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| Country/entity | Bahrain |
| Region | Middle East and North Africa |
| Agreement name | Bahrain National Dialogue Proposals, Executive Summary |
| Date | 28/07/2011 |
| Agreement status | Status unclear |
| Agreement/conflict level | Intrastate/intrastate conflict (Bahraini Uprising (2011 -)) |
| Stage | Framework/substantive - comprehensive (Agreement) |
| Conflict nature | Government |
| Peace process | 10: Bahrain: Reform-based peace process |
| Parties | 300 participants; 37% from political societies, 36% from civil and non-governmental organisations, 21% from opinion leaders and prominent figures within the Kingdom of Bahrain and 6% from the media. Civil and non-governmental organisations had a representation percentage of 12% for professional societies, 9% for social societies, 5% for women societies, 5% for youth societies, 3% for the various labour unions and 2% representation from the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry. |
| Third parties | |
| Description | The National Dialogue was launched by King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa to tackle growing animosity between sections of Bahraini society and the regime. It was poorly received by the opposition, who only gained 5 seats of 300. The executive outcomes document contains a summary of potential policy outcomes in the four policy areas of social, economic, political and rights. |

Agreement document [BH_110728_Bahrain National Dialogue Executive Summary.pdf](#) []

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| Main category | <p>Page 2, III. Main outcomes under the four main policy areas: Political, Economic, Social and Rights</p> <p>A. Political</p> <p>1. . . .</p> <p>Delegates did not reach consensus on a number of further suggestions, such as limiting the term for ministers and head of government or a fixed quota for women in parliament. They did not agree on whether the Shura Council should be granted the same powers as the Parliament, and whether the responsibility for law making and oversight should be restricted to the elected chamber.</p> <p>Page 2, 2. The debate centred on equal representation of the population. Critics of the current system argued that the geographical distribution of constituencies did not reflect the demographics of Bahrain. They maintained that the proposals for a system with one or five constituencies would reduce existing inconsistencies and provide greater opportunity for women and minority groups to be represented. Others defended the current arrangement, noting that smaller constituencies allow MPs better familiarity with their community. They feared that reducing the number of constituencies would create sectarian quotas in parliament, leading to political crisis.</p> <p>Page 5, C. Social</p> <p>3. Women, children and persons with special needs</p> <p>The National Dialogue recognised the importance of protecting the rights of women, children and persons with special needs. A decision to bolster women's rights will ensure their greater protection from violence, equal rights in the workplace and greater political and economic empowerment,</p> |
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including reviewing women's salary levels in the private sector. In particular, Bahrain will ensure the comprehensive implementation of the UN Convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women while respecting the country's religious tradition. On children's rights, delegates called for all relevant legislation to be fully implemented, and to restrict the participation of children in rallies and demonstrations. People with special needs will be granted better access to education and specialised bodies through the adoption of a National Strategy on the rights of people with special needs in September 2011. Delegates called for improved coordination between the government and civil society organisations protecting the rights of people with special needs.

Page 6, 5. Naturalised citizens

Consensus was reached on the proposal that the children of Bahraini women married to foreign nationals would be granted Bahraini citizenship according to a clear set of rules. Delegates agreed to develop rules to prohibit discrimination against naturalised citizens. Naturalised citizens will be entitled to stand for elections 5 years after having obtained their Bahraini passport on the condition that they are not dual nationals.

Women, girls and gender

Participation [Gender quotas](#)

Page 2, III. Main outcomes under the four main policy areas: Political, Economic, Social and Rights
A. Political

1. . . .

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[Effective participation](#)

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[Citizenship](#)

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Equality [Social equality](#)

Page 5, C. Social

3. Women, children and persons with special needs

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| Particular groups of women | No specific mention. |
| International law | <p>General IHRL, IHL and IL</p> <p>Page 5, C. Social</p> <p>3. Women, children and persons with special needs</p> <p>The National Dialogue recognised the importance of protecting the rights of women, children and persons with special needs. A decision to bolster women’s rights will ensure their greater protection from violence, equal rights in the workplace and greater political and economic empowerment, including reviewing women’s salary levels in the private sector. In particular, Bahrain will ensure the comprehensive implementation of the UN Convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women while respecting the country’s religious tradition.</p> <p>International human rights standards</p> <p>Page 5, C. Social</p> <p>3. Women, children and persons with special needs</p> <p>... In particular, Bahrain will ensure the comprehensive implementation of the UN Convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women while respecting the country’s religious tradition. ...</p> |
| New institutions | No specific mention. |
| Violence against women | <p>Protection (general)</p> <p>Page 5, C. Social</p> <p>3. Women, children and persons with special needs</p> <p>... A decision to bolster women’s rights will ensure their greater protection from violence, equal rights in the workplace and greater political and economic empowerment, including reviewing women’s salary levels in the private sector.</p> |
| Transitional justice | No specific mention. |
| Institutional reform | No specific mention. |
| Development | <p>General</p> <p>Page 5, C. Social</p> <p>3. Women, children and persons with special needs</p> <p>The National Dialogue recognised the importance of protecting the rights of women, children and persons with special needs. A decision to bolster women’s rights will ensure their greater protection from violence, equal rights in the workplace and greater political and economic empowerment, including reviewing women’s salary levels in the private sector...</p> |
| Implementation | No specific mention. |
| Other | No specific mention. |