



Expert Group Meeting Family Wellbeing Index

16-17 July 2026

Ankara, Türkiye



16 July 2026, Thursday

TIME	AGENDA
9:00 – 9:30	Quran Recitation Welcoming Remarks <i>H.E. Zehra Zümriüt SELÇUK, Director General, SESRIC</i> <i>H.E. Dr. Sharifa Noaman AL EMADI, Executive Director, DIFI</i> <i>H.E. Amina Obaid Ramadhan AL HAJRI, Director General of Cultural, Social and Family Affairs at the General Secretariat of OIC (Virtual)</i>
9:30 – 9:45	Opening Remarks: Strategic Overview of the Family Wellbeing Index <i>Dr. Ahmed AREF, Director of Family Research and Policy Department, DIFI</i> Framing the institutional vision of the FWI as an evidence-based diagnostic policy tool ahead of the October 2026 launch.
9:45 – 11:00	Session 1: Pillar I - Objective Wellbeing The session will review the material, physical, and structural foundations of family life. Deliberations will focus on the indicator shortlists for Food and Material Security, Economic Stability, Housing Adequacy, Infrastructure, Health Status, Healthcare Access, and Social Protection in order to assess how to effectively balance resource access with service quality in the survey design. Moderator: <i>Dr. Ahmed AREF, Director of Family Research & Policy Department, DIFI</i> Key Presentation and Critical Review of Objective Wellbeing Pillar: <i>Prof. Dr. Logan COCHRANE, Dean of the College of Public Policy and Professor in Public Policy, Hamad Bin Khalifa University</i> Interventions: <i>Dr. Alexandra FERGUSON, Principal Analyst, Stats New Zealand (Virtual)</i> <i>Prof. Dr. Hasan VERGİL, Professor of Economics, Ibn Haldun University</i> <i>Dr. Dominik ROZKRUT, Former President, Statistics Poland</i> <i>Mr. Ahmet Kürşad DOSDOĞRU, Vice President, Turkish Statistical Institute</i> <i>Dr. Alissar NASSER, Team Leader, Central Administration for Statistics, Lebanon</i> Open Interventions
11:00 – 11:30	Family Photo & Coffee Break



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11:30 – 13:00	Session 2: Pillar II – Subjective Wellbeing Evaluating the psychological, emotional, and cognitive ecosystem of the family unit. This session reviews indicators tracking Life Evaluation, Positive/Negative Affect, Future Orientation, Resilience, Meaning, and Perceived Family Support. Standardizing the measurement of emotional affect, hope, and subjective financial stress to ensure cross-national comparability across culturally diverse OIC member states. Moderator: <i>Dr. İpek DEDEOĞLU, SESRIC</i> Key Presentation and Critical Review of Subjective Wellbeing Pillar: <i>Dr. Seku TOURE, Senior Researcher, Doha International Center for Interfaith Dialogue</i> Interventions: <i>Dr. Betül ÖZEL ÇİÇEK, Vice General Manager for Strategy and Impact, KADEM</i> <i>Prof. Hasan VERGİL, Professor of Economics, Ibn Haldun University</i> <i>Dr. Hafid HACHIMI, UN Policy Director, Family Watch International</i> <i>Dr. Dominik ROZKRUT, Former President, Statistics Poland</i> <i>Dr. Alissar NASSER, Team Leader, Central Administration for Statistics, Lebanon</i> Open Interventions
13:00 – 14:00	<i>Lunch and Prayer</i>
14:00 – 15:30	Session 3: Pillar III – Relational Wellbeing Rigorous review of internal family dynamics and community integration. Review of subdimensions including Couple Communication, Conflict Strain, Parenting Warmth, Discipline Climate, Family Functioning, and Neighborhood Trust. Evaluating the sensitivity and structural integrity of family functioning metrics, including the use of indirect proxies for relationship strain and the classification of household discipline practices. Moderator: <i>Dr. Betül ÖZEL-ÇİÇEK, Vice General Manager Strategy & Impact, KADEM</i> Key Presentation and Critical Review of Relational Wellbeing Pillar: <i>Dr. Ahmet ÖZTÜRK, Coordinator, SESRIC</i> Interventions: <i>H.E. Dr. Sharifa Noaman AL EMADI, Executive Director, DIFI</i> <i>Prof. Rahmet SAVAŞ, Dean of Science & Literature Faculty, Haliç University</i> <i>Asst. Prof. Muhammed İkbāl ALP, Assistant Professor of Physiology, Medipol University</i> <i>Mr. Turgay ALTUN, Head of Social Statistics Department, Turkish Statistical Institute</i> <i>Dr. Nora BRÜNING, Policy Analyst, OECD Centre on Well-Being, Inclusion (Virtual)</i> Open Interventions
19:00 – 21:00	<i>Gala Dinner</i>



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9:00 – 9:30	Morning Recap & Agenda Orientation Brief synthesis of Day One outputs. The facilitator will orient the panel as the work program transitions from individual well-being dimensions toward household relationships, cultural alignment, and international reporting structures. SESRI & DIFI
9:30 – 11:00	Session 4: Pillar IV – Cultural Wellbeing Reviewing a pillar uniquely sensitive to the values, traditions, and lived realities of Arab and Muslim-majority societies. Examination of metrics regarding Cultural Identity, Community/Family Belonging, Intergenerational Continuity, and Religious Practice. Defining parameters for measuring shared family traditions and religious practice to ensure an objective, respectful, and policy-relevant baseline for cultural continuity. Moderator: <i>Prof. Rahmet SAVAS, Dean of Science & Literature Faculty, Haliç University</i> Key Presentation and Critical Review of Relational Wellbeing Pillar: <i>Dr. Hafid HACHIMI, UN Policy Director, Family Watch International</i> Interventions: <i>Shaikha Ali AL-MARRI, Head of Family Affairs, Ministry of Social Development and the Family, Qatar</i> <i>Dr. Betül ÖZEL ÇİÇEK, Vice General Manager for Strategy and Impact, KADEM</i> <i>Dr. Seku TOURE, Senior Researcher, Doha International Center for Interfaith Dialogue</i> <i>Asst. Prof. Muhammed İkbāl ALP, Assistant Professor of Physiology, Medipol University</i> Open Interventions
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee Break
11:30 – 12:30	Closing Session: Reflections, Commitments, and Next Steps Shifting from architectural concepts to institutional implementation. This session focuses on data-collection protocols, rules for handling household non-applicability (e.g., single or childless households), and the logistics of aggregating data from household metrics to national levels. Reviewing the operational implementation roadmap, identifying data-sharing pathways among member states, and defining long-term reporting standards for the piloting phase. Finalization of the EGM's technical outputs. Experts will formally adopt the recommended revisions for the index framework and establish the timeline for the final technical report ahead of the flagship conference in Doha. Moderator: <i>Dr. Ahmed AREF, Director of Family Research & Policy Department, DIFI.</i> Open Discussions and Closing Remarks
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch and Friday (Jumma) Prayer
14:00 – 19:00	Social Programme