



## **Statement of the National Institution for Human Rights on the occasion of the International Day of Persons with Disabilities.**

03 December 2014

The United Nations Celebrates the International Day of Persons with Disabilities every year on the 3rd of December aiming to spread awareness of disability issues and the rights of persons with disabilities in order to integrate them in various aspects of political, economic, social and cultural life.

The National Institution for Human Rights takes this opportunity to express its appreciation for the efforts of the United Nations Organization for the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the attaining well-being to them through the issuance of a set of international conventions, most notably the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol thereto, as that their rights is an integral part of the human rights looked after by the United Nations. The Convention is the first international instrument for the rights of persons with disabilities in the 21st century, and the first legally binding document.

On this occasion, the National Institution shares the international orientation to celebrate this day by providing opportunities for all interested parties in the private and government sectors to participate and focus on motivating measures aiming to increase the implementation of international norms and standards related to persons with disabilities, through educational and training institutions and higher education institutions and through holding forums, public discussions and media campaigns in support of this day and this category.



The National Institution also emphasizes the importance of the gains made in the Kingdom of Bahrain at the level of integration of persons with disabilities in the community which is evident in the issuance of Welfare Act and the Rehabilitation of the Disabled No. (74) for 2006, the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities under Decree-Law No. (22) for 2011, and the launch of the National Strategic plan for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the formation of the Supreme Committee for Persons with Disabilities Affairs, Looking after them, providing rehabilitation and creating a special center for the disabled Services (You Are Not Alone), in addition to the issuance of Identification cards for all persons with registered disabilities in the Ministry of Social Development.

The National Institution calls on everyone to work in order to ensure the rights of persons with disabilities and facilitate the process of their integration into the community by planting confidence in their abilities, showing concern for their participation at any level, and the removal of all barriers hindering the achievement of their human rights as stated in the global work program's for people with disability.

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