



Kementerian Pembangunan Wanita,
Keluarga dan Masyarakat

Ministry Of Women, Family & Community Development

PRESS RELEASE

Creating A Family-Friendly Social Environment

SEOUL, KOREA 4th December 2014 - Malaysia is committed to emphasizing the family agenda as a priority in the national development plan to create a balance between nation development and people's happiness.

This statement was made today by YB Dato' Sri Rohani Abdul Karim, Minister of Women, Family and Community Development at the 6th East Asia Ministerial Forum on Families in Seoul, Korea.

YB Dato' Sri Rohani stressed that the Government of Malaysia recognises that the family is a basic social unit that provides human resources to ensure the continuity of human development as well as future generations. This is reflected in Malaysia's National Family Policy, which was developed in 2011 to ensure sustainable family development.

According to YB Dato' Sri Rohani, the ministry has formulated, developed and implemented various initiatives such as **1Malaysia Family First**, **1Malaysia Youth Empowerment** and **Support Programmes and One-Stop Family Centers** in recognition of the integral role the family plays in nation-building and development and to further ensure work-family life

balance.

YB Dato' Sri Rohani further explained that the ministry through the National Population and Family Development Board has pioneered the development of the Malaysian Family Well-Being Index. The Malaysian Family Well-being Index in 2011 was 7.55 out of the maximum score of 10. This is an indication that Malaysian families have a relatively high level of well-being but more needs to be done to further improve it. A survey will be conducted again in 2015 to monitor family well-being.

The 6th *East Asia Ministerial Forum on Families* is organized by the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family, Republic of Korea from the 3-5 December 2014. This year's theme is '**Creating Family-Friendly Social Environment**'. Its focus is on sharing policies and research results on strengthening family competence in each East Asian country while providing the opportunity to view family values from new perspectives.

The *Seoul Declaration*, which is expected to be adopted at the end of the three-day meeting, will call on governments to acknowledge that families have always been the utmost mode and value of life in East Asia and will continue to play a crucial role in creating a sustainable Asian community for the future.

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| Date | : | 4th December 2014 |