

Celebrating Bahraini

His Majesty lauds Bahraini women's active participation in the nation-building process

Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, yesterday at the Sakhir Palace, received President of the Supreme Council for Women HRH Princess Sabeeka bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa accompanied by members of the jury panel of HRH the Princess's Global Award for Women Empowerment on the sidelines of the panel's meeting in Bahrain.

HM the King expressed appreciation of the national efforts made by all institutions, notably the SCW chaired by HRH wife of HM the King, which has committed since its inception to boosting women's status in society.

HM the King noted the SCW's efforts to introduce the Bahraini women's contributions to the national development efforts, in addition to their family responsibilities.

HM the King stressed promoting the Bahraini women's rights to continue their contributions



His Majesty, HRH Princess Sabeeka hold talks with award jury panel.

to serve the nation and the community, pointing out that Bahraini women's contributions are a role model to follow in a unified society that embraces various religions and sects and welcomes everyone.

HM the King thanked members of the jury panel for their role in highlighting the goals of the award at the global level based on principles of justice,



Bahraini women's participation in political field reflects their awareness about national duties.

HIS MAJESTY

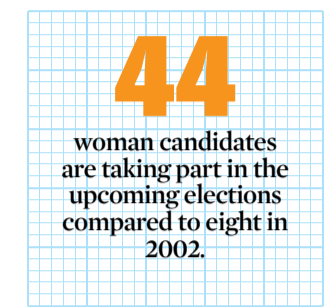
equal partnership between man and woman in urban construction and maintaining human security and stability.

HM the King pointed out the Bahraini women's participation in political field and upcoming elections, which reflects their awareness to take on their national duties.

HM the King welcomed the increase in number of women

candidates in the 2018 elections to 44 compared to 8 in 2002, in addition to their presence in 26 constituencies, where women constitute 50 per cent of the electoral bloc, affirming support for exercising their political rights as a key component of the society.

HM the King took pride in the citizens' interest to participate in the 2018 parliamentary and



municipal elections, which reflects their respect for national responsibilities.

His Majesty called on voters and candidates to assume their national responsibilities to continue their role in underpinning the development process taking place in various fields, wishing everyone success to bring more achievements within the framework of national unity.

HM the King wished the participants in the international forum success, which attracted elite international personalities, noting the importance of the event in enhancing efforts

'Progress of women a key global developmental issue'

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Her Royal Highness Princess Sabeeka bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa, wife of HM the King and President of the Supreme Council of Women (SCW), has stressed that Her Highness's Global Award carries the Kingdom's message to the international community noting that women's affairs is a distinguished development issue.

Her Royal Highness also reaffirmed her full commitments in supporting global policies to accelerate the pace of women's progress in keeping with the Sustainable Development Goals SDGs2030.

This came during Her Royal Highness's meeting with members of the award arbitration panel at the headquarter of the Supreme Council of Women (SCW), who represent elite of international names in the field of diplomatic and UN work led by the Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations, Dr Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka.

HRH Princess Sabeeka expressed her thanks and appreciation to UN Women for the fruitful cooperation in declaring this award as well as activating its intended objectives. Her Royal Highness also praised efforts endorsed by the jury and team



HRH Princess Sabeeka with award jury panel.

work of UN Women in receiving and evaluating participations according to the criteria of the award. Her Royal Highness appreciated levels of accuracy and neutrality committed by the in-charge team.

Her Royal Highness also lauded the programmes and plans achieved to introduce the Award at the international level that raises the number of participations to nearly 1,880.

From their sides, the jury of Princess Sabeeka bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa Global Award for Women's Empowerment expressed their ambitions to measure the good results they are working to achieve through acknowledging the Award's goals and encouraging the establishment and individuals taking part in the Award.

They asserted that the Award will be the best tool to promote the successful practices for enhancing gender equality, in order to raise woman's participation in labour market as well as empowering her to be self-reliant and upgrade her family to the advancement of her society.

The meeting included Dr Mlambo-Ngcuka, other members of the jury Dr Helen Clark, former Prime Minister of New Zealand, Shaikha Haya bint Rashid Al Khalifa Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Bahrain Chamber of Dispute Resolution, Antonio Patriota, Ambassador of Brazil to Italy and former Brazilian foreign minister, Prof Mustafa El Feqi, director of the Alexandrina Library, Professor Marike Paulsson, director of the Institute of International Arbitration of the Faculty of Law,

University of Miami, Mohamed Al Nasiri, regional director of UN-Women for the Arab States and a number of officials at UN Women.

The meeting discussed the commitment of the participants to the general criteria to qualify for the award, including the creation of methodologies and scientific policies to fill gaps in favour of women in different sectors, and sustaining its implementation.

The meeting also tackled the contribution of offering choic-

es and quality services for different age groups of women in support of policies and methodologies of empowering women and achieving equality between genders, besides enhancing women's participation and adopting their view points and studying their needs in all levels of planning, implementation and evaluation as well as empowering women for assuming leadership positions and the sustainability of their presence in decision-making positions.

The Princess Sabeeka bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa Global Award for Women's Empowerment aims at highlighting the contributions of the public and private sector, civil society and women's rights champions to worldwide efforts for the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, and promote women's empowerment and equality between women and men.

The award also aims at fostering creative and inclusive thinking by communities to collaborate to achieve women's empowerment, recognising that equality for all means prosperity for all and sustainable development for communities and nations.

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HRH Princess Sabeeka holds talk with members of award jury panel.