



Statement by the NIHR on the World Autism Awareness Day

Manama on April 2, 2021

The World Autism Awareness Day is commemorated on April 2 every year to unify and intensify international efforts by conducting more studies and research aimed at developing treatment and rehabilitation and health programmes for people with autism, and to highlight the importance of improving the quality of services provided for this group, in order to empower them and develop their skills to be integrated into the society.

This year's occasion is celebrated under the theme **“Inclusion in the Workplace: Challenges and Opportunities in a Post-Pandemic World”**, since COVID-19 pandemic has exposed the stark disparities around the world for autistic people, especially with regard to access to healthcare.

On the occasion of the World Autism Day, the National Institution for Human Rights (NIHR) highly appreciates Kingdom of Bahrain's efforts in the field of promoting and protecting the rights of people with autism to ensure their integration into the society, by unifying efforts and developing positive cooperation with the efforts of relevant civil society organisations.

On this occasion, the NIHR states that it will continue its efforts with all partners and stakeholders on local and regional levels in order to provide the largest possible support for this group, and to ensure the exercise of all their rights without any discrimination, especially their right to work, in order to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 8 on “Decent Work and Economic Growth”.