



Statement by NIHR on World Children's Day

Manama on November 20, 2016

Coinciding with the anniversary of the United Nations' celebration of the World Children's Day held on November 20 each year, the NIHR expresses its deep thanks and appreciation for the efforts made by the State and relevant civil society organisations in promoting and protecting the rights of the child, in addition to efforts made by the UNICEF in promoting and protecting the rights of children and working to achieve their well-being by improving health services, raising the level of education in developing countries and developing social services for them and their families.

The rights of the child are among the basic human rights, which are recognised as essential by presidents of states and representatives of civil society organisations during their consultative meetings to set development goals, in coincidence with the launch of the Declaration of the Rights of the Child in 1959 and the Convention on the Rights of the Child in 1989. This day was considered an occasion for enhancing of brotherhood and understanding among the children of the world, combating cases of violence against children, negligence and exploitation of them in hard work that exceeds their capacity, urging governments to enact laws and regulations to protect the right of childhood, and revealing their suffering from various kinds of violence in some countries of the world.

On this occasion, the NIHR emphasises the basic human rights contained in the Convention on the Rights of the Child promulgated in 1989, which covers the full range of human rights, including civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, and acknowledges that the enjoyment of one right cannot be separated from the enjoyment of other rights. It also states that the freedom that the child needs to develop his intellectual, moral and spiritual abilities requires, *inter alia*, a healthy and safe environment and medical care, as well as the provision of minimum standards of food, clothing and shelter, and stresses the importance of the child being an active party in expressing his views and such views being taken into account when making decisions related to his life.