

Statement by NIHR on the World Day Against Trafficking in Persons

Manama on July 30, 2021

On July 30 every year, all countries, including the Kingdom of Bahrain, celebrate the World Day against Trafficking in Persons, in order to raise awareness to combat trafficking in persons, identify and protect the victims, hold perpetrators accountable and raise awareness among the societies, since the crime of trafficking in persons is an international phenomenon that affects thousands of men, women and children who fall prey to traffickers, whether in their countries or abroad.

This year's occasion is celebrated under the theme **“Victims’ Voices Lead the Way”**, in order to highlight the importance of listening to and learning from survivors of human trafficking, while emphasizing the importance of taking various measures to prevent this crime and to identify and rescue victims and support them with all available means, especially as the impact of COVID-19 has increased the number of persons that find themselves in precarious situations where they are more prone to become victims of traffickers who prey on those who are vulnerable to take advantage and exploit them.

On the occasion of the World Day Against Trafficking in Persons, the National Institution for Human Rights (NIHR) notes that the Kingdom of Bahrain continues to achieve the first rank for the 4th year in a row in the area of combating trafficking in persons according to the annual report of the US State Department, which reflects Bahrain's full commitment to all standards related to combating trafficking in persons through continuous efforts to implement those standards by adopting a solid legal and institutional structure.

On this occasion, the NIHR states that it constantly works to achieve its role in following-up the commitment to the international conventions and treaties ratified by the Kingdom of Bahrain in the area of human rights, calling at the same time for continuing effective cooperation between all government and non-government parties to work together to combat this phenomenon by intensifying efforts to protect those at risk, providing support to the victims and ensuring that perpetrators are brought to justice.