



NIHR's Statement on the Occasion of World Teachers' Day

Manama-5 October 2013

The United Nations celebrates the World Teachers' Day annually on October 5th, which marks the anniversary of the adoption of UNESCO-ILO Recommendation of 1966 concerning the Status of Teachers. This comes in acknowledgment of teachers' vital role in building values and promoting science and in their leading role in the process of social, economic, intellectual and cultural construction in society. This Recommendation sets forth a number of guidelines on the educational policies, educational programs, and teachers' training, employment and working conditions, and their participation in the decision-making process related to education. It also represents an occasion to recognize teachers, and draw attention to their status and working conditions, and to the needs of countries where the process of teachers' recruitment does not meet the rise in enrollment rates.

Teachers are the most important educational resources because no quality education can be provided without them. However, the current number of teachers does not correspond to what has been determined in the framework of the objectives of education for all. The aim of universal primary education by 2015 requires providing additional 1.2 million qualified teachers. This is the reason for the call extended by the UNESCO, along with its partners, to the international community and governments to increase teacher-related investments.

Estimates suggest that more than 1.7 million jobs for teachers should be made available in order to achieve the objectives of universal primary education by 2015. Along with the recruitment of new teachers, the quality of education should be improved and schools should be supported in their efforts to attract qualified teachers.



On this occasion, the National Institution for Human Rights (NIHR) commends the noble role played by teachers in spreading their sublime message aimed to illuminate minds with science, knowledge and awareness, instill values and morality in students, and raise generations on the values of citizenship, tolerance, brotherhood, coexistence in love and peace with everyone, and fraternal interdependence among all members of society. This comes in integration with the role of the family in education, which promotes citizens' intellectual openness achieves their dreams to serve the nation, and keeps them away from any illegal acts that are not consistent with the teachings of our religion and with the international conventions and charters on children's rights.

NIHR calls upon the Government to improve the status of teachers and the services provided for them, as they represent the foundation on which any educational effort in all various locations is built.