



The candidature of the Kingdom of Bahrain has been endorsed by the Asia Pacific Group (APG)





Bahrain 2019 - 2021

Candidate for the United Nations
Human Rights Council

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Kingdom of Bahrain

P.O. Box 547
Manama
Tel: +973 17 227555
Fax: +973 17 212603

mofa@mofa.gov.bh

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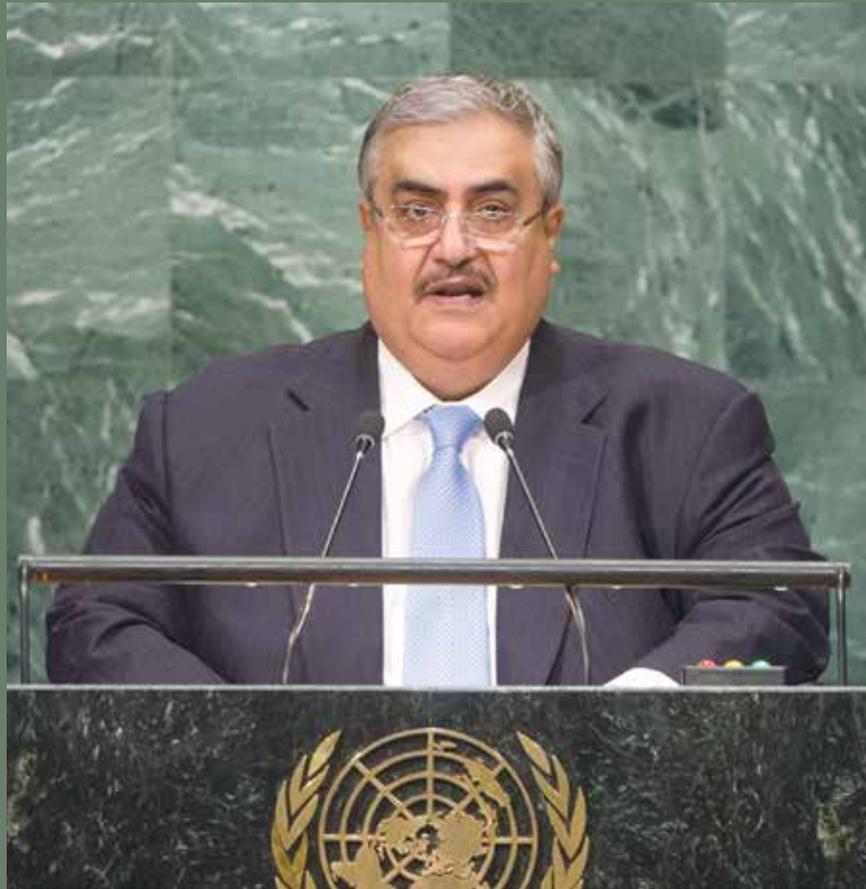
His Majesty king Hamad bin Isa bin Salman Alkhalifa
King of the kingdom of Bahrain

QUOTES FROM HIS MAJESTY
KING HAMAD BIN ISA BIN SALMAN ALKHALIFA
KING OF THE KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN

“Every Bahraini citizen has the right to have a voice heard and echoed everywhere, as all the population has obtained their legitimate constitutional rights under our comprehensive reform project. Women have equal political rights with men, young people have their own organizations, activities and representations in various state bodies, their prominent presence can be found in the Shura Council, diplomatic missions, civil society organizations and the commercial field.

Persons with disabilities have a voice in the legislative institution, municipal councils and specialized civil institutions. Residents of a number of years also have the constitutional right to participate in the election of representatives for membership of the Municipal Council as a constitutional institution of facilities and services that cater to their local needs.”

“The pursuit of democracy and respect for human rights will continue to be the two pillars shaping Bahrain's future, these two pillars are considered central in the comprehensive reform project, including the promotion of constitutional rights according to national and Islamic constants and in accordance with the will of the people.”



H.E. The Minister of Foreign Affairs
Shaikh Khalid bin Ahmed bin Mohammed Al Khalifa

INTRODUCTION BY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

I am proud to present the candidacy of the Kingdom of Bahrain for membership of the Human Rights Council for the term 2019 – 2021. We believe that human rights are universal, inalienable and indivisible. The Kingdom of Bahrain recognizes the significant role of the Human Rights Council in promoting international efforts to protect human rights and addressing all violations in the framework of the United Nations system.

The candidacy of the Kingdom of Bahrain reflects its constant achievements in the field of human rights. The Kingdom of Bahrain has made many national and international initiatives and achievements, including: the King Hamad Global Centre for Peaceful Coexistence, the Princess Sabeeka Bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa Global Award for Women's Empowerment, the National Referral Mechanism for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, and the Flexible Work Permit for foreign workers.

The Kingdom of Bahrain was also the first country to submit its report in the Universal Periodic Review mechanism. The Human Rights Council adopted the third periodic report of the Kingdom of Bahrain on September 21, 2017, where delegates participating at the 36th session of the Human Rights Council praised the Kingdom of Bahrain's achievements and position on the recommendations contained in the third report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review.

The membership of the Kingdom of Bahrain in the Human Rights Council will enable it to continue its efforts to promote and protect human rights at all national and international levels, in order to make a useful and unique contribution to the work of the Council. The Kingdom of Bahrain will also help to encourage all members of the international community to work in an integrated manner to achieve the high principles of human rights.

Through its membership in the council, the Kingdom of Bahrain will be committed to the principles of consultation and constructive dialogue and cooperation with all United Nations Member States in general and Human Rights Council members in particular, for the continuation and development of human rights system and high principles.



WOMEN'S RIGHT

ACHIEVEMENTS

Bahraini women have obtained their full rights in the framework of equality, equality of opportunity and social justice in all fields in accordance with the Constitution and without prejudice to the provisions of the Islamic Shariaa. Under the support of His Majesty the King for women's political rights, Bahraini women have stepped up to executive positions and took her place as a minister.

In 2017, the number of women in the rank of ministers are (3) women ministers. The members of the House of Representatives are 8%, the Shura Council (appointed) 23% and the Secretariat of the capital 50% according to the statistics of 2017.

The progress of Bahraini women at the international level is reflected in, inter alia, membership in international committees such as the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), the Executive Council of the United Nations Women's Fund (UNWOMEN), the adoption and launching of the United Nations Women's Award President of the Supreme Council for Women - World Women's Empowerment in March 2017, and the opening of the representative office of the United Nations Women in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

PLEDGE

The Kingdom of Bahrain will continue its efforts to play an international role and share best practices in promoting the empowerment and equal opportunity for women at the national and international levels.



RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

ACHIEVEMENTS

Recognizing the importance of promoting the children's affairs, protecting their rights and ensuring a safe environment that allows for the full development of children's abilities and talents and taking appropriate steps in the areas of health and education to take care of the psychological, social and cultural needs of children in accordance with their national strategy based on the best interests of the child.



Training programs have been established for teachers and teachers of various stages in public schools, as well as the involvement of kindergartens teachers in a range of activities, workshops and training programs to raise their professional competence for educational and educational dealings with students in coordination with the relevant authorities. In addition to the establishment of a psychosocial counselling centre to care for the psychological and social guidance of students.

The Royal Charity Foundation, established under a Royal Decree issued on August 14, 2001, sponsor orphans who have lost their parents. The Foundation provides educational support in the provision of school bags and the provision of free seats for orphans in kindergartens in cooperation with kindergartens, companies and private sector institutions, according to the number of seats obtained annually and the allocation of another free number of orphans in private schools in cooperation with schools and companies and private sector institutions.

PLEDGE

The Kingdom of Bahrain will continue its efforts to enact new legislation that will protect and guarantee the rights of the child and expand programs based on the welfare of all social, health, psychological and educational rights of the child.

COMBATING TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

ACHIEVEMENTS

Believing that the issue of trafficking in persons is a challenge that requires concerted national efforts to keep the Kingdom of Bahrain free from this global crime of all types and manifestations, and to address them and develop mechanisms to eliminate them in the event of indications of their existence, the Kingdom of Bahrain has taken a set of measures to ensure coordination and cooperation between the parties Governmental and civil authorities to combat this crime within the visions and mechanisms

contained in the national strategy to combat trafficking in persons. In May 2017, the "National Referral Mechanism for Victims of Trafficking in Persons", the first of its kind in the region, was launched. The system aims at strengthening measures to combat trafficking in persons, clarifying and regulating the role of different agencies and their mechanisms in dealing with any trafficking situation or suspected trafficking.

The Kingdom of Bahrain takes pride in its international achievement as the first Arab state to reach Tier 1 in the Trafficking in Persons (TiP) Report issued by the US State Department in June 2018.

PLEDGE

The Kingdom of Bahrain will strengthen its national anti-trafficking strategies and support United Nations efforts as well as exchange best practices to combat trafficking of persons.



RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

ACHIEVEMENTS

The Kingdom of Bahrain places great importance on the care of persons with disabilities, as it has gained further support and momentum in the framework of the National Reform Project launched by His Majesty the King.

All government institutions that have key roles in the rehabilitation process and civil society organizations, institutions from the private sector, as well as civil society and non-governmental organisations work in synergy, where roles are integrated in the form of a partnership system between all parties, to provide various types of care for persons with disabilities including social, health and cultural care, as well as rehabilitation and training for their integration into society and the labor market.





One of the initiatives launched by the Kingdom to achieve this goal, for example, is the adoption of a bill requiring the issuance of a card to a person with a disability under which a reduction of not less than fifty percent (50%) of the fees imposed by the State shall be granted. There is the "Danat" project to support small businesses for persons with disabilities. The Nasser bin Hamad Award for Disabled Persons' Creativity, is also an example of the steps taken by the Kingdom to highlight the capabilities and innovations of persons with disabilities and to stimulate the spirit of competition among them.

PLEDGE

To continue the efforts of the Kingdom of Bahrain to promote the rights and integration of persons with disabilities in society.

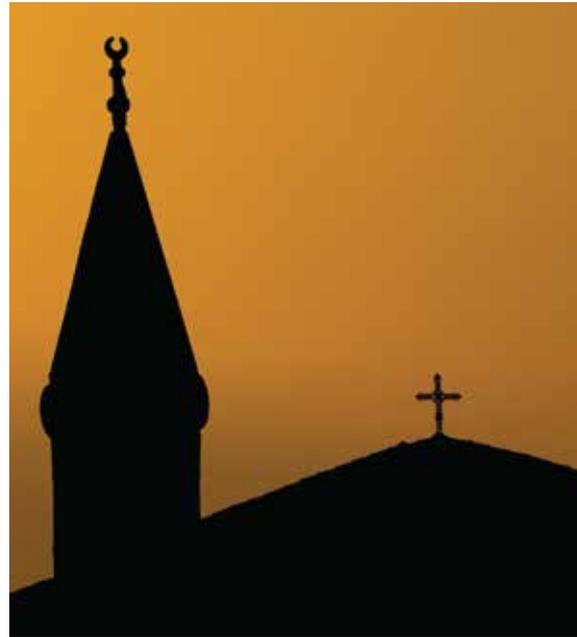
Continue to provide the special technical and accessibility needs of persons with disabilities in all state enterprises and public places.

RELIGIOUS TOLERANCE AND FREEDOM OF BELIEF

ACHIEVEMENTS

The Kingdom of Bahrain is a model of the coexistence and harmony between the followers of different religions, sects and cultures, thanks to the openness and freedom set by His Majesty the King within the framework of his comprehensive reform project. Many initiatives have been taken in this regard, including the launch of the Declaration of the Kingdom of Bahrain, which calls for religious tolerance and peaceful coexistence throughout the world as a basis for promoting religious freedom, and the launch of the King Hamad Global Centre for Interfaith Dialogue and Peaceful Coexistence under the support of His Majesty the King, which is a significant historical impression recorded in the name of Bahrain, Arabs and Muslims.

The King Hamad's Chair for peaceful coexistence at La



Sapienza University in Rome was also established to teach dialogue, peace and inter-religious understanding in November 2017. This initiative will give young people from all over the world the chance to learn the noble values called by in the Kingdom of Bahrain, especially in the rapprochement between the religions and doctrines. It will also shed light on the actions taken by the Kingdom since ancient times to establish these values in the Bahraini society, in addition to teaching students values, ethics and tolerance among all.

PLEDGE

The Kingdom of Bahrain will continue its role in supporting initiatives to promote religious freedom and eliminate any incitement to sectarianism, violence, anti-nationalism, religious or racial hatred, as well as expanding its commitment to defend religious tolerance and peaceful coexistence at the international level.



PROTECTIONS OF LABOUR RIGHTS

ACHIEVEMENTS



Bahrain is one of the leading countries in the field of labour market reform and the protection of workers' rights, namely the flexible work permit project, which is considered one of the best international practices, in addition to granting expatriate workers the right to move from one employer to another without the consent of their employer according to the fair rules Defined by law.

In addition, it enabled all workers to benefit from the system of insurance against unemployment without discrimination between their categories or nationalities to protect the worker from destitution and need during the period of disruptions. expatriate workers, such as national workers, have the right to represent all workers in trade unions and trade unions regardless of their nationalities. They also have the right to strike to defend their legitimate interests, to undertake trade union activities and to protect trade unionists from dismissal because of their trade union activity.

PLEDGE

Under the laws and regulations of the Kingdom of Bahrain, the Kingdom will maintain the rights of workers and monitor the relationship between the worker and the employer to ensure full compliance with the labor law in the private sector and ministerial decisions related to it in accordance with the relevant international standards.

The Kingdom of Bahrain will publish its successful and pioneering practices in the field of reforming the labor market at the regional and international levels, namely the flexible work permit project for expatriate workers.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs) 2030

ACHIEVEMENTS



Building on its experience in achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) before its target date of 2015, the Kingdom of Bahrain has taken several steps to adopt the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2030. The Kingdom has paid great attention to these goals and has been strongly committed to achieving them since the endorsement in 2000. The Kingdom has achieved important steps, such as:

- Percentage of the population living in extreme poverty is zero.
- Average economic growth in the past decade stands at 37.4% and average GDP per capita is USD 22,000.
- Public expenditure on health, education, and social protection exceeds 35% of the budget.
- Basic education is free and compulsory. Net enrollment ratio for primary and secondary levels is 100% and 86.4% respectively, thus eliminating illiteracy. While KG2 enrollments is 82%.
- Healthcare is free and universal. Maternal mortality and that of children under five dropped to 28.6 death per 100,000 live births and 9 deaths per 1,000 live births respectively, compared with 226 deaths per 100,000 live births and 44 deaths per 1,000 live births worldwide.

- The Constitution guarantees gender equality. There are two committees instituted by the Supreme Council for Women to ensure equal opportunities and gender-responsive budgeting. Women hold 55% of the supervisory positions, with %53 and %33 participation in the public and private sector respectively.
- The private sector is a key development partner. It provides equal high paying employment opportunities contributing to lowering total unemployment to 4%.
- 65% of the population benefited from public housing services with five new sustainable cities being developed.
- The coverage of safe water, sanitation and clean energy networks reached 100%.
- The Labor Fund (Tamkeen) provides vast support to SMEs. More than 47,000 SMEs and 120,000 individuals including women, youth, and persons with disabilities benefited from its financial and training support.

PLEDGE

The Kingdom of Bahrain will take concrete steps to continue the national development process under the support of the Government's leading programs to implement and raise awareness of the sustainable development goals 2030.

PARTNERSHIP IN PROMOTING HUMAN RIGHTS



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has been endorsed by the Asia Pacific Group (APG)

شراكة من أجل تعزيز حقوق الانسان



حصلت مملكة البحرين على تزكية
مجموعة دول آسيا والمحيط الهادئ (APG)