as any act of abuse that occurs within the family setting by one of its members against another member, whether the act of abuse is physical, psychological, sexual, or economic.
- 1.2 The NIHR presumes that the rate of domestic violence cases against Bahraini women is low, according to the published official numbers and statistics.³ However, it believes that due to the nature of the act of violence, the victim often does not publicly disclose it, for the purpose of maintaining the family as an entity and prevent its disintegration, in addition to other societal justifications or reasonings emanating from inappropriate customs and traditions. The NIHR expresses its concern about the continued increase and widespread cases of violence it has been monitoring through the media and social networks over the past years.
- 1.3 **Recommendations:**
 - a. **Boost up training programs for law enforcement agencies, including members of the judiciary, judicial officers, and forensic physicians, on the provisions of the Law on Protection against Domestic Violence, and the mechanism for handling these cases in a manner commensurate with their specific nature.**
 - b. **Place importance on furthering the awareness of government and private educational institutions' employees at all levels, on domestic violence issues and the mechanism to deal with this offence when it occurs and the guarantees established by law to protect the victims, in addition to training the youth on conversation and dialogue, easing tension and anger management skills.**
 - c. **Provide a dedicated toll-free hotline for domestic violence issues, to be a safe and easy mechanism enabling abused women within the family, especially female heads of household, to report any act of violence that**

³ For more information on rates of domestic violence against Bahraini women: The fourth periodic report of the Kingdom of Bahrain under Article (18) of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, Document No. (CEDAW/C/BHR/4), Paragraph No. (99). <https://undocs.org/ar/CEDAW/C/BHR/4>

they may be subjected to, and to increase the number of shelters designated for these victims.

2 Trafficking and exploitation⁴

- 2.1 The NIHR believes that although Law No. (1) of 2008 on Combating Trafficking in Persons contained provisions that criminalize forms of trafficking in persons, yet, there are aspects that the Law has not addressed, such as its failure to provide definitions for certain terms in a way that removes the ambiguity of the term. In addition, the Law has not defined the spatial scope of applying its provisions, even though the crime of human trafficking is a crime that transcends national boundaries, and it has not referred to the case of attempt to commit a trafficking crime and the punishment imposed on the accomplice.
- 2.2 Although the Penal Code promulgated by Decree-Law No. (15) of 1976 and its amendments has addressed some of these shortcomings, the nature of the crime of trafficking in persons requires independent provisions in a specific and clear law in order to assist law enforcement and investigation entities to deal with this crime in full compliance with law and commensurate with its serious implications.
- 2.3 In 2014, the NIHR prepared a proposal for the National Strategy to Combat Trafficking in Persons, including women and girls, and sent it to the National Committee to Combat Trafficking in Persons (NCCTIPs), for its consideration and action.
- 2.4 The NIHR commends the achievement of the Kingdom of Bahrain to secure (Tier 1) classification in combating trafficking in persons as per the report issued by the US Department of State for the fifth year in a row during the years (2018-2022), which classifies the most successful countries in combating trafficking in persons.
- 2.5 **Recommendations:**
 - a. **Amend Law No. (1) of 2008 on Combating Trafficking in Persons to ensure its comprehensiveness and consistency with relevant international and regional instruments, starting from prevention, handling, up to imposing punishment on perpetrators.**

⁴ The second annual report of the National Institution for Human Rights for the year 2014, and the fifth annual report of the National Institution for Human Rights for the year 2017, are published on the NIHR's website: Annual Reports Section: www.nihr.org.bh

- b. **Develop, promptly, a National Strategy for Combating Trafficking in Persons by the competent authorities as prescribed in the provisions of Law No. (1) of 2008 regarding Combating Trafficking in Persons, in cooperation with constitutional authorities, the National Institution for Human Rights and relevant civil society organizations.**
- c. **Take the necessary measures by the competent authorities to ensure that the NIHR is represented in the “National Committee for Combating Trafficking in Persons”, given its role in the promotion and protection of human rights.**

3 Participation in political and public life⁵

- 3.1 Paragraph (e) of Article No. (1) of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Bahrain stipulates: **“Citizens, both men and women, are entitled to participate in public affairs and enjoy their political rights, including the right to vote and the right to contest for elections, in accordance with the present Constitution and the conditions and principles laid down by law. No citizen can be deprived of his right to vote or to contest for elections except by law”.**
- 3.2 Since the first stages of the reform project led by His Majesty the King, starting with the approval of the National Action Charter in 2001 and holding of parliamentary and municipal elections in 2002, and the subsequent parliamentary and municipal elections every four years, ending with this year’s elections that took place on November 12, 2022, and the runoff election held on November 19, 2022, women have enjoyed the right to vote and to be elected, including the tangible results they have achieved as being members of the Council of Representatives and municipal councils.
- 3.3 In the parliamentary elections of 2018, six women were able to reach the Council of Representatives out of (40) seats, and a woman was elected for the first time to head the elected council (Council of Representatives), which gives her by virtue of the Constitution the Presidency of the National Council (the legislative power). Regarding the municipal elections, (4) women

⁵In the context of its broad mandate in the field of promoting and protecting human rights, the NIHR observed the parliamentary and municipal elections of 2018, and prepared a detailed report on the course of the entire electoral process, whether prior, during, or post-election day, including its relevant recommendations. This report is included in its sixth annual report for the year 2018, published on the NIHR’s website: Annual Reports Section: www.nihr.org.bh

obtained membership in municipal councils.

- 3.4 With respect to the parliamentary elections of 2022, (8) women were able to obtain seats in the Council of Representatives, and (3) women succeeded in obtaining membership in the municipal elections.
- 3.5 With regard to participation in public life⁶, the NIHR has followed up on the Civil Service Bureau's decisions and decrees which mandated the creation of standing equal opportunity committees in all ministries and official bodies, provided that the grade of the chairperson of the committee is not less than the grade of an assistant undersecretary and that the members of the committee represent the main operations sectors of the agency at the level of a department manager. According to statistics obtained from the Supreme Council for Women, the number of equal opportunity committees in the public sector has reached (44) committees until the end of 2018. Moreover, the General Secretariat of both the Shura Council and the Council of Representatives have formed similar equal opportunity committees in 2011 and 2012, respectively.
- 3.6 **Recommendations:**

Provide support to equal opportunity committees to achieve full integration of women's needs, and publish periodic reports on the efforts of the committees and the challenges they encounter.

4 Female worker and expatriate and domestic workers

- 4.1 The Labor Law in the Private Sector promulgated by Law No. (36) of 2012 and the ministerial resolutions issued in implementation thereof includes numerous benefits and rights that created a legal framework aimed at protecting women in a manner consistent with the relevant International Labor Organization (ILO) conventions.
- 4.2 Decree-Law No. (59) of 2018 was issued amending some provisions of the Labor Law in the Private Sector. An explicit provision was laid down to the effect that it is prohibited to discriminate between workers subject to the provisions of this law on the basis of gender, ethnic origin, language, religion or creed. Another provision was added that imposes the punishment of a prison sentence not exceeding one year or a fine not exceeding one hundred Bahraini Dinars on any worker who, during work or as a result of it, sexually harasses any of the co-workers, whether physically, verbally, by sign or any other means; and punishes any employer or his representative who commits

⁶ The Fifth Annual Report of the National Institution for Human Rights for the year 2017, and the Sixth Annual Report of the National Institution for Human Rights for the year 2018, are published on the NIHR's website: Annual Reports Section: www.nihr.org.bh

such offence with a prison sentence not exceeding six months or a fine of no less than five hundred Bahraini Dinars and not exceeding one thousand Bahraini Dinars.

- 4.3 This was followed by the issuance of Decree-Law No. (16) of 2021 amending some provisions of the Labor Law, including the addition of the provision: “it is prohibited to discriminate in wages between male and female workers in work of equal value,” which has had a significant impact on eliminating every form of stereotyped discrimination and ensuring the protection of women's rights.
- 4.4 The same Decree-Law repeals Article (30), which stipulates that the competent minister shall determine the conditions, jobs, and occasions in which women may not be employed at night, and Article (31), which requires the competent minister to issue a decision determining the works in which the employment of women is prohibited. With this amendment, women have equal job opportunity with men and can work in any field without any restrictions on their right to choose the suitable occupation and without any limitations preventing women from working at night.
- 4.5 By reviewing the provisions of the Labor Law in the Private Sector, it was noted that a working woman is also entitled to two hours per day to take care of her child until it reaches six months of age, and a total of one hour per day until it reaches one year of age, while a working woman in the public sector is entitled to two hours per day to take care of her child until it reaches two years of age.
- 4.6 The NIHR commends the issuance of Decision No. (80) of 2018 regarding the conditions and controls for granting two hours of rest to an employee or worker with a disability or who looks after a person with a disability, which comes to implement the provision of Article No. (5) of Law No. (74) of 2006⁷ on the welfare, rehabilitation and employment of persons with disabilities, as it will positively affect a large group of women employees and workers with disabilities or who take care of a person with a disability. It is noteworthy that since 2016, the Personnel By-law of the NIHR⁸ have granted two hours of rest to workers with disabilities or who take care of a person with a disability.

⁷ Decision of the Minister of Labor and Social Development No. (80) of 2018 regarding conditions and controls for granting two hours of rest to an employee or worker with a disability or who looks after a person with a disability, <http://www.legalaffairs.gov.bh/Media/LegalPDF/RLSD8018.pdf>, The website of the Legislation and Legal Opinion Commission: <http://www.legalaffairs.gov.bh>

⁸ Paragraph (b) of Article No. (122 bis) of the Personnel By-law of the National Institution for Human Rights, issued pursuant to the Council of Commissioners Resolution No. (14) of 2014 and its amendments, states that: “An employee with a disability or who is caring for a disabled first degree relative, confirmed by a certificate issued by the competent medical committee stating their need for special care, is entitled to (2) two paid hours of rest per day, and their timings shall be determined in coordination with the relevant manager and as required by the interest of work.

4.7 Regarding the rights of expatriate workers⁹, the Labor Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA) adopted the new and mandatory Tripartite Domestic Contract, which regulates the relationship between the employer (household), the owner of the employment office and the domestic worker, which was based on the outputs of the workshop on employment offices, in which the NIHR, employment offices, and a number of relevant civil society organizations have participated. The tripartite domestic contract guarantees the rights of all parties.

4.8 With regard to the rights of domestic workers,¹⁰ and since the provisions of the Labor Law in the Private Sector are not applicable to domestic workers and their likes, save for a number of articles that dealt with some rights, the NIHR calls for, and emphasizes the need for, having a legislation that regulates the affairs of domestic workers and employment offices as well as their rights and obligations.

4.9 **Recommendations:**

- a. **Make the necessary amendments to the provisions of Law No. (36) of 2012 issuing the Labor Law in the Private Sector so as women working in the private sector (private) are at a par with their counterparts working in the civil service (public sector) with regard to granting them child care leave to breastfeed their children.**
- b. **Call for the prompt issuance of a draft law on domestic workers (prepared in light of the proposed law submitted by the Council of Representatives), to explicitly include the rights and obligations of the relevant parties.**
- c. **Accede to the International Labor Organization Convention No. (100) of 1951 regarding the equal remuneration for work of equal value independent of whether it is performed by men or women.**
- d. **Take legal measures against employers who are proven to make arbitrary salary payments or defer the payment of wages for workers, and take preventive administrative measures to prevent such cases, including the mandatory transfer of wages into the workers' bank accounts.**

It is not permissible to combine the two scheduled rest hours with the other hours of care mentioned in this by-law".

⁹ The Fifth Annual Report of the National Institution for Human Rights for the year 2017, and the Sixth Annual Report of the National Institution for Human Rights for the year 2018, are published on the NIHR's website: Annual Reports Section: www.nihr.org.bh

¹⁰ The NIHR referred its advisory opinions to the Council of Representatives on the draft law regarding domestic workers (prepared in light of the proposed law submitted by the Council of Representatives), and these opinions were incorporated in the fourth and fifth annual reports of the National Institution for Human Rights for the years 2016 and 2017, respectively, published on the NIHR's website: Annual Reports Section: www.nihr.org.bh

5 Health¹¹

- 5.1 The NIHR has monitored, through the media and social media, a number of problems that are being encountered by individuals, including women, when enjoying the right to health, most notably: the lack of medical specialists in certain areas such as cardiovascular diseases, kidney transplantation, and cancer, as well as shortages of some medicines, thus, there is a high flow of patients with such ailments to the Salmaniya Medical Complex only, leading to the inability to provide the required level and quality of medical services due to the immense pressure.
- 5.2 The NIHR interacted with the needs of women with disabilities by holding a number of round tables with specialized official bodies, civil society organizations and parents of that group about the facts and reality of persons with autism spectrum disorder and Down syndrome. A number of recommendations were made to improve health and rehabilitative care for these groups.
- 5.3 The Kingdom of Bahrain went to great lengths to ensure that everyone enjoys the highest attainable standard of health, particularly in the field of primary health care for pregnant women, which includes preventive services provided to both mother and child, such as prenatal services, periodic examination of children, immunization, postnatal or abortion services, family planning services, periodic examination for women, premarital examination services, in addition to oral and dental health services.
- 5.4 The NIHR followed up the promulgation of Law No. (1) of 2017 on protecting society against acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) and protecting the rights of persons living with AIDS. It commends the government's directives regarding increasing the Ministry of Health's budget allocations in the State's general budget for the remainder of the fiscal year 2017 by adding (15) million dinars to be allocated to cover the expenses of providing medicines and medical supplies to public hospitals and health centers.
- 5.5 **Recommendations:**
 - a. **Take the necessary measures promptly to ensure an increase in the capacity of public hospitals and health centers to match the increase in population, and to establish hospitals equipped with specialists, consultants, instruments and equipment in each governorate to relieve pressure on the Salmaniya Medical Complex.**

¹¹ The Fifth Annual Report of the National Institution for Human Rights for the year 2017, and the Sixth Annual Report of the National Institution for Human Rights for the year 2018, are published on the NIHR's website: Annual Reports Section: www.nihr.org.bh

- b. Expedite the creation of a medical inventory control system and consumption rates in order to avoid shortages or unavailability of medicines in various pharmacies, especially the ones related to women.**
- c. Pay more attention to the development of health services provided to elderly and disabled women, particularly those with chronic diseases, autism spectrum disorder and Down syndrome, by increasing the number of diagnosis and rehabilitation specialists and readying hospitals and health centers logistically and technically to be able to meet their needs.**

6 Marriage, family relations, and the economic consequences of divorce

- 6.1 The NIHR appreciates the promulgation of Law No. (19) of 2017 issuing the Family Law, and concurs with the legislative policy pursued by Bahrain regarding the gradual raising of the age of marriage to (18) years - although the provisions of Law No. (19) of 2017 issuing the Family Law and the relevant ministerial decisions have set the age of marriage at (16) years¹² for both male and female - which will, in the coming years, lead to a decrease in the number of marriages of those under the age of 18 years, noting that currently, the average age of marriage for females is (24) years according to CEDAW's Fourth Periodic Report of the Kingdom of Bahrain.¹³
- 6.2 Regarding the observation of the CEDAW Committee on the list of issues and questions calling for repealing the legal provisions related to differential treatment between Sunni and Ja'afari women with regard to marriage, divorce and custody. The NIHR believes that although Law No. (19) of 2017 issuing the Family Law is mostly broad and inclusive and applies to family status issues of the two honorable sects (Sunni and Ja`afari) included in its scope as its provisions are general and are rooted in the provisions of Islamic Sharia, the presence of a number of exclusive provisions that apply to Sunni women and do not apply to Ja`afari women, or vice versa, is a natural and sound condition that existed to take into account the specificity of both sects and not to discriminate between them, and most importantly, is the fact that the

¹² Decision of the Minister of Justice, Islamic Affairs and Endowments No. (1) of 2016 regarding the list of legal marriage officers and the provisions for authenticating and registering documents related to personal status (<http://www.legalaffairs.gov.bh/Media/LegalPDF/RJIW0116.pdf>), amended by Resolution No. (48) of 2016 (<http://www.legalaffairs.gov.bh/Media/LegalPDF/RJIW4816.pdf>), specifically Article No. (12) thereof: Website of the Legislation and Legal Opinion Commission: <http://www.legalaffairs.gov.bh>

¹³ The fourth periodic report of the Kingdom of Bahrain, pursuant to Article (18) of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, Document No. (CEDAW/C/BHR/4), Paragraph No. (201): <https://undocs.org/ar/CEDAW/C/BHR/4>

specificity of some provisions of the Family Law is in line with the right to religious freedom.

6.3 **Recommendations:**

- a. **Pursue the creation of a periodic follow-up plan with regard to the gradual implementation of raising the age of marriage for both sexes as stipulated in Law No. (19) of 2017 promulgating the Family Law to the age of eighteen years.**
- b. **Call for assigning scientific staff specialized in the field of psychology, sociology, and those experts on women's issues within the Family Reconciliation Office, and leverage the family counseling offices located in social centers and distributed in the governorates of the Kingdom to provide family reconciliation services.**

7 **The National Institution for Human Rights**

- 7.1 On the request of the Supreme Council for Women, the NIHR submitted its response regarding paragraphs (47) and (48) of the concluding observations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)¹⁴. In addition, the NIHR sent a brief report on the advancement made and NIHR's efforts and activities in promoting and protecting women's rights¹⁵, including the answer to item No. (5) titled "The National Institution for Human Rights" on the list of issues and questions of CEDAW's Committee. In November 2022, the NIHR submitted a report to the Supreme Council for Women, which includes updated information on the above.¹⁶
- 7.2 In the First Section of the abovementioned report, entitled (The role of the National Institution for Human Rights in the field of promoting and protecting women's rights), the NIHR presented statistics on its efforts in the field of promoting and protecting women's rights for the years (2016-2022), including

¹⁴ The response of the National Institution for Human Rights at the request of the Supreme Council for Women regarding some of the concluding observations issued by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), which are contained in document No. (CEDAW/C/BHR/CO/3) on the third periodic report of the Kingdom of Bahrain regarding the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, is attached.

¹⁵ The response of the National Institution for Human Rights at the request of the Supreme Council for Women regarding the questions raised by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and contained in the list of issues and questions, under the title (Summary Report on: Progress, Efforts and Activities of the National Institution for Human Rights in the field of promoting and protecting women's rights in the Kingdom of Bahrain), is attached.

¹⁶ The response of the National Institution for Human Rights at the request of the Supreme Council for Women regarding the questions raised by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) contained in the list of issues and questions, and the response of the Kingdom of Bahrain to the list of questions and observations on its fourth periodic report under the title (Updated information on the NIHR's efforts and activities in the field of promoting and protecting women's rights), is attached.

the number of complaints received from women and their outcomes and awareness-raising measures related to complaint receiving mechanism,¹⁷ which is the answer to the questions of CEDAW Committee contained in its concluding observations and the list of issues and questions mentioned above.

- 7.3 In its annual reports,¹⁸ the NIHR has dedicated a separate section to present in detail its efforts in the field of promoting and protecting human rights, including women's rights. Moreover, in the 2013 and 2017 reports, the NIHR has included a separate topic that demonstrates the reality of women's rights in the Kingdom of Bahrain together with making recommendations in this regard.¹⁹

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¹⁷Attached is the guide for receiving complaints and the provided legal assistance, issued pursuant to Council of Commissioners Resolution No. (41) of 2018.

¹⁸ The annual reports of the NIHR for the years (2013-2018) are published on the NIHR's website: Annual reports section: www.nihr.org.bh

¹⁹ The first and the fifth annual reports of the National Institution for Human Rights for the years 2013 and 2017, respectively, are published on the NIHR's website: Annual reports section: www.nihr.org.bh

Attachments

1. Law No. (26) of 2014 establishing the National Institution for Human Rights, as amended by Decree-Law No. (20) of 2016.
2. Royal Order No. (26) of 2017 Determining the Controls Governing the Appointment of the Members of the Council of Commissioners of the National Institution for Human Rights.
3. The response of the National Institution for Human Rights at the request of the Supreme Council for Women regarding some of the concluding observations issued by the CEDAW Committee, contained in document No. (CEDAW/C/BHR/CO/3) on the third periodic report of the Kingdom of Bahrain regarding the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.
4. The response of the National Institution for Human Rights, at the request of the Supreme Council for Women, regarding the questions raised by CEDAW Committee, contained in the list of issues and questions, under the title (Summary Report on: Progress, Efforts, and Activities of the National Institution for Human Rights in the field of promoting and protecting women's rights in the Kingdom of Bahrain).
5. The response of the National Institution for Human Rights, at the request of the Supreme Council for Women, regarding the questions raised by CEDAW Committee, contained in the list of issues and questions, and the response of the Kingdom of Bahrain to the list of questions and observations related to its fourth periodic report under the title (Updated Information on the National Institution for Human Rights' efforts and activities in the field of promoting and protecting women's rights).
6. Guide for receiving complaints and provided legal assistance (issued pursuant to Council of Commissioners Resolution No. (41) of 2018).
7. Decision of the Minister of Labor and Social Development No. (80) of 2018 regarding the conditions and controls for granting two hours of rest to an employee or worker with a disability or who looks after a person with a disability.
8. Decision of the Minister of Justice, Islamic Affairs and Endowments No. (1) of 2016 regarding the list of legal marriage officers (Ma'thoun) and the provisions for authenticating and registering documents related to personal status, amended by Decision No. (48) of 2016.