

Statement of the National Institution for Human Rights on the occasion of World Food Day

16 October 2013

October 16 of each year is the day in which the United Nations celebrates the World Food Day, it is the date of establishing the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in 1945, that was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly by Resolution No. 35/70 on 28 November 1979. The day aims to increase public awareness of the problem of hunger in the world, to encourage greater direct attention to agricultural production in all countries, and to promote regional and international solidarity in the fight against hunger, malnutrition and poverty, to draw attention to achievements in the areas of food and agricultural development and promote economic and technical cooperation among developing countries.

This year's theme was: «sustainable food systems for food security and nutrition», as the eradication of hunger is a key target of the Millennium Development goals.

Article (11) - Paragraph (1) of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights stated that: «The States Parties to the present Covenant recognize the right of everyone to an adequate standard of living for himself and his family, including adequate food, clothing and housing, and to the continuous improvement of living». Also, Paragraph (2) Item (a) of Article (11) of the international Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural rights stated that: « improve methods of production, preservation and distribution of food by



making full use of technical and scientific knowledge, and the dissemination of knowledge of the principles of nutrition, and the creation or amelioration of agrarian land distribution systems in a way to ensure the most efficient development and use of natural resources. Paragraphs (2) Item (b) of Article (11) of the same covenant states that: «Taking into account the problems of both food-importing and food – exporting countries, to ensure an equitable distribution of world food supplies in relation to need».

The Kingdom of Bahrain, according to its economic vision for 2030, focuses on achieving food security, diversification of import sources to ensure food security. The GCC states also seek to achieve sustainable food for all, in order to achieve a decent life for citizens.

National Institution for Human Rights also confirms that the challenge facing the world today is the lack of food, which requires uniting of local and international efforts to fight and eliminate hunger in order to achieve development goals, and work to develop practical plans to counter the threat of food shortages, and work to achieve sustainability in nutrition, and achieve food security.

National Institution for Human Rights calls on the country's concerned authorities to develop long-term strategies in order to achieve food security and self-sufficiency for the citizens, through diversification of import sources, promote local food products, inject the necessary resources, and support local products, to create a society capable of dealing with a lack food in the future.