



# Multicultural SA

South Australian Multicultural & Ethnic Affairs Commission



Government  
of South Australia

## News Release

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Support for South Australia's multicultural communities will be bolstered with the creation of a new agency, Multicultural SA.

This new entity is the result of amalgamation of the staffing units of the South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission (SAMEAC) Secretariat and the Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA) which includes the Interpreting and Translating Service.

Last year the OMA and SAMEAC Secretariat transferred from the Department of Premier and Cabinet to the Justice Department. This prompted a review by the Justice Chief Executive that commenced in November.

There were several reasons for the review including, a lack of clarity in relation to the boundaries and roles of OMA and SAMEAC Secretariat and confusion in the multicultural community regarding the roles of OMA and SAMEAC. There is also a need for improved communication and to strengthen SAMEAC's ability to deliver on its statutory obligations.

"Multicultural SA will significantly increase the capacity of the Commission to fulfil its programs and functions as set out under the Act", said SAMEAC Chairman Mr John Kiosoglous.

Multicultural SA includes the SAMEAC Board of up to 15 members appointed by the Minister for Multicultural Affairs, that operates as a Statutory Authority in accordance with the South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission Act 1980.

The staff amalgamation means that there is now one state government body responsible for multicultural affairs, Multicultural SA, which consists of a Board (SAMEAC) and the staff who support the work and implement the functions and programs as stipulated by SAMEAC.

All the staff of Multicultural SA are now available to service the needs of SAMEAC, as well as to respond to the requests of the Minister and the Chief Executive of the Attorney-General's Department, in implementing the policies of the Government of the day.

Mr Kiosoglous said, "I personally look forward to the new arrangements particularly the benefits they will bring to the public."

Multicultural SA begins operation on 1 July 2003. For more information contact Mr John Kiosoglous MBE KSA AE SM, Ph. 8226 1947.