

Statement by NIHR on the World Day Against Trafficking in Persons

Manama on July 30, 2022

On 30 July every year, the world countries, including the Kingdom of Bahrain, celebrate the World Day against Trafficking in Persons, in order to state their commitment to the UN Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons, which was launched in 2010 to integrate activities to combat trafficking in persons into the UN programmes in a way that enhances development and security around the world, and to recall the importance of eliminating this crime that continues to constitute a major challenge to humanity, raise awareness of the suffering of victims of trafficking in persons and promote and protect their rights.

This year's occasion is celebrated under the theme **“Use and abuse of technology”**, due to the global expansion in the use of technology, which has doubled due to COVID-19 pandemic, that contributed significantly to the spread of the crime of trafficking in persons via cyberspace through the digital platforms of traffickers using various tools to recruit victims by unknown perpetrators who exploit and control them more quickly and at a lower cost.

On the occasion of the World Day Against Trafficking in Persons, the National Institution for Human Rights (NIHR) notes the Kingdom of Bahrain's leading position in the classification of the most advanced countries in combating trafficking in persons, as it maintained its rank within the 1st category (Tier 1) in the report of the US Department of State for the 5th year in a row, which reflects high level of human rights in this field.

On this occasion, the NIHR states that it constantly works to achieve its role in following-up the commitment to the international conventions and treaties ratified by the Kingdom of Bahrain in the area of human rights, stating at the same time the importance of strengthening cooperation and coordination with international and regional organisations concerned with combating trafficking in persons and exchanging expertise among the countries of the region to face challenges and ways to combat cross-border trafficking and protect its victims, especially in light of the great technological development witnessed by the whole world.