

South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission

2008–2009 Annual Report



**Government
of South Australia**

SAMEAC's VISION

To achieve an open, inclusive, cohesive and equitable multicultural society, where cultural, linguistic, religious and productive diversity is understood, valued and supported.

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CHAIRMAN'S EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

It gives me great pleasure to present the Annual Report of the South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission.

One of the highlights of the past year saw the Commission giving a greater voice to young people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. More than 100 youths from 20 different cultural backgrounds took part in a Youth Summit in October 2008 organised by Multicultural S.A. for the Commission following advice from the Youth Advisory Committee. The participants drafted five recommendations to encourage young people to become more involved in the activities of their ethnic communities. I was impressed, but not surprised, by the enthusiasm, astuteness and energy these young people brought to this process.

One of the Summit's recommendations was the establishment of a 'Federation of Youth' group with representatives from all ethnic organisations to allow them to share ideas, knowledge and facilities. The group is due to be incorporated later this year. It is vital that young people are given a greater decision-making role in their communities to strengthen the future of multiculturalism in South Australia. I look forward to working with this group.

The 2008–2009 Multicultural Grants Scheme had a budget of \$300,000 and the South Australian Government provided grants to about 200 organisations for a variety of projects that support the Commission's vision of supporting and promoting a culturally diverse society.

The Commission also continues to promote the benefits of multiculturalism to all South Australians by supporting the participation of ethnic organisations in iconic South Australian events.

This is the fifth year in which the Christmas Pageant featured a multicultural float. The 2008 float showcased the talents of the Liberian, Burmese, Greek, Polish, Romanian, Sri Lankan and Ukrainian communities.

The Australia Day Parade again proved to be another highly successful event for multiculturalism this year with more than 2000 people representing 41 different ethnic backgrounds joining in. Young people from culturally and linguistically diverse communities took part in the ANZAC Day Eve Vigil and for the first time, multicultural performances will be held at S.A. National Football League matches later this year.

Eight ethnic performing groups also took part in a 'Showcasing Multiculturalism' event in West Lakes Shopping Centre in August 2008.

The Commission organised the participation of Asian and other community groups in the OzAsia Festival in September last year. The Festival included the Moon Lantern Festival at Elder Park involving hundreds of school children and Cambodian, Chinese, Hong Kong, Filipino, Indonesian, Japanese, Korean, Malaysian, Singaporean and Vietnamese community members.

This was just one of many festivals the Commission supported including: Carnevale; Riverland Multicultural Festival; Têt Vietnamese Festival; Lunar New Year Street

Party; Congolese Festival; Dimitria Greek Festival; Indofest; Dozynki (Polish festival); Croatian Food and Wine Festival; World Fest; and MELA Indian Festival.

The inaugural Governor's Multicultural Awards was held in 2008 to acknowledge outstanding contributions by individuals and organisations to promoting multiculturalism and community harmony, and to increasing awareness of the benefits of cultural diversity within South Australia.

Nominations were judged by a panel appointed by the Commission in consultation with the Governor, His Excellency Rear Admiral Kevin Scarce A.C. C.S.C. R.A.N.R., and the Multicultural Communities Council S.A. The Governor presented the awards to the six winners in front of more than 100 people at Government House on 20 November, 2008.

Having such a high-level civic leader acknowledging the benefits of promoting multiculturalism sends a strong message to the wider community about the value of cultural diversity.

The Commission took a pro-active role in responding to community concerns about incidents in Adelaide and interstate involving Indian students in June this year. A meeting was held with Indian community and student leaders, and representatives from SAPOL, the Department for Premier and Cabinet, the Minister for Multicultural Affairs, the Minister for Employment, Training and Further Education, and Education Adelaide. The Consul-General for India, Amit Dasgupta, also took part.

From this meeting, the Commission established an International Students Social Integration Reference Group to address issues confronting overseas students. The Commission has also continued to work with taxi drivers on driver safety.

A Multicultural Aged-Care Roundtable was held in April to seek resolutions to concerns raised by ethnic communities and mainstream service providers regarding the availability and appropriateness of existing services for elderly members of culturally and linguistically diverse communities in South Australia.

The Roundtable provided an opportunity for key Federal and State government agencies and service providers to indicate what measures they are taking, and will take, in response to the matters raised.

The Commission organised media training for five Sudanese leaders in December when the community became the focus of media attention after the death of 14-year-old Daniel Awak in November 2008. The participants were trained on all aspects of the media, including the role the media plays in the community, different types of media and preparing for interviews. This training gives participants greater confidence in engaging with the media in promoting their community's activities, or responding to issues when necessary.

Leadership training for women from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds continued to attract interest this year. Twenty-eight women participated in leadership training in 2008, which, for some, included advanced training and mentoring to prepare them for appointments to boards and committees.

The Commission worked closely with the many sections of the Chinese community to support and assist the Adelaide Zoo to promote and raise funds for the arrival the Giant Pandas.

On behalf of the Commission I extend my sincere thanks for the contribution of former Commission members Ms Maria Barredo, Ms Gala Mustafa and Mr Mariano Ngor whose terms expired during the year. I also offer my congratulations and a warm welcome to new members, Mr George Fomba and Ms Sumeja Skaka, and re-appointments Ms Branka King and Ms Malgorzata Skalban.

I would also like to thank the hardworking staff of Multicultural S.A. for their commitment to the successful fulfilment of the Commission's projects and goals. Under the visionary leadership of Executive Director Mr Simon Forrest, Multicultural S.A. is promoting the benefits of cultural diversity to an increasingly wider audience.

I also thank the Minister for Multicultural Affairs, the Hon. Michael Atkinson M.P., for his unwavering support for the promotion of multiculturalism. He leads by example in his active engagement with South Australia's ethnic communities to take social inclusiveness from the realm of the ideal and put it into practice.

Mr Hieu Van Le
Chairman

MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION

Mr Hieu Van Le (to 31 December, 2009) Chairman

Mr Le is the Chairman of the South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission (SAMEAC). He has been appointed as Chairman to 31 December 2009.

He was the Deputy Chairman 2003-2006 and Member since 1995.

Mr Le became the Lieutenant Governor of South Australia, since 2007.

He was a Senior Manager, Financial Services Regulation, at the Adelaide Regional Office, of the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) until March 2009.

He is a Member of South Australia's Community Engagement Board since 2007; and a member of the Research Centre for Languages and Cultures - University of South Australia since September 2009.

He is an Honorary advisor to several organisations within the Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Communities in South Australia.

Mr Le is the Patron or Honorary member of a range of organisations including:
The OzAsia Festival, Churchill Fellows Association of SA, Migrant Resource Centre, Rotary Club Adelaide South, Australian Chinese Medical Association, Australian Hellenic Education Progressive Association, Campania Sports and Social Club (Sons of Italy) Community Centre, Hong Kong Australia Business Association - SA Chapter, China Town Adelaide Inc, Anti-Poverty Week, SA Ethnic Schools Association.

He is also an Ambassador for the White Ribbon Foundation and the Australian Refugees Association (ARA).

Mr Le is also a Business Ambassador for South Australia.

Mr Le is a recipient of the following Awards and Recognition:

Australia Day Medal for outstanding service to ASIC;
Centenary Medal "for service to the advancement of multiculturalism and the Vietnamese Community" 2001;
"Golden Achiever of the Year" awarded by the Chinese Chamber of Commerce SA Inc. 2008;
Honorary Doctorate for service to the society - Adelaide University 2008;
Paul Harris Fellowship - inducted by the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International – 2009.

Mr Peter Ppiros (to 31 December 2009)
Deputy Chairman

Mr Peter Ppiros was appointed Deputy Chairman of SAMEAC in 2006. He has been re-appointed for a further two years as Deputy Chairman, to 31 December 2009.

Mr Ppiros, who has been a member of the Commission since January 2003, is a strong advocate for regional South Australia and multiculturalism.

Originally a refugee from Cyprus, Mr Ppiros lives in Renmark and is the founder and editor of the Greek Community Tribune, a national Greek / English newspaper, established in 1993.

Mr Ppiros has had extensive experience in delivering and managing a wide variety of services directly to immigrants and refugees over the years. In 2004 he was elected Chairman of the Riverland Multicultural Forum, an incorporated organisation which represents the region's multicultural community and provides settlement services to new migrants. He is also Chairman of the Regional Multicultural Communities Council.

He is also the founder of the Riverland Greek Festival which was awarded the 2000 S.A. Great Regional Award for the Arts, for its contribution towards multiculturalism and reconciliation with the Indigenous community.

Mr Ppiros is a recipient of the Centenary Medal for service to the community through the advancement of multiculturalism.

Ms Michelle Dieu (to 3 June 2011)

Michelle (Swee Ming) Dieu is from a Chinese Malaysian background. She migrated to South Australia in 1992 as an independent skilled migrant, joining her parents who had migrated four years earlier.

Michelle is the Convenor of SAMEAC's Youth Advisory Committee.

She speaks Mandarin, Cantonese and Bahasa Malaysia and the dialects Fuzhou and Fujian.

She is currently employed as an employee at the Migrant Resource Centre of S.A.

A qualified teacher with a Bachelor of Education from Flinders University and a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada, Michelle worked as an educator and migrant settlement volunteer in the Chinese community for the Chinese Welfare Services after arrival.

She then worked for more than 10 years for the Overseas Chinese Association of S.A. Inc. (O.C.A.), co-ordinating the Community Settlement Services Scheme and managing several programs including the Settlement Grants Program, O.C.A. Joblink Services and Coaching for Multicultural Taxi Driver Training Program for Chinese and humanitarian entrants.

In that time, the O.C.A.'s Coaching for Multicultural Taxi Driver Training Program received several awards, including *Outstanding Program* and *Best Service Provider*, from the South Australian Department of Further Education, Employment, Science and Technology (DFEEST) and Adult Community Education.

In 2003, Michelle was appointed an Ombudsman Referral Delegate under the Justice Access Referral Program by the State Ombudsman's Office.

She is a registered migration agent, and a Member of the Migration Institute of Australia.

Mrs Promila Gupta (to 31 August 2010)

Promila Gupta came to South Australia from Chandigarh in India, settling first in Whyalla where she started her own restaurant and she was the President of the International Women Association at the Whyalla Migrant Centre. She was teaching Indian cooking at the TAFE College. She organised many cultural shows at the Middleback Theatre.

She moved to Adelaide in 2002. She was an Executive member of the Indian Australian Association of South Australia from 2001 to 2006, and then President for years 2007 and 2008. She has made a short film titled 'Five Spices' that was screened at Parks community Centre. It is a documentary film about the crisis faced by women aged 50 or more from different ethnic backgrounds.

Promila was a Member of the Multicultural Education Committee on Cultural affairs. She is a presenter of 5EBI-FM's Hindi radio program. Since 2005, she has run Hindi language classes every Sunday. She has been Cultural Coordinator of a Musical Club of India known as 'Rasik Ranjani'. She is Cooking Editor of the leading national newspapers of Sydney called '*The Indian Down Under*' and Melbourne's '*Beyond India*'; and is Chairperson of the Sargam Indian Musical Association Inc.

She has published two cookbooks and she won the 'Pride of Australia' Award in 2006. She also won the 'Citizen of the Year' Award from the City of Campbelltown in 2007. She is teaching Indian cooking from 1971-1983 in India, 17 years at Whyalla and now continuing in Adelaide at WEA Institute.

Ms Vahedeh Mansoury (31 December 2009)

Vahedeh Mansoury's appointment heralded a new chapter in the life of the South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission. She is not only the Commission's first Kurdish community representative but also one of the first Muslims to be appointed to the role. Interestingly, Vahedeh's name is derived from the Arabic root word meaning one.

Vahedeh migrated to Australia from Iran with her family in June 1999. Initially, Vahedeh and her family settled in Adelaide and then Melbourne, however, they have since returned to Adelaide.

Vahedeh is a Graduate of the University of Tehran where she studied Psychology. She has an extensive background in teaching primary and secondary school children in Iran. In Melbourne, Vahedeh studied English while working at a child care centre and teaching at a local (Farsi) ethnic school.

Upon relocating to Adelaide, Vahedeh worked as a volunteer with the Kurdish community. In this capacity, Vahedeh committed herself to providing case management and community development assistance to Kurdish women living in South Australia.

Vahedeh's experience includes being a mentor with the Department for Families and Communities Refugee Program supporting new arrival families. Ms Mansoury is currently a Southern Domestic Violence services as a welfare/D.V worker for the Southern Domestic Violence services.

Vahedeh has completed a Diploma of Children's Services at Regency Institute of TAFE and a Certificate IV in Justice Studies at Adelaide TAFE. She has completed a Leadership Course for Women, Certificate III in Business Frontline Management, at Adelaide TAFE.

Mr Norman Schueler (31 December 2009)

Mr Schueler, who was born in the United Kingdom, arrived in Australia in April 1966 and joined Hines Metals. In 1984 he founded Normetals, a scrap metal and steel sales business which is also a supplier of marine equipment such as chains and anchors. Mr Schueler has travelled extensively and regularly to China to establish a flourishing import/export business.

Actively involved in the Jewish community, Mr Schueler is a past President of the South Australian Jewish Youth Council and the B'nai B'rith Youth Organisation. He has been President of the Jewish Community Council SA since 1996, Vice President of the Executive Council of Australian Jewry and is currently a Board Member of the Australia-Israel Chamber of Commerce and Adelaide Symphony Orchestra as well as being a Director of a number of companies.

Mr Tony Simeone (to 31 August 2010)

Antonio (Tony) Simeone was born in Cervinara in the Avellino Province of Italy, and migrated to Australia with his parents in 1964, aged 10.

Tony is managing director and founder of his own financial services company and has been active in many community organisations in Adelaide.

For all of his adult life, he has contributed to the community by serving on and otherwise serving a number of associations and organisations, including the Azzurri Sports & Social Club (now known as the Adelaide Blue Eagles), FICSA-Federation of Italian Clubs (S.A.), the Campania Sports & Social Club, the South Australian

Italian Association (aka The Italian Club), the CIAO-Cultural Italo Australian Organisation and Radio Italiana.

He was elected to the South Australian Italian Association Board of Management and served as its secretary from 2002 to 2007.

He is Life Governor of the Campania Sports & Social Club, as Campania is his Italian region of origin.

He is also a member of several other regional Italian associations including the newly formed Molisani Association.

He has also served the community via the Lions Club of Adelaide Italian for the past 17 years, including as President from 2001 to 2002.

Tony speaks English, Italian and French and plays pennant squash for the Next Generation Club.

Mr Petar Zdravkovski (Zed) (to 31 December, 2009)

Mr Petar Zdravkovski's extensive community experience includes founding member/inaugural President of the Port Lincoln Multicultural Council and founding member/inaugural President of the Regional Multicultural Communities Network Inc (R.M.C.N.).

A former public servant, Mr Zdravkovski also has considerable experience in the Occupational Health, Safety and Welfare area.

Currently a Board member of the Migrant Resource Centre South Australia, Mr Zdravkovski has organised the participation of culturally and linguistically diverse communities in Australia's longest running festival, the Tunarama festival, in Port Lincoln.

Mr Zdravkovski is an inaugural member of, and organised, Port Lincoln Multicultural Council's participation in the highly successful Mediterraneo Festival.

As well as promoting local primary produce such as fish and wine, and the Eyre Peninsula's lifestyle, this festival promotes the region's cultural links with the people of the Mediterranean.

A longstanding member of SAMEAC's Northern Regional Advisory Committee, Mr Zdravkovski now brings his considerable skills to the role of convenor of this Committee.

During the year the following SAMEAC members were appointed or re-appointed:

Mr George Fomba (to 28 January 2010)

George Fomba was born in Liberia and grew up in Guinea. He arrived in South Australia in 2004.

George speaks five languages - English, French, Kissi, Creole and Liberian English and is a part-time interpreter.

He works as a Case Co-ordinator and Youth Officer under the SA Multicultural Settlement Services program of the Migrant Resource Centre of South Australia and as a casual Mentor for the Department for Families and Communities Refugee Services.

He has completed a Diploma in Community Welfare Work at Port Adelaide TAFE and he is a student at the University of South Australia studying Social Work degree.

Currently Vice Chairperson of the Liberian Community of South Australia, George has co-ordinated a range of programs for newly-arrived young people. These have included developing a Liberian Community Youth Group, establishing a Kick-Ball competition for Liberian women and girls, organising and conducting: information sessions, recreational activities, soccer tournaments and leadership camps.

Ms Branka King (to 28 January 2012)

Branka King is Convenor of the South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission's Women's Advisory Committee.

A long-standing member of the Serbian community, Branka is a Leader of Youth with Girl Guides S.A. and a volunteer at the St Mary Magdalene's Drop-in-Centre.

She is a Justice of the Peace, and works in this capacity at the Port Adelaide Magistrate's Court Daily Room and as a Visiting Inspector of metropolitan Correctional Services institutions. She is also a member of the Training Centre Review Board.

Branka is a qualified interpreter and has a Diploma of Professional Counselling.

She is a member of the Standards Committee for the Department of Transport, Energy and Infrastructure, and is a Zone Leader for West Hindmarsh Neighbourhood Watch.

Ms Sumeja Skaka (to 31 December, 2010)

Ms Sumeja Skaka is from Sarajevo in Bosnia.

After completing her SACE Certificate at Adelaide High School, she returned to Bosnia to study Arabic Language and Literature at the University of Sarajevo, then completed a Bachelor of Arts in International Studies at the University of South Australia.

She also has a Diploma in Islamic Sciences from the Al Ghazzali Centre for Islamic Sciences and Human Development, and is founder and director of the Islamic educational institution, 'Ayn Academy, in Adelaide.

Ms Skaka is fluent in Bosnian, Serbian and Croatian, is a cross-cultural training volunteer with the Muslim Women's Association of South Australia, a member of the

Migrant Resource Centre of South Australia's Youth Network and a volunteer with Amnesty International.

In 2006, she was named Youth of the Year in the Australian Muslim Achievement Awards.

She is a former Committee Member of the Muslim youth organisation Youthemerged.

Ms Malgorzata Skalban OAM (to 28 January 2012)

Ms Skalban was born in Poland and came to Australia in 1968. She has extensive experience in community work in the multicultural field, particularly in aged care.

Ms Skalban has been on various community and departmental committees responsible for the initiation of numerous ethno-specific services.

She has a Bachelor of Arts (Spanish and Italian major), a Bachelor of Social Administration and an MBA.

Prior to her current employment with Domiciliary Care S.A. as Multicultural Consultant, Ms Skalban set up linkage and advocacy services in the metropolitan area, Whyalla and the Riverland.

She has also worked with refugees and victims of domestic violence.

Ms Skalban is actively involved in the Polish community and currently is Vice President of the Federation of Polish Organisations in S.A., President of the Polish Women's Association in Adelaide, Co-ordinator of Polish Link with Seniors, Editor of *Glos Seniora*, and Chairperson of the John Paul 11 Advisory Committee.

She is a member of the National Cross Cultural Dementia Network and the Australian College of Health Service Executives (ACHSE). Ms Skalban is also a member of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital Consumer Advisory Council, International Women's Day Committee of South Australia, Migrant Women's Lobby Group and Adelaide Kiwanis.

In December 2000 Ms Skalban was awarded the Gold Cross for services to the Polish community by the Polish Government. In June 2005 she was awarded OAM for services to the community, particularly through multicultural and aged care organisations.

During the year the terms of the following SAMEAC members expired:

Ms Maria Barredo (to 31 December, 2008)

Ms Maria Barredo was born in the Philippines and came to Australia in 1988. A registered nurse, she lived and worked in Iran for five years where she became fluent in the Iranian language, Farsi.

Ms Barredo is also fluent in English, the main Filipino language Tagalog and the Filipino dialect Ilongo, and has a working knowledge of Spanish.

She is a Manager of Community Services in the Federation of Polish Organisations in S.A., and a Managing Director of her own consultancy firm Barredo Holland. She is also a Board member of Australian Refugee Associations, a member of the Royal Adelaide Hospital Consumer Advisory Council, and the C.N.A.H.S. CALD Steering Committee.

Ms Barredo was on the Governor's Leadership Foundation 2008 program. She is also a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Ms Gala Mustafa (to 31 December, 2008)

Kurdish-born Ms Gala Mustafa was the first hejab-wearing Muslim woman to join the Commission.

A resident of Mount Gambier, Ms Mustafa's appointment increased the number of regional members on the Commission to three. She was Convenor of the Commission's South East Regional Advisory Committee.

Ms Mustafa has a Bachelor of Science from Baghdad University.

She is a member of the Migrant Settlement Committee, S.A. Government Muslim Reference Group, Mental Health Day Program Steering Committee, Carers S.A., Support Carers of People with Mental Illness Reference Group, Tension Woods College Board, Mount Gambier Community Forum, Mental Health Consumers and Carers National Register, Mental Health Council of Australia (Canberra) and the Mount Gambier Museum.

She is the Co-Chair of the South East Consumer and Carer Mental Health Advisory Group, Deputy Chair of Rural Australia for Refugees and a financial member of the Limestone Coast Multicultural Network.

Mr Mariano Ngor (to 6 June, 2009)

African community elder Mr Mariano Ngor migrated to Australia from Sudan as a refugee student in 1984.

At the time he fled Sudan, Mr Ngor was a Liaison Officer working on United Nations Integrated Rural Development Projects in the Sudan.

In 2000, he became a Bilingual School Services Officer with the Department of Education and Children's Services (DECS) specialising in the two languages, Sudanese Arabic and Dinka. He has been a DECS Community Liaison Officer with the African communities since 2005.

Mr Ngor is Chairperson of the Sudan Relief and Rehabilitation Association; Chair of the Board of Sudanese Ethnic Schools of S.A. Inc.; Chair of the Sudanese Housing Committee and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (S.P.L.M.) representative and spokesperson in Australia and Oceania.

S.P.L.M. is one of the two major partners in the Government of National Unity in the Autonomous Government of Southern Sudan, established after the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (C.P.A.) in 2005.

ROLE OF THE COMMISSION

SAMEAC is a Statutory Authority, which was established under the *South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission Act 1980*. The Act allows for up to 15 part-time Members, a minimum of whom must be four men and four women. Members, whose collective skills assist the work of SAMEAC, are representative of a number of diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds.

SAMEAC is required to:

- advise the Minister on matters relating to multicultural and ethnic affairs by facilitating communication between the Government and ethnic communities;
- promote multiculturalism as an integral part of the State's social and economic policies, and work towards an inclusive society;
- endeavour to increase the awareness of the services available to people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds;
- promote social harmony amongst ethnic communities and the wider community;
- foster and support community development activities by ethnic communities; and
- lead and manage multicultural initiatives in partnership with other organisations and the community.

The functions of SAMEAC are detailed in full at Appendix 1.

SAMEAC's Committees

To assist SAMEAC to fulfil its role, Advisory Committees are established, on a needs basis, under Section 15 of the Commission's Act. The activities of these Advisory Committees are detailed in this report. A list of Advisory Committees and their membership can be found at Appendix 2.

External Boards and Committees

SAMEAC Members are nominated to represent the Commission on a variety of relevant boards and committees, detailed at Appendix 3. Members also serve on external boards and committees in their own capacities, detailed at Appendix 4.

Diplomatic and Official Visits

SAMEAC regularly meets with Ambassadors, High Commissioners and other officials from overseas, as well as visiting delegations. Details of meetings with diplomats and other officials are listed at Appendix 5.

BUILDING COMMUNITY CAPACITY

Community Consultations

SAMEAC is keen to ensure that the South Australian Government is aware of the issues of concerns to, and views of, ethnic communities and individuals in South Australia.

One mechanism for ensuring that the Government is aware of these issues and views is to hold consultations with ethnic communities.

Community consultations were held with the Riverland community to discuss youth and aged-care issues, and with leaders of the Burmese community.

Land Tax Relief for Community Clubs

Ethnic-community organisations provide many vital services including:

- support services for the aged;
- advice and assistance for recently-arrived migrants and refugees;
- social activities where people can maintain, express and share their cultural heritage and languages;
- cultural activities such as festivals, exhibitions, celebrations, theatre, film, music and dance; and
- educational programs for the maintenance and transmission of language and culture.

These services are mostly provided by volunteers and in buildings that have been built and paid for through the volunteer efforts of community members.

If these services were not provided by ethnic-community organisations an additional financial burden would be imposed on the State Government and/or other volunteer groups.

As many ethnic communities age the demand for services is increasing. Meanwhile, the capacity of ethnic-community organisations to raise funds to pay for items such as building maintenance and land tax is decreasing.

Multicultural Grants Scheme

The 2008/09 Multicultural Grants Scheme had a budget of \$300,000.

The Scheme provided funds to not-for-profit community organisations for projects designed to:

- increase understanding of the culturally diverse community we live in;
- improve equality and tolerance in our community;
- increase participation by South Australians of all backgrounds in the community; and
- celebrate and value cultural diversity.

Through the two rounds of the grants scheme for the year, more than 190 community organisations received grants to undertake important community projects that will make South Australia a better place to live.

Some of the groups assisted through the grants scheme in 2008/09 were:

2009 I Show Singing Competition Committee
 Adelaide Academy of Irish Dancers
 Adelaide Estonian Society Inc.
 Adelaide Kannada Sangha Inc.
 Adelaide Lithuanian Society Inc.
 Adelaide Metropolitan Malayalee Association Inc.
 Adelaide Red Stars
 Adelaide Sri Lanka Buddhist Vihara Inc.
 Adelaide Tamil Association Inc.
 Afghan United Association of South Australia Inc.
 African Communities Council of S.A. Inc.
 Argonafliakon Association Palamidi S.A. Inc.
 Armenian Cultural Association of S.A. Inc.
 Asian Elderly Welfare Association Inc.
 Association of Burundian Community of S.A. Inc.
 Association of S.A. Chinese Writers Inc.
 Associazione Abruzzese of South Australia
 Associazione Toscana Del S.A. Inc.
 Atsui No Taliko
 Australia Canada Association (S.A.) Inc.
 Australia Day Council of South Australia
 Australian Al-Thakalian Islamic Centre Inc.
 Australian Druse Ladies Auxiliary
 Australian Indonesian Association of S.A. Inc.
 Australian Institute for Interpreters and Translators
 Australian Lithuanian Cultural Society Inc.
 Australian Outback Afghan Cameleer Descendants and Friends Memorial Committee
 Awiel Community Association of S.A.
 Badenya Association of S.A. Inc.
 Badenya Association of South Australia Inc.
 Bahraini and Arabic Association of S.A.
 Bangladesh Australian Society of S.A. Inc.
 Belarusian Autocephalic Orthodox (South Australia) Inc.
 Bengali Cultural Association of S.A. Inc.
 Bosnia and Herzegovina Muslim Radio Program of S.A. Inc.
 Bosnia and Herzegovina Muslim Society of South Australia Inc.
 Burundi Intamba Gasimbo Association of S.A. Inc.
 Burundian Drummers Club S.A. Inc.
 Chinatown Adelaide of S.A. Inc.
 Chinese Welfare Services of S.A. Inc.
 Christies Beach Surf Life Saving Club Inc.
 Club India S.A. Inc.
 Community Centre - Serbia and Montenegro S.A. Inc.
 Concerto Bandistico Guiseppe Verdi

Congolese Association of S.A. Inc.
 Constantinople Hellenic Association of South Australia Inc.
 Cook Islanders Cultural Community Inc.
 Coordinating Italian Committee Inc.
 Corinthian Society of S.A. Inc.
 Cornish Associations of South Australia
 Council of International Trade and Commerce S.A. Inc.
 Croatian Folkloric Ensemble - Lenek
 Croatian Sports Centre S.A. Inc.
 Cypriot Aged and Pensioners Association of S.A. Inc.
 Cyprus Community of S.A. Inc.
 Czechoslovak Club of S.A. Inc.
 Dante Alighieri Society of S.A. Inc.
 Eastern Turkistan Australian Association Inc.
 Ethiopian Community Association in South Australia Inc.
 Federation of Ayat Community Association of Australia (FACAA)
 Federation of Hellenic Association for Pensioners and the Aged S.A. Inc.
 Fiji Social and Cultural Club of South Australia Inc.
 Filipino Settlement Coordinating Council of South Australia Inc.
 Flambouron Philanthropic Society of S.A. Inc.
 Flinders African Students Association
 Folk Federation of S.A. Inc.
 Former Thu Duc Military Academy Association of S.A. Inc.
 German Folksong Choir (Deutscher Volksliederchor)
 Ghanaian Association of S.A. Inc.
 Glendi Greek Festival Inc.
 Goodwood Community Services Inc.
 Greek Community Radio Program of South Australia Inc.
 Greek Lyceum of South Australia Inc. - School of Greek Dance and Culture
 Greek Orthodox Community of "The Nativity of Christ" Port Adelaide Inc.
 Greek Orthodox Community of S.A. Inc.
 Greek Pensioners Society of Salisbury and Suburbs of S.A. Inc.
 Greek Senior Citizens of Norwood and Eastern Suburbs
 Greek Senior Citizens of Prospect and Northern Suburbs Inc.
 Greek Women's Society of South Australia "Taxiarchis" Inc.
 Greeks of Egypt and Middle East Society of S.A. Inc.
 Hermandad De La Tierra Del Espiritu Santo Inc.
 HFS Lenek Adelaide
 Hindu Society of S.A. Inc.
 Holy Mary of Montevergine Association (S.A.) Inc.
 House of Shi'a of South Australia Inc.
 Indian Australian Association of S.A. Inc.
 Indo Chinese Elderly Association in S.A. Inc.
 International Conference of Greek Research
 Irish Australian Association of S.A. Inc.
 Islamic Council of S.A. Inc.
 It.SA Incorporated
 Italian Pensioners of Thebarton and Suburbs Inc.
 Japan Australia Friendship Association Inc.

Jewish Community Services Inc.
 Khmer Kampuchea-Krom Association of S.A. Inc.
 Kilburn Blair Athol Community Action Group Inc.
 Kongor Student Association of Australia Inc.
 Korean Community of Adelaide Inc.
 La Festa Di San Giuseppe Association Inc. - St Joseph Italian Community Centre
 Let's Talk Together Association Inc.
 Liberian Community of S.A. Inc.
 Liberian United Women's Association of S.A. Inc.
 Lifeline South East (S.A.) Inc.
 Lombardia Association of S.A. Inc.
 Lyell McEwin Regional Volunteer Association Inc.
 Malaysian Students Council of Australia/S.A. Chapter
 Maltese Guild of S.A. Inc.
 Maltese Returned and Services League Sub-Branch (S.A.) and Community Centre
 Inc.
 Maltese Senior Citizens Association of S.A. Inc.
 Maria Santissima Di Crochi Inc.
 Maronite Community of S.A. Inc.
 Middle Eastern Communities Council of S.A. Inc. (MECCSA)
 Migrant Resource Centre of S.A.
 Modbury Uniting Church Inc.
 Mount Barker Caledonian Society Inc.
 Mount Gambier Italo Australian Club Inc.
 Multicultural Festival of S.A. Inc.
 Multicultural Youth S.A. Inc.
 Murraylands Multicultural Network Inc.
 Muslim Women's Association of South Australia Inc.
 Oceania Igbo League Inc.
 Organisation of Hellene and Hellene-Cypriot Women of Australia S.A. Inc.
 Oromo Community Association of S.A. Inc.
 Ottoway Theatrical Ensemble Inc.
 Our Lady of Martyrs Port Pirie Italian Community Inc.
 Overseas Chinese Association of S.A.
 Pakistani Australian Association of South Australia Inc.
 Pan Laconian Society of South Australia Inc. "Leonidas"
 Pan Macedonian Association of S.A. Inc.
 Panrhodian Society "Colossus" S.A. Inc.
 Papua New Guinea Association of S.A. Inc.
 Persian Cultural Association of S.A. Inc.
 Phap Hoa Buddhist Youth Association Inc.
 Philippine Guardians of South Australia
 Pol-Art Adelaide 2009 Inc.
 Polish Folklore Ensemble TATRY
 Polish Hill River Church Museum
 Polish Women's Association
 Pontian Brotherhood of South Australia Inc.
 Pooraka Farm Community Centre Inc.
 Port Adelaide Greek Pensioners Group

Radio Adelaide
 Riverland Multicultural Forum Inc.
 Robert Burns Society of South Australia Inc.
 Royal Zoological Society of South Australia Inc.
 Russian Community Centre Inc.
 S.A. Council for the Greek Cultural Month Inc.
 S.A. Hoa Hao Buddhist Association Inc.
 S.A. Zhu-Lin Buddhist Association Inc.
 Saint Spyridon Greek Orthodox Community Inc.
 Salisbury East Neighbourhood House Inc.
 Samoan Association of S.A. Inc.
 Samoan Association of South Australia Inc.
 San Rocco Adelaide Inc.
 Serbian Orthodox Church of St Sava
 Serbian Pensioners Club Inc.
 Serbian Sport Association "Serbia" Inc.
 Shruthi Adelaide Inc.
 Sicilia Social and Sports Club Inc.
 Sierra Leonean Community of S.A. Inc.
 Somali Community Development Organisation
 Somali Women's Association
 Somaliland Community of South Australia Inc.
 South African Adelaide Buffers Association Inc.
 South Australia Zimbabwe Association S.A.
 South Australian Bangladeshi Community Association
 South Australian Bocce Federation Inc.
 South Australian Chinese Adoption Support (SACAS) Inc.
 South Australian German Association Inc.
 South Australian Lebanese Women's Association Inc.
 South Australian Vietnamese Teacher's Association Inc.
 South Pacific Star Cultural Association of S.A.
 St Catherine Society of S.A. Inc.
 St Dimitrios Dancing Group Salisbury
 Studio Flamenco Inc.
 Sudanese Community Association of Australia (S.A.) Branch Inc.
 Tanzanian Community Association of S.A.
 Telugu Association of South Australia Inc.
 Thailand Culture Association S.A. Inc.
 Togolese Welfare Association of S.A.
 Turkic People Association of Australia 'TURAN' Inc.
 United Burmese Association of South Australia
 Vietnamese Buddhist Congregation of S.A. - Phap Hoa Temple
 Vietnamese Community in Australia/S.A. Chapter Inc.
 Vietnamese Farmers Association Inc.
 Vietnamese Literature and Arts Association Inc.
 Vietnamese Traditional Music Club in S.A. Inc.
 Viti Association of S.A. Inc.
 Voice of Peace
 Volya Ukrainian Dance Ensemble

World Lebanese Cultural Union S.A.
Yevshan Ukrainian Arts Inc.

Examples of the type of projects where grants were successful include: festivals, cross-cultural workshops, establishment of websites, refugee, youth and pensioner activities.

Newly arrived communities have been assisted this year with developmental grants and by providing venues to meet and hold various functions.

Support for Volunteers

The Commission recognises the important work done by thousands of volunteers without whom ethnic clubs and associations would never survive. Multicultural S.A. runs regular training sessions for volunteer members of community organisations to enable them to more effectively provide information and services to their members.

During 2008 – 2009 information sessions organised for volunteers had speakers from the following organisations:

- Australian Customs and Border Protection Service;
- SAMEAC Youth Advisory Committee;
- Multicultural Youth S.A.;
- Beit Shalom Progressive Synagogue;
- History Trust of South Australia; and
- Migration Museum.

Multicultural S.A. recognises the valuable contributions made by volunteers to their communities by providing volunteers with Certificates of Appreciation and an invitation to the Volunteers' Day Celebrations.

Media Training

Multicultural S.A. organised media training for five Sudanese community leaders in December 2008. The participants were trained in all aspects of the media, including the role the media plays in the community, different types of media and preparing for interviews.

After the session, participants said the training had made them feel more confident about dealing with the media.

The Sudanese community became the focus of media attention after the death of 14-year-old Daniel Awak in November 2008.

PROMOTING MULTICULTURALISM

An important work of the Commission is to promote the benefits of multiculturalism to the wider community by: supporting ethnic organisations to participate in mainstream events and ethnic festivals; encouraging high-profile community leaders to publicly acknowledge the benefits of cultural diversity; and through a range of publications.

Participation in Mainstream Events

To promote the benefits of cultural diversity and to help to achieve an open, inclusive and equitable multicultural society, SAMEAC and Multicultural S.A. encourage and support communities to take part in iconic Australian and South Australian events.

This is the fifth year in which South Australian multicultural communities were involved in the Christmas Pageant.

The Liberian community with its vibrant drumming and dancing led the Pageant's Multicultural Float.

Other groups showcased in the Pageant were the Burmese, Greek, Polish, Romanian, Sri Lankan and Ukrainian communities.

The Australia Day Parade proved to be another highly successful event for multiculturalism this year with more than 2000 people from about 78 community associations joining in.

Representing 41 different ethnic backgrounds, the parade again provided multicultural communities the opportunity to showcase their cultures and their pride in Australia to fellow South Australians.

The Australia Day Council awarded the following prizes:

- Best Dressed Parade Entry: **Irish Australian Association;**
- Outstanding Musical Entry: **Brazilian Association of South Australia;** and
- Most Creative Float: **Cook Islanders Community.**

Three community groups were chosen by the Australia Day Council to take part in creative workshops with professional artists to help the communities to prepare a float, a puppet or character for the parade. They were the Brazilian Association of S.A., the Papua New Guinea Association of South Australia Inc. and the Ba'alu Association of South Australia (Sudanese community).

Young people from multicultural communities paid their respects to those who had given their lives for their country at the 2009 ANZAC Day Eve Youth Vigils.

Multicultural S.A. organised young people to attend ceremonies in Adelaide, Morphett Vale, Blackwood and Marion from the following backgrounds: American, Cook Islanders, Eastern Turkistan, Greek, Italian, Irish, Maltese, Polish, Scottish, Serbian, Somali, Tongan, Ukrainian, and Vietnamese.

SAMEAC and Multicultural S.A. also organise and support specific multicultural events throughout the year to provide an opportunity for different communities to showcase their culture and talents.

The following performing groups took part in a ‘Showcasing Multiculturalism’ event at West Lakes Shopping Centre in August last year:

- the Overseas Chinese Association;
- the Cook Islanders Cultural Community Inc.;
- the Lenek Croation Dance Group;
- the Greek Lyceum of South Australia Inc.;
- the Indian Australian Association of South Australia Inc.;
- the Adelaide Academy of Irish Dancing;
- the Liberian Community Cultural Dance Troupe; and
- the Vietnamese Traditional Music Club.

Festivals

Festivals play an important role in promoting inter-cultural understanding and social interaction in our multicultural society. SAMEAC and Multicultural S.A. take part in cultural festivals to support and maintain links with multicultural communities.

SAMEAC and Multicultural S.A. organised the participation of Asian and other community groups in the OzAsia Festival in September last year. The Festival included the Moon Lantern Festival at Elder Park involving hundreds of school children and Cambodian, Chinese, Hong Kong, Filipino, Indonesian, Japanese, Korean, Malaysian, Singaporean and Vietnamese community members.

The Commission was represented at and supported many other festivals including: Carnevale; Riverland Multicultural Festival; Têt Vietnamese Festival; Lunar New Year Street Party; Congolese Festival; Dimitria Greek Festival; Indofest; Dozynki (Polish festival); Croatian Food and Wine Festival; World Fest; and MELA Indian Festival.

The Governor’s Multicultural Awards

The inaugural Governor’s Multicultural Awards were held in 2008 to acknowledge outstanding contributions by individuals and organisations to promoting multiculturalism and community harmony, and to increasing awareness of the benefits of cultural diversity within South Australia.

Nominations were judged by a panel appointed by SAMEAC in consultation with the Governor and the Multicultural Communities Council S.A. More than 100 people attended the awards ceremony at Government House on November 20.

The 2008 winners were:

- Volunteer Award: **Mr Houssam Abiad**
- Public Sector Award: **The Migrant Health Service**
- Private Sector Award: **Mr Vilmos Milisits OAM KSJ**
- Community Sector Award: **Ms Katherine Goode**

- Youth Award: **The Youth Team of the Vietnamese Community in Australia S.A. Chapter**
- Media Award: **Radio Adelaide**

Publications

Newsletter

The Newsletter is published occasionally and provides information about SAMEAC's activities, multicultural events and services for community organisations. It is distributed free to community organisations, federal, state and local government agencies, industry, media, public libraries and interested individuals.

Multicultural Events Calendar

Multicultural S.A. produces an annual calendar containing information on festivals, days of religious significance and other occasions that are celebrated by different communities in South Australia.

It is circulated free to community organisations, federal, state and local government agencies, industry, media, schools, public libraries and interested individuals.

The Events Calendar is also available on the Multicultural S. A. website (www.multiculturalsa.gov.au), where information on upcoming events can be submitted online.

ACCESS AND EQUITY

SAMEAC and Multicultural S.A. are involved in many activities to ensure no person living in South Australia faces barriers to accessing government services because of a culturally and linguistically diverse background.

The Commission is also pro-active in addressing issues of real or perceived prejudice and discrimination when they arise in the local community.

Multicultural Access and Equity Report

A key objective of the Commission is the provision of support to public sector agencies to improve access to their services for culturally and linguistically diverse people. The Commission believes that the monitoring, evaluation and transparency of government services are vital to ensure that those services are responding effectively to the needs of our culturally diverse community.

Each year, the Chairman of the Commission writes to State Government Chief Executives to ask them to report against three main activity areas: Policy and Planning; Program and Service delivery; and People. Departments are also required to provide statistical information on the use of ethnic media, interpreting and translating, workforce profiling and cultural awareness training.

The delivery of migrant-friendly services is important not only because it is necessary for the success of the State Population Policy, but all because all people settling in South Australia have a right to equitable access to appropriate services and the opportunity to participate fully in all aspects of our society. The reports from each agency are collected by Multicultural S.A. and compiled into an annual Access and Equity Report.

Panel of Cultural Awareness Trainers

Government departments have an important role to play in making new migrants feel welcome in South Australia and ensuring that programs and services are culturally and linguistically appropriate for both emerging and established communities.

Multicultural S.A. maintains a contract panel of cultural awareness training providers to assist government departments in the procurement of appropriate cultural awareness training.

Government agencies can access information about the providers and their services through the government intranet. The providers have been through a thorough assessment process before being offered contracts and the panel is updated regularly.

Extreme Weather Plan

Multicultural S.A. is giving advice on the Government's Extreme Weather Plan to ensure the State is better prepared for extreme weather events, such as the heatwave in January and February of 2009.

This advice will centre on making the Plan inclusive of the needs of culturally and linguistically diverse members of the community.

In particular, Multicultural S.A. is providing:

- demographic advice on the communities with large numbers of older members;
- advice on how information can be quickly provided to communities through ethnic media; and
- advice on arrangement of translations.

Multicultural Aged Care Roundtable

Multicultural S.A. organised a Multicultural Aged Care Roundtable in April 2009 to seek resolutions to concerns raised by ethnic communities and mainstream service providers regarding the availability and appropriateness of existing services for elderly members of culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities in South Australia.

It is well documented that the Australian population is ageing and that older South Australians of CALD backgrounds constitute the fastest growing proportion of the ageing population.

It is important that aged-care service providers and community groups are responsive to the needs of their elderly.

A Preliminary Paper outlining the issues raised at earlier consultations was sent to key aged care service providers for further comment and feedback.

These comments and feedback were then collated into a document that helped form the basis of discussions.

The Roundtable provided an opportunity for key Federal and State government agencies and service providers to indicate what measures they are currently taking and will take in response to the matters raised.

Taxi Driver Safety

The Commission continued its support of Taxi Driver Safety by scheduling a July meeting of Indian and Pakistani taxi drivers and community leaders, representatives from relevant government agencies and victim support agencies.

It provides an opportunity to follow up on the success of the outcomes of the 2008 Taxi Driver Safety Issues Forum from the point of view of drivers and community representatives.

One outcome of the forum was the establishment of the Driver Welfare Sub-Committee by the Taxi Council of S.A. which now meets regularly.

Its membership comprises Taxi Council officers, Department of Transport, Energy and Infrastructure representatives, owner/operator and driver representatives, Victims Support Service and Relationships Australia.

Another purpose of the meeting, to be convened by SAMEAC Chairman Mr Hieu Van Le, is to hear if drivers have any issues of concern about being targeted on the basis of race or religion.

Indian Students

The Commission responded quickly to an incident where an Indian student was assaulted in Rundle Mall on 11 June, 2009, by organising a meeting of relevant stakeholders the next day.

The meeting was chaired by Commission Chairman Hieu Van Le and attended by Indian community and student leaders, and representatives from SAPOL, the Department for Premier and Cabinet, the Minister for Multicultural Affairs, the Minister for Employment, Training and Further Education, and Education Adelaide.

Consul-General for India Amit Dasgupta took part in the meeting via teleph one.

Although there was an appreciation that the incident in Rundle Mall was not racially motivated, the meeting determined there was a need to establish a representative group of all stakeholders to ensure service provision to Indian students, including safety issues, was proactively managed.

The Commission has now established an International Students Social Integration Reference Group to address issues confronting international students.

REGIONAL INITIATIVES

Regional Advisory Committees (RACs)

SAMEAC has Regional Advisory Committees (RACs) in the Northern, South East and Riverland areas of South Australia.

Each committee is convened by a SAMEAC member, and meets regularly to provide advice to the Commission on regional multicultural issues and concerns for people from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds.

Membership comprises representatives of communities as well as Government and non-Government organisations (refer to Appendix 2 for details of membership).

The Regional Advisory Committees' primary objectives are to focus on:

- discussions about programs and policies which address the issues and concerns of people from CALD backgrounds in the regions; and
- discussions about cooperative and collaborative initiatives to assist the local communities and service agencies to provide appropriate "migrant friendly" supports and services for new migrants in regional areas.

The scope of RAC meetings includes all types of migrants from humanitarian entrants, skilled migrants and their families to international students.

In 2008 – 2009, the RACs continued to foster cooperation amongst, and work closely with, community and regional organisations to support the regions' capacity to assist in the settlement of humanitarian entrants, skilled migrants and their families. This included significant numbers of overseas workers on temporary visas and their dependants, many of whom had little or no English.

RACs raised through SAMEAC a number of matters throughout the year including: dependants of skilled workers on temporary and provisional visas being charged full fees for TAFE courses; concerns about the regional availability of English language services; and employment pathways for spouses of skilled migrants.

Other issues raised in the Riverland focussed on ageing multicultural communities' access to services in the regions and the retention of youth in suitable employment.

WOMEN'S INITIATIVES

Women's Advisory Committee (WAC)

SAMEAC's Women's Advisory Committee was established under Section 15 of the *South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission Act 1980* to advise the Commission on issues relating to women of culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. Its inaugural meeting was on 8 March, 2001 – International Women's Day.

The WAC's Terms of Reference are to:

- provide advice to the South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission through the Convenor of the Committee on programs and policies which address the issues and concerns of culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) background women;
- foster cooperation among and work closely with CALD community and CALD women's organisations on issues identified by the WAC;
- recommend topics for forums and other events which raise awareness and encourage discussion on key issues for CALD women;
- identify and promote the achievements and contributions of CALD women at all levels; and
- foster the development of leadership skills for CALD women with emphasis on young women.

Commission Member Ms Branka King was appointed Convenor of the Women's Advisory Committee from 1 January, 2008.

In 2008–09, the terms of two members of the Women's Advisory Committee expired: Ms Maria Barredo and Ms Gala Mustafa.

Ex-officio member Ms Sandy Pitcher, then Director of the Office for Women, resigned in February 2008 when appointed Executive Director, Office of the Executive Committee, Cabinet Office, in the Department of the Premier and Cabinet. Ms Fiona Mort attended the February 2008 meeting, and Ms Anne Burgess attended the May 2008 meeting in their capacities as the then Acting Director of the Office for Women.

One new appointment was made to the Committee: new Commission member Ms Sumeja Skaka. All members are listed in Appendix 2. To date, most of the WAC's Advice to the Commission has been in relation to the need for a Women's Advanced Leadership Skills Camp/Retreat.

The WAC held a "Listening Session" with the Liberian United Women's Association, at Kilburn Community Hall in July 2008.

About 40 women attended the consultation and raised a range of issues, from child care to sponsoring family members still in Africa to join them in South Australia. Multicultural S.A. organised a follow-up meeting with the Department of Immigration and Citizenship to discuss the process for sponsoring family members and others under the Commonwealth's Special Humanitarian Program.

At the follow-up session in December 2008, a DIAC officer undertook to run a further information session for new arrivals from all African communities in 2009.

SAMEAC Women's Leadership Program

Multicultural S.A. has partnered with the Office for Women in more than 10 leadership activities from CALD backgrounds since 2002.

These activities are in line with the following targets in South Australia's Strategic Plan:

- **T5.1 Boards and committees:** increase the number of women on all State Government boards and committees to 50% on average by 2008, and maintain thereafter by ensuring that 50% women are appointed, on average, each quarter.
- **T5.2 Chairs of boards and committees:** increase the number of women chairing State Government boards and committees to 50% by 2010.
- **T5.8 Multiculturalism:** increase the percentage of South Australians who accept cultural diversity as a positive influence in the community.

The Women's Leadership Program was initiated in 2002 by the South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission on the advice of the WAC.

The six Women's Leadership Courses conducted to date have been jointly funded by Multicultural S.A., the Office for Women and, from 2007-08, TAFESA Workplace Education Services.

Twenty-eight CALD women participated in leadership training in 2008. Participants are listed in Appendix 6.

Sixteen women attended a three-day CALD Women's Advanced Leadership Skills Retreat at Belair in November 2008. The Retreat, organised and run by the Migrant Women's Lobby Group (M.W.L.G.), on behalf of Multicultural S.A. and the Office for Women, provided course graduates with further training and mentoring to prepare them for appointment to boards and committees.

Twelve women completed the sixth metropolitan Women's Leadership Course, conducted by TAFESA's Workplace Education Services at its Adelaide City Campus, over 20 weeks, from July to December.

The women were from a wide range of cultural and religious backgrounds, including Lebanese, Afghan, New Zealander, Italian, Romanian, Indian, Greek, Spanish, Iranian, Sudanese, Vietnamese, Polish, Fijian, Filipino, Lao, Armenian and Nepalese.

Between the women, the languages spoken included Arabic, Pashto, Dari, Hindu, Urdu, Gujarati, Marathi, Spanish, Portuguese, Kurdish, Fijian, Lao, Thai, French, Spanish, Portuguese, Polish, Persian, Telugu, Romanian, Italian, Greek, German, Russian and Nepali.

A combined graduation ceremony, jointly hosted by the Minister for the Status of Women, the Hon. Gail Gago M.L.C., and SAMEAC Chairman, Hieu Van Le, was held in February 2009.

As a follow-up to the Retreat, the M.W.L.G. has been conducting a 12-month program of information sessions, training and mentoring workshops to December 2009.

YOUTH INITIATIVES

Youth Advisory Committee (YAC)

The Youth Advisory Committee was established in 2007 in response to the concerns of ethnic community leaders about the lack of engagement of young people in the life of their communities.

The YAC has been established to:

- Provide advice to the South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission through the convenor of the committee on programs and policies that address the issues and concerns of youth of culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds
- Work closely with ethnic community and youth organisations and foster cooperation amongst them
- Recommend to the South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission topics for forums and other events that raise awareness and encourage discussion on key issues for youth of culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds
- Identify and promote the achievements and contributions of youth of culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

Members are listed in Appendix 2.

Youth Summit

More than 100 young people from 20 different cultural groups contributed to a Youth Summit on 11 October 2008. The nationalities represented at the YAC and SAMEAC joint initiative included Greek, Italian, Sudanese, Liberian, Sierra Leonian, Afghan, Iraqi, Filipino, Chinese, Vietnamese, Serbian, Lebanese, Indonesian, Latvian, Somali and Persian.

Other participants included YAC members, community leaders, Commission representatives, and volunteers and staff from Multicultural S.A.

The objectives of the Summit were:

- to discuss the lack of engagement of youth in the life of ethnic communities and the future of clubs and services currently provided; and
- to identify strategies and actions to address these issues.

Five key recommendations were identified to assist cultural organisations to improve the level of youth participation in their group activities:

1. investigate the establishment of a 'Federation of Youth Groups' with representation from all ethnic organisations to share ideas, knowledge and facilities and to assist in sourcing funds and grant applications and the organisation of events;
2. that young people be encouraged to become leaders within their cultural organisations and in addition that:

- the ‘elders’ be more tolerant and accepting of the benefits young people can bring to these groups, and
 - strategies to encourage youth involvement and introduce relevant and appealing activities be promoted by young people to young people.
3. that opportunities for young people to undertake training in the management and organisation of clubs and events be investigated, resourced, promoted and made accessible to all ethnic community representatives;
 4. that ethnic youth activities, events and organisations be communicated through the establishment of a website and other online options such as Facebook; and
 5. that a multicultural festival/event/expo be held involving communities to experience and strengthen cultural diversity and that it include a Youth Summit format to build on the findings of the 2008 Youth Summit.

Action on Summit recommendations

A youth meeting was held in May to further the recommendations outlined in the Youth Summit. The meeting focused on three of the recommendations.

That ethnic youth activities, events and organisations be communicated through the establishment of a website and other online options such as Facebook

The Facebook group, *S.A. Multicultural Youth Discussion Group*, has been set up to facilitate discussion and share information about upcoming ethnic youth events, activities and new youth organisations.

As at 30 June, 2009, it had 42 members.

Multicultural S.A. has posted links and information regarding incorporation of events, volunteering, women and the Multicultural Grants Scheme on its website.

That opportunities for young people to undertake training in the management and organisation of clubs and events be investigated, resourced, promoted and made accessible to all ethnic community representatives

Attendees at the meeting were provided with introductory information to event organising. Multicultural S.A. is directing requests for information about organising events to the ‘Organising an Event?’ section of its website.

Investigate the establishment of a ‘Federation of Youth Groups’ with representation from all ethnic organisations to share ideas, knowledge and facilities and to assist in sourcing funds and grant applications and the organisation of events

Twenty-two of the meeting participants volunteered to be part of the steering committee to establish the new organisation. As at June 30, Multicultural S.A. had convened two meetings of the committee. The group aims to become incorporated in the near future.

The YAC is continuing to work on fulfilling all five of the Summit’s recommendations.

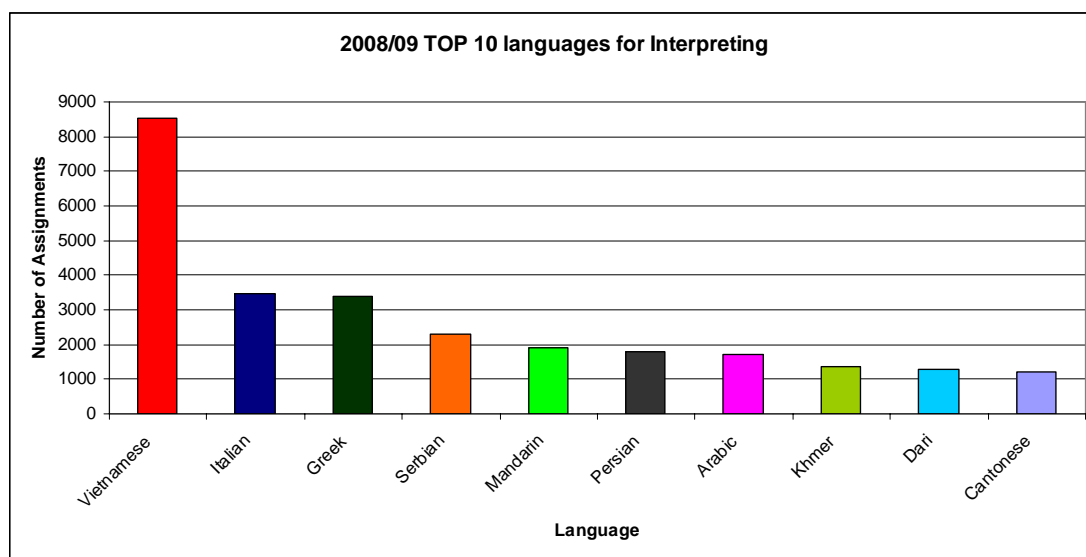
INTERPRETING AND TRANSLATING SERVICES

The Interpreting and Translating Centre (I.T.C.) is the only government owned and operated interpreting and translating service provider in South Australia. It provides quality accredited services on a full cost recovery basis.

Demand for the interpreting and translating services provided by I.T.C. continued, and there were a total of 40,472 interpreting and translating assignments. These services assisted people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds to gain access to government and private sector services.

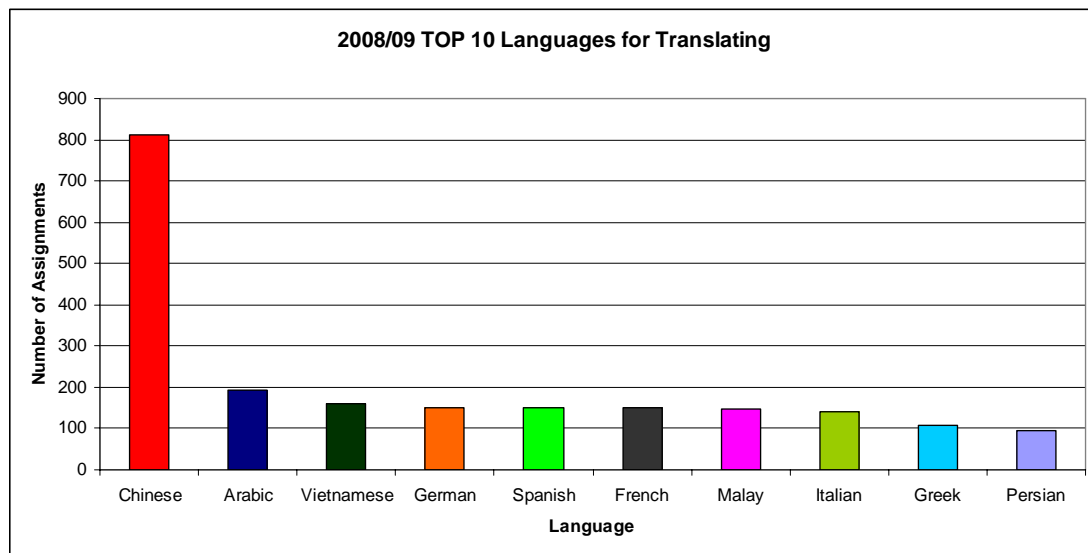
Interpreting assignments requests were in 96 languages and translating assignments in 73 languages (the ten most popular of each category appear in the table below). This involved face-to-face interpreting, telephone interpreting and business interpreting, as well as special assignments such as facilitating communication for overseas business delegations visiting South Australia. Translation assignments ranged from simple birth certificates to complex projects in multiple languages involving typesetting, artwork or text overlay.

ITC 2008–09 INTERPRETING ASSIGNMENTS THE TEN MOST COMMON LANGUAGES



The number of interpreting assignments, requested in 96 different languages, was 37,245 (against the previous year's tally of 36,198).

ITC 2007–08 TRANSLATION ASSIGNMENTS THE TEN MOST COMMON LANGUAGES



The number of translating assignments, requested in 73 different languages, was 3,227 (against the previous year's tally of 3,601)

I.T.C. delivered approximately 37 training sessions through the metropolitan and country area to client agencies on how to work effectively with interpreters. These presentations aim to provide an insight into the ethics and techniques of the interpreting and translating profession, and to help client agencies communicate effectively with culturally and linguistically diverse clients.

I.T.C. recruited and trained 53 new interpreters and translators based in Adelaide, the country and interstate in the following languages. These recruitments represent the following 53 languages: Albanian, Amharic, Arabic, Assyrian, Burmese, Cantonese, Cebuano, Chau-Chou, Chin, Creole, Danish, Dari, Dinka, French, German, Greek, Gujarati, Hazaragi, Hindi, Hokkien, Hungarian, Ilocano, Italian, Japanese, Kinyarwanda, Kirundi, Korean, Kurdish, Lingala, Malay, Mandarin, Marathi, Nepalese, Nuer, Persian, Pitjantjatjara, Polish, Punjabi, Pushtu, Russian, Somali, Spanish, Swahili, Tagalog, Tamil, Tatar, Tigrigna, Turkish, Turkman, Urdu, Uyghur, Uzbek and Yakunytjatjara.

In June 2008 the Government announced increased funding of half a million dollars over 4 years for the engagement of adjunct interpreters of Aboriginal languages. I.T.C. has recruited 8 adjunct interpreters in Pitjantjatjara to work in the courts.

In 2005–06 I.T.C. achieved upgrading its Quality Assurance Certification to A.S./N.Z.S. I.S.O. 9000:2000, which it maintained for 2008–09.

APPENDIX 1

Functions of SAMEAC

The main functions of the South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission (SAMEAC) are defined in Section (12) of the *South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission Act, 1980*. These primary functions are to:

- increase awareness and understanding of the ethnic diversity of the South Australian community and the implications of that diversity; and
- advise the Government and public authorities on, and assist them in, all matters relating to the advancement of multiculturalism and ethnic affairs.

The other functions are:

- to assist in the development of strategies designed to ensure that multicultural and language policies are incorporated as an integral part of wider social and economic development policies;
- to work with public authorities to ensure that there is a coordinated approach to the advancement of multiculturalism and ethnic affairs;
- to keep under review and advise the government and public authorities on the extent to which services and facilities are available to, and meet the needs of, minority ethnic groups;
- to assist public authorities to devise effective methods for the evaluation and reporting of policies and programs for the advancement of multiculturalism and ethnic affairs;
- to develop, in conjunction with other public authorities, immigration and settlement strategies designed to support and complement the State's economic development plans and to realise the potential and meet the needs of individual immigrants;
- to advise, assist and promote cooperation between ethnic groups and organisations concerned in ethnic affairs;
- to inform and consult with ethnic groups and other interested groups and organisations about the work of SAMEAC and issues relating to multiculturalism and ethnic affairs;
- to provide or assist in the provision of interpreting, translating, information and other services and facilities for the benefit of ethnic groups and others; and
- to publicise generally the work of SAMEAC.

APPENDIX 2

Membership of SAMEAC's Advisory Committees as at 30 June, 2009

Northern Regional Advisory Committee

Mr Petar Zdravkovski, SAMEAC Member (**Convenor**)

Mr Steven Arndt, Economic Development Officer,
Whyalla Economic Development Board

Ms Daniela Asperti, President, Club Italico Inc.

Chief Inspector James Blandford, Officer in Charge,
Mid West Local Service Area, SAPOL

Ms Amelia Cooper, Regional Migration Officer,
Whyalla Economic Development Board

Ms Aina Danis, Regional Migration Officer, Eyre Regional Development Board

Ms Migelle Hiscock, Manager Corporate Services, The City of Whyalla

Mr Michael Ketses, Community Representative

Ms Meghan Hanley, Regional Manager Social Services,
Uniting Care Wesley Port Augusta and Whyalla

Ms Teresa Nowak, Community Representative

His Worship Mr Jim Pollock, Mayor, City of Whyalla

Ms Claire Wiseman, Regional Migration Officer,
Northern Regional Development Board

Riverland Regional Advisory Committee

Mr Peter Ppiros, SAMEAC Member (**Convenor**)

Mr Peter Ackland, Chief Executive Officer, District Council of Loxton Waikerie

Mr Trevor Bennett, Manager Regions Murraylands, Riverland Development Corp.

Ms Barbara-Ann Cowey, Economic Development Officer,
Riverland Development Corp.

Mr Danyon De Buell, Arts Development Manager Riverland Mallee,
Country Arts S.A.

Mr Baldev Singh Dhaliwal, Community Representative

Mr Tom Economou, Community Representative

Chief Inspector Bob Fauser, Officer in Charge,
Riverland Local Service Area, SAPOL

Mr Barry Hurst, Chief Executive Officer, Renmark Paringa Council

Ms Lynley Jones, Senior Consultant, Service Operations, Country Health S.A.

Ms Domenica Latorre, Chairperson, Rural Financial Counselling S.A.

Ms Elizabeth Loulas, Community Representative

Michael Marafioti, Settlement Grants Program Settlement Coordinator,
Riverland Multicultural Forum

Mr Mario Morena, Community Representative

Mrs Balwinder Kaur Nagra, Community Representative

Ms Cathy Perre, Community Representative

Mrs Imelda Roberts, Community Representative

Mr Stephen Rufus, Chief Executive Officer, Berri Barmera Council

Ms Ferda Sen, Community Representative

Mr Harvinder Singh Garcha, Community Representative

Ms Gina Stephenson, Riverland Carer Respite Program Coordinator,
Renmark Community Carer Services

South East Regional Advisory Committee

Dr Gala Mustafa, SAMEAC Member (**Convenor**)

Ms Eve Barratt, Director, Lifeline South East

Ms Colleen Black, Site Manager, ARA Jobs

Ms Daniela Conesa, Community Representative

Sgt. Norman Elliot, Officer in Charge, South East, SAPOL

Ms Emma Hay, Aboriginal Education Coordinator,
Department of Education and Children's Services

Ms Gillian McGinty, Director, Boandik Lodge Aged Care Facility

Mrs Grace McNally, Managing Director, Gramac Solutions

Mrs Angela Morello, Community Representative

Mr David Meziniec, Regional Educational Manager, TAFE S.A., Limestone Coast

Ms Linda Polomka, Regional Skilled Migration Project Officer,
Limestone Coast Regional Development Board

Ms Rachael Viki, Community Representative

Women's Advisory Committee

Ms Branka King, SAMEAC Member (**Convenor**)

Ms Cynthia Caird, Migrant Resource Centre of S.A. Inc.

Ms Gilda Campbell, Migrant Women's Lobby Group

Ms Miriam Cocking, Multicultural Communities Council

Ms Catherine Cole, African Women's Federation

Ms Michelle Dieu, SAMEAC Member

Ms Promila Gupta, SAMEAC Member

Ms Maria Hagias, Central Eastern Domestic Violence Service

Ms Giang Le-Huy, Vietnamese Community

Dr Maylene Loo, Council for Women of Diverse Cultural Background

Ms Vahedeh Mansoury, SAMEAC Member

Ms Gosia Skalban, SAMEAC Member

Ms Sumeja Skaka, SAMEAC Member

Dr Elsabet Tamrat P.h.D., African Community

Ms Milenka Vasekova, Manager,
Migrant Women's Support and Accommodation Service

Youth Advisory Committee

Ms Michelle Dieu, Chinese Community and SAMEAC Member (**Convenor**)

Ms Anne-Maree Andritsakis, Greek Community

Mr Sidique Bah, Sierra Leonean Community

Ms Vicki Brunello, Italian Community

Mr Rudis Dancis, Baltic Community

Ms Carmen Garcia, Filipino Community

Mr Prasanna Kovalam, Indian Community

Mr Aaron Mohtar, Lebanese Druze Community

Mr Besmellah Rezaee, Afghan Community

Ms Sumeja Skaka, Bosnian Muslim Community and SAMEAC member

Ms Tram Vu, Vietnamese Community

Ms Nicola Zuckerman, Jewish community

APPENDIX 3

Representation on external Boards and Committees as the Commission's nominee as at 30 June, 2009

Governing Council Adelaide Secondary School of English	Ms Vahedeh Mansoury
Watch SA	Ms Branka King
The Queen Elizabeth Hospital Health Services Consumer Advisory Council	Ms Gosia Skalban
State Advisory Committee for Accessible Transport	Ms Maria Barredo
South Australian Police Multicultural Advisory Committee	Mr Hieu Van Le
Royal Adelaide Hospital Consumer Advisory Council	Ms Maria Barredo
Australia Day Council	Mr Norman Schueler
Cancer Council Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Working Group	Ms Branka King
Courts Administration Authority Community Relations Committee	Ms Branka King
Grants Advisory Committee	Mr Peter Ppiros Mr Tony Simeone Ms Maria Barredo

APPENDIX 4

External Boards and Committees of Commission Members as at 30 June, 2009

Mr Hieu Van Le

Honorary Adviser to the Vietnamese Literature and Arts Association in South Australia

Honorary Adviser to the BO DE Buddhist Ethnic School in South Australia

Honorary Adviser to The Vietnamese Community in Australia/SA Chapter

Honorary member of the Friends of the Vietnamese Invalid Veterans Association

Member, South Australian Police Multicultural Advisory Group

Ms Maria Barredo

Member, Australian Refugee Association

Member, United Nations of South Australia

Member, FECCA Women's Policy Committee

Member, Royal Adelaide Hospital Consumer Advisory Council Steering Committee

Member, International Women's Day Committee

Member, Central Northern Adelaide Health Service CALD Steering Committee

Ms Branka King

Training Centre Review Board

Passenger Transport Standards Committee

Secretary/Treasurer St Sava's Choir and String Ensembles, Hindmarsh

Committee Member, International Women's Day Committee of South Australia Inc.

Migrant Women's Lobby Group

Ms Gala Mustafa

Member, Women's Health Advisory Committee, South East

Member, Rural Australian for the Refugees

Member, Domestic Violence Service, South East

Member, Museum of Human History, South East

Mr Mariano Ngor

Chair, Sudan Relief and Rehabilitation Association

Chair, Board of Sudanese Ethnic Schools of S.A. Inc.

Chair, Sudanese Housing Committee

Sudan Peoples' Liberation Movement representative and spokesperson in Australia and Oceania

Mr Peter Ppiros

Chairman, Riverland Multicultural Forum

Chair, Riverland and Mallee Country Arts S.A. Board
President, Regional Multicultural Communities Council
Convenor, Riverland Advisory Committee

Mr Norman Schueler

President, Jewish Community Council of South Australia
 Vice President, Executive Council of Australian Jewry
 Board Member, Australia-Israel Chamber of Commerce
 Director, Adelaide Symphony Orchestra
 Managing Director, Normetals Pty. Ltd.
 Director, S & D Chemicals, Sydney
 Director, Pipes International (Qld.) Pty. Ltd.
 Director, Darwin Steel and Pipe Supplies Pty. Ltd.
 Member, Australia Day Council
 Board Member, NAB Yachad Scholarship Fund South Australian Advisory Board

Ms Gosia Skalban

Vice President, Federation of Polish Organisations in South Australia Inc.
 President, Polish Women's Association
 National Cross Cultural Dementia Network
 Coordinator, Polish Link with Seniors

Member, John Paul II Village Advisory Committee

Migrant Women's Lobby Group
 Associate Member, Migrant Resource Centre
 Associate Member, Multicultural Communities Council
 Kiwanis Adelaide

Mr Tony Simeone

Fundraising Committee member, Lions Club Of Adelaide Italian
 Assistant Secretary, South Australian Italian Association

Mr Petar Zdravkovski

President, Port Lincoln Multicultural Council
 Vice President, Regional Multicultural Communities Council

APPENDIX 5

Official Visits

1 July, 2008 – 30 June, 2009

28 July 2008	Chairman received His Excellency Dr Hannes Porias, Ambassador of Austria
31 July 2008	Chairman received His Excellency Mr Junsai Zhang, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China
2 September 2008	Chairman received His Excellency Mr Juraj Chmiel Ambassador of the Czech Republic
7 September 2008	Chairman received Her Excellency Dra. Lucia Lobato, Minister for Justice - Republica Democratica de Timor-Leste
3 October 2008	Chairman received His Excellency Professor Sunday Olu Agbi, High Commissioner of the Federal Republic of Nigeria
5 November 2008	Chairman received His Excellency Mr Mahmoud Movahhedi, Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran
24 February 2009	Chairman received His Excellency Mr Andrzej Jaroszynski, Ambassador of the Republic of Poland
23 March 2009	Chairman received Mr Nguyen Thanh Tan, Ambassador of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam
13 May 2009	Chairman received His Excellency Mr Carlos Sanchez De Boado Y De La Valgoma, Ambassador of Spain
26 May 2009	Chairman received His Royal Highness Crown Prince Tupouto'a Lavaka, High Commissioner of the Kingdom of Tonga
9 June 2009	Chairman received His Excellency Mr Gian Ludovico de Martino di Montegiordano, Ambassador of Italy
12 June 2009	Chairman received His Excellency Lt Gen Masud Uddin Chowdhury, High Commissioner of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
26 June 2009	Chairman received His Excellency Mr Máirtín P. Ó Fainín, Ambassador of Ireland

APPENDIX 6

SAMEAC Women's Leadership Course 2008 – 2009 Participants

Ms Kasalaini Soro, Fijian community
 Ms Debbie Boock, NZ born/Jewish community
 Mrs Many Southammavong, Lao community
 Ms Consuelo Lavin-Felices, Spanish community
 Mrs Monika Pawlisz, Polish community
 Ms Senobar Kakavand, Persian community
 Mrs Suseela Kuppa, Telugu community
 Mrs Meery Iancu, Romanian community
 Mrs Shaghik Atakaramians, Armenian community
 Miss Vicki Kanakari, Greek community
 Mrs Shaista Kalaniya, Indian community
 Mrs Boleslawa Janina Szen, Polish community
 Mrs Muna Poudyal, Nepalese community

SAMEAC Women's Advanced Leadership Skills Retreat 2008 – 2009 Participants

Ms Amal Al-Halabi, Lebanese Druze community
 Ms Asma Babakarkhil, Afghan community
 Ms Zarpana Babakarkhil, Afghan community
 Ms Debbie Boock, New Zealand born/Jewish community
 Ms Vincenza Ferraro, Italian community
 Mrs Meery Iancu, Romanian community
 Mrs Shaista Kalaniya, Indian community
 Miss Vicki Kanakari, Greek community
 Ms Consuelo Lavin-Felices, Spanish community
 Ms Mary Magafakis, Greek community
 Mrs Galawej Mahmoudi, Iranian community
 Ms Margaret Mathyo-Bako, Sudanese community
 Ms Hoa Nguyen, Vietnamese community
 Mrs Monika Pawlisz, Polish community
 Ms Kasalaini Soro, Fijian community
 Ms Susie Tonna, Filipino community

APPENDIX 7

Freedom of Information Statement

In order to conform to the requirements of Section 9 of the *Freedom of Information Act 1991*, the following statement has been prepared and is presented as part of the Commission's 2008–2009 Annual Report.

Functions

The main functions of the South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission are defined in Section (12) of the *South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission Act 1980* and are detailed in Appendix I.

Interaction with the Public

The Commission does not provide direct client services. The Commission, in fulfilling its statutory objectives, interacts with the public through consultations and forums. Information obtained in this way assists the Commission's strategic planning and forms the basis of policy advice to the Government on multicultural issues.

Constitution of Commission

The Commission consists of not more than 15 members appointed by the Governor on the nomination of the Minister, of whom:

- a) one must be appointed to chair the Commission; and
- b) at least four must be men and four women.

Documents

A number of the South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission's documents may be viewed, free of charge, by arrangement with the F.O.I. Officer. These documents include the Annual Report and the Access and Equity Report.

Access

Requests relating to access to other documents should be accompanied by a \$23.80 application fee and directed in writing to the F.O.I. Officer:

Designated Freedom of Information Contact Officer
South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission
24 Flinders Street
ADELAIDE S.A. 5000

For general enquiries contact ☎ (08) 8226 1947

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