



## **Statement by NIHR on the Release of the US Department of State's Report 2022 on Combating Trafficking in Persons**

**Manama on July 22, 2022**

The National Institution for Human Rights (NIHR) commends the report released by the US Department of State for the year 2022 on the classification of countries in terms of combating trafficking in persons, which praised the keenness of the Kingdom of Bahrain to formulate its policies to combat this crime through the continuous development of legislative, procedural and administrative tools to keep pace with crime developments within an integrated protection system based upon cooperation and coordination with various government agencies, and the serious steps taken by the Kingdom in holding those involved in trafficking crimes accountable and referring them to the judicial authority, in order to achieve conviction and justice, support victims and help them overcome psychological and social repercussions, as well as efforts made to protect migrant workers by creating a lot of procedures and mechanisms.

The NIHR notes the leading position of the Kingdom of Bahrain within the first category (Tier 1) in the US Department of State report for the 5<sup>th</sup> year in a row in the classification of the most advanced countries in combating trafficking in persons, which reflects the high level of human rights in this field.

On this occasion, Eng. Ali Ahmed Al-Derazi, Chairman of the NIHR, stated that this human rights achievement by the Kingdom of Bahrain for the 5<sup>th</sup> year in a row was due to the Reform Project of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, the King of the country, who worked to consolidate a culture of respect and preservation of human rights without discrimination, and through vigorous follow-up by His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince and Prime Minister, to develop and advance all government institutions in this field, in a manner that achieves the lofty royal aspirations in consolidating human rights, protecting basic freedoms, ensuring equality before the law without discrimination, providing means of equity and justice, and ensuring the establishment of the rules of equality and the promotion of human rights on the territory of the Kingdom.

Al-Derazi explained that trafficking in persons is a cross-border crime, and the Kingdom of Bahrain deals with this type of crime effectively and readily at several levels through its judicial, legislative and executive bodies, stating that the NIHR is working at the same time, with its broad mandate confirmed by its Establishment Law, to follow-up on the extent of government's commitment to the international conventions and treaties ratified by the Kingdom of Bahrain in the field of human rights, to ensure that they are implemented and respected by all, in order to work on the promotion and protection of human rights, especially combating trafficking in persons in all its types and forms.