

Statement of the National Institution for Human Rights on the occasion of the World Book and Copyright Day

23 April 2013

On April 23 of each year the United Nations celebrates the anniversary of the World Book and Copyright day. The National Institution for Human Rights expresses, on this occasion, its appreciation for the writers and authors by encouraging reading for all, particularly young people, and the reiteration of respect for the irreplaceable contributions of all those who paved the way for social and cultural progress of humanity, as the right to education is inherent in human rights on the basis of Article 26 of the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human rights, which stipulates in paragraph 1 that: "Everyone has the right to education", and paragraph 2, which states that: "Education must aim at the full development of the human personality and strengthening respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, and also promotes understanding, tolerance and friendship among all nations. "

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has chosen this date as it coincides with the birth or death anniversary of a number of prominent writers. In this day, focus is in favor of the issue of the book and the copyright grounds as the book is a way to express values, a window through which they envisage cultural diversity, a means for dialogue, and the fruit of creators' efforts who are protected by the copyright law.



Accordingly, the National Institution for Human Rights, which was established by Royal Decree No. 46 of 2009 amended by Royal Order No. 28 of 2012, emphasizes the need for combining all possible government efforts to act for the

interest in the right to education, to work on the improvement of the mechanisms used for the development of the education sector, to develop appropriate general policies opposing the imposition of single cultural pattern, to ensure the diversity of means of education, and the dissemination of culture and information. The Institution assures it will spare no effort over the next few months to adopt the principle of spreading human rights culture by all means available on the grounds that the culture of human rights aims at building the personality of the kingdom's citizens and residents in order to achieve best practice of public rights and freedoms set forth in the National Action Charter and the Constitution of the Kingdom and relevant international conventions and treaties.

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