



Statement of the National Institution for Human Rights on the occasion of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty

17 October 2013

On October 17th of each year, the United Nations celebrates the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, which was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly at its 47th session under Resolution No. 47/196 on March 31, 1993. Celebrating this day aims to promote awareness of the fight against extreme poverty in all countries.

The fight against poverty is one of the human rights issues, extreme poverty constitutes human rights violation as Article «25» item «1» of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states: «Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, this includes food, clothing, housing, medical care and necessary social services. He has the right to security in the case of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control».

The subject of the fight against poverty is one of the most important priorities on the agenda of the United Nations Development Program, the General Assembly called on the States to devote October 17th to regulate certain activities and specific programs to eradicate poverty and promote these programs to combat violence ». This day is also an opportunity for the poor to contribute to the fight against and the eliminate violence Thus, enabling them economically and supporting them to eradicate the state of living poor.»



The United Nations General Assembly adopted in its 65th session on September 22nd , 2010, Resolution No. 65/1 to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, which focus on reducing extreme poverty By half, stop the spread of HIV / AIDS, and the provision of basic education for all, so that all can be realized in 2015.

The Secretary-General of the United Nations Ban Ki-moon said earlier: «eradication of extreme poverty remains as one of the major challenges we face in this period. It also poses a big bugbears for the international community, and the elimination of this scourge requires concerted efforts of all governments, civil society organizations and the private sector in the context of a stronger and more effective global partnership in order to achieve development ».

The Kingdom of Bahrain, like other countries which focused on the subject of the fight against poverty, stressed the need to develop plans and strategies to combat poverty and achieve the Millennium Development Goals. In the International Fund and the World Bank meeting, on April 2013, the Kingdom of Bahrain called to the need to develop a plan to counter the threat of extreme poverty in developing countries, as the special global target aims to reduce the rate of extreme poverty by 2030, and the eradication of poverty must be through sustainable environmental, social and economic framework.

National Institution for Human Rights, as an institution concerned with human rights issues, also stresses the need to develop long-term strategies and plans to counter the risk of poverty, combat it the best possible way, work on the economic empowerment of poor families and help them build their moral and



financial independence. Also eliminate the phenomenon of the feminization of poverty and the integrate women in the labor market giving them opportunities equal to men which is the approach pursued by the Kingdom through the integration of the needs of women as a key element in building and developing the society side-by-side with men.

The National Institution calls for civil society organizations to actuate their activities and social programs to empower needy families and to adopt effective economic programs to eradicate poverty.

It is noteworthy that the date of the celebration of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty goes back to 1987, when more than 100,000 people met in honor of the victims of violence, extreme poverty and hunger in the Trocadero Square in the French capital Paris.

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