

# South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission

2005–2006 Annual Report

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**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**

I am pleased to present the Annual Report of the South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission in my inaugural year as Chairman.

I would like to begin by highlighting the participation of ethnic communities in South Australia's Australia Day Parade, which yet again has been a great success. In this year's parade there were about 1500 community representatives, making up about three quarters of the participants. The parade provides an opportunity for ethnic communities to showcase their culture while demonstrating their pride in their Australian citizenship.

The Commission recognises the critical importance of communities being migrant-friendly – that is, of being ready, willing and able to welcome and support new migrants as they settle into South Australia and become active participants in, and contributors to, all aspects of South Australian life.

To assist with the settlement of new migrants the Government has provided grants to Regional Development Boards to promote migrant friendly communities and services. Two of the grant recipients, the Limestone Coast Regional Development Board and the Riverland Development Corporation, have created television advertising campaigns featuring local residents from migrant backgrounds. The advertisements promote the message that residents in regional areas from migrant backgrounds form an integral part of the economic and social life of the local community.

With the success of the Government's immigration initiatives, the need for public servants to participate in cultural awareness training is increasing. To assist government departments in the procurement of appropriate cultural awareness training providers, a panel of cultural awareness training providers is being established. The providers have been through a thorough assessment process before being offered contracts and the opportunity exists for additional providers to apply to Multicultural SA to be assessed for possible inclusion on the panel.

The Commission has been working closely with South Australia's Muslim communities to promote community harmony, and I was pleased to be invited to chair the South Australian Government Muslim Reference Group appointed by the Minister for Multicultural Affairs. The reference group comprises members representing the different mosques, sects, regions, ethnic and age groups from South Australian Muslim communities.

The reference group has provided advice on plans for promoting a balanced public awareness of Muslim communities in South Australia; educating the public about Islam; and addressing physical and verbal attacks on Muslims. The reference group has appointed media spokespeople who have already given a number of media interviews. Members of the reference group and other members of Muslim communities have also participated in professional media training.

In 2005 the South Australian Government announced a Land Tax Relief Grant Scheme to assist ethnic community organisations to pay their land tax, following advice from the Commission. The land tax relief allows community organisations to

maintain and build on the many vital community services they provide to both their members and the community.

In October 2005, the Overseas Qualifications Reference Group handed down its final report. Recommendations in the report have been acted on resulting in the creation of a new and expanded Skills Recognition Support Services and Trades Recognition Support Services. In addition, the Commonwealth Government launched a new website in May 2006 for migrants seeking to have their skills and qualifications recognised. The website was developed upon the recommendation of a national working group on overseas qualifications recognition chaired by South Australia, and contains information on nearly 500 skilled occupations.

In the 2005–2006 budget the Government announced that it would re-double funding for the Multicultural Grants Scheme from \$150 000 to \$300 000. More than 160 community organisations received grants to undertake important community projects that will make South Australia a better place to live. The grants have gone towards the costs of festivals, cross cultural workshops, establishment of websites and refugee, youth and pensioner activities to mention a few. This year for the first time grants have also been provided to established community associations to enable them to help newly arrived communities by providing a place to meet and hold functions.

On behalf of Members I extend my sincere thanks to the former Chairman of the Commission, Mr John Kiosoglous. I had the pleasure of working closely with John in my role as Deputy Chair, and I note his ongoing contribution to multiculturalism in South Australia as Chairman of the Ethnic Schools Board and in other roles. I also offer my congratulations and a warm welcome to our new members, Ms Branka King, Dr Gala Mustafa and Ms Subha Mameledzija.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff at Multicultural SA for their commitment to the successful implementation of the Commission's program. In particular, I acknowledge the professionalism and leadership of the Executive Director, Mr Simon Forrest, under whose leadership the office has raised its profile and enhanced its contribution to South Australia's ethnic communities.

I thank the Minister for Multicultural Affairs, the Hon Michael Atkinson M.P., who over many years has forged strong links with South Australia's ethnic communities and has been a champion of multiculturalism. The Minister's leadership has seen a significant expansion in government services and programs for multicultural communities to the benefit of all South Australians.



Mr Hieu Van Le  
Chairman

## **MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION**

### **Mr Hieu Van Le (to 31 December 2007)**

#### **Chairman**

Mr Hieu Van Le, is the Chairman of the South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission (SAMEAC). Committed to the development and promotion of multiculturalism in South Australia, Mr Le has been a member of the SAMEAC for more than ten years, serving the last three years as Deputy Chairman.

A Vietnamese born, Mr Le is the first person of Asian ethnic background who holds the position of Chairman of the SAMEAC.

Mr Le is also a senior Manager with the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC), his responsibilities include the licensing and regulating of operators and advisers within the financial and investment services industry.

Mr Le has a Degree in Economics and Accountancy and a Masters Degree in Business Administration (MBA) from the University of Adelaide in South Australia.

He is a member of the Australian Society of Certified Practising Accountants (CPA) and a Fellow Member of the Financial Services Institute of Australasia (Finsia). He is a lecturer at the Finsia in the subject, Financial Services Law and Regulations and also a lecturer at the Adelaide Institute of TAFE.

Mr Le is a recipient of the 1996 Australia Day Medal for outstanding service to the ASIC and has been awarded the Centenary of Federation Medal for service to the advancement of multiculturalism.

### **Mr Peter Ppiros (to 31 December 2007)**

#### **Deputy Chairman**

Mr Peter Ppiros has been appointed Deputy Chairman of SAMEAC in 2006. Mr Ppiros, who has been a member of the Commission since January 2003, has been 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 language 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 became 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 the founder of the Riverland Greek Festival which has been acknowledged with the 2000 SA 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.

**Dr Tilahun Mengesha Afrassa (to 31 December 2006)**

Dr Tilahun Afrassa was born in Ethiopia and came to South Australia in 1993 to do a Master's degree in Educational Measurement.

He is a founding member of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church of South Australia and an active member of the Ethiopian Community Association of South Australia.

In Ethiopia Dr Afrassa had worked as a teacher, lecturer, measurement expert and head of the National Examinations Office.

After completing his PhD at Flinders University in Educational Measurement and Evaluation and Research, Dr Afrassa worked as a research associate at Flinders University, Research Officer at the Senior Secondary Assessment Board of South Australia, Senior Policy Officer and Senior Project Officer at the Department of Education, Training and Employment.

Currently he is the manager of student performance in the Data Management and Accountability Directorate of the Department of Education and Children's Services.

Dr Afrassa has published research work in international journals and presented conference papers to national and international conferences. He is a member of the Australian Association of Research in Education and executive member of the South Australian Institute of Educational Research.

**Ms Marie Alvino L.LB, B.A. (to 31 December 2006)**

Ms Alvino was born in Adelaide of Italian migrant parents. She is married with three children.

Ms Alvino graduated from the University of Adelaide with a combined Law/Arts degree in 1984 and has since worked in private practice.

She is a legal member of the Social Security Appeals Tribunal and the Residential Tenancies Tribunal.

In 1997, Ms Alvino was appointed a Dame of the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta for fundraising and charitable work.

For the past 12 years Ms Alvino has served in a voluntary capacity on the board of the Italian Benevolent Society Inc., which manages nursing homes within the metropolitan area. She has also served as a legal adviser to the Italian Radio.

**Mr Archie Kwesi Andrews (to 31 December 2007)**

Mr Andrews, a former Diplomat with the High Commission of the Republic of Ghana in Canberra and consultant in African political affairs, is the first African-born SAMEAC Member. Multilingual Mr Andrews' educational qualifications include a Master of Arts from the University of London and a Postgraduate Diploma in Economic Development from the North-Western Polytechnic in London.

His career as a Diplomat in London, Paris and Canberra as well as a number of years spent in Brazil where he obtained a Diploma in Diplomacy/International Relations from the Instituto Rio Branco, Brasilia and a Language Diploma in Portuguese from the University of Sao Paulo, has equipped Mr Andrews with a knowledge of international relations and cross-cultural skills which will be of great value to SAMEAC.

Mr Andrews is a recipient of a Centenary Medal for service to the community. The award is a commemorative medal awarded to mark the achievement of a broad cross section of the Australian community at the commencement of the new century.

**Ms Maria Barredo (to 31 December 2006)**

Ms 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.

Ms Barredo is a member of the executive of the Federation of Ethnic Communities Councils of Australia (FECCA) as Deputy Chair of the Women's Portfolio and Convenor of the FECCA National Women's Network.

She is Convenor of the SAMEAC Women's Advisory Committee, treasurer of the multicultural childcare and early childhood service *Diversity Directions*, and a member of the Royal Adelaide Hospital Consumer Advisory Council, of Justice for Women Refugees and the Migrant Women's Lobby Group.

Ms Barredo has worked as a Community Settlement Services (CSS) worker for the Filipino community, and Coordinator of Settlement Services for the Northern Adelaide metropolitan area and regional areas under the Migrant Resource Centre.

Since 2000, she has been Director of Catholic Multicultural Pastoral Service, in the Catholic Archdiocese of Adelaide. This involves coordinating multicultural programs and services, coordinating the Migrant Chaplaincy and advising the Archbishop on multiculturalism and immigration issues.

Ms Barredo has a Master of Nursing from the University of South Australia and a Graduate Diploma in Theological Studies from Flinders University where she is currently studying for Master in Theological Studies and Master in Policy and Administration.

**Ms Branka King (to 31 December 2006)**

Branka King is a longstanding member of the Serbian community, is a volunteer in the Guides and at the St Mary Magdalene Drop-in Centre, and a Justice of the Peace.

She is a qualified interpreter who is also a member of the Standards Committee of the Office of Public Transport and Zone Leader of the West Hindmarsh Neighbourhood Watch.

**Ms Subha Mameledzija (31 December 2006)**

Subha Mameledzija was born in Bosnia & Hercegovina, migrated to Australia in 1968 and spends much of her time participating in ethnic communities linked to her roots.

For years, Subha was employed as a professional interpreter and is keen to continue contributing to South Australia's multicultural communities.

**Ms Vahedeh Mansoury (31 December 2007)**

Vahedeh Mansoury's appointment heralds 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.

Since last year, Vahedeh has been working as a mentor with the Department for Families and Communities (DFC) Refugee Program supporting new arrival families.

She also is a foster parent to humanitarian unaccompanied minors –also known as wards of the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs.

Vahedeh is currently undertaking a Family Day Care accreditation course with the DFC (Children, Youth and Family Services) and has just completed a Diploma of Children's Services at Regency Institute of TAFE.

Vahedeh sees her role as a community advocate and looks forward to serving the South Australian public through her new statutory role.

**Dr Gala Mustafa (to 31 December 2006)**

Kurdish-born Gala Mustafa is the first hejab-wearing Muslim woman to join the Commission. A resident of Mount Gambier, Gala's appointment increases the number of regional members on the Commission to three.

Gala has a Bachelor of Science from Baghdad University. She is a member of: the South East Multicultural Network, Rural Australians for Refugees, Mount Gambier Hospital New Arrivals Committee, S.A. Government Muslim Reference Group, and Mount Gambier Community Health Service's Mental Health Advisory Committee and Women's Health Advisory Committee.

**Mr Norman Schueler (31 December 2007)**

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. He has established Pipes International P/L in Queensland, which is a major supplier of seamless and ERW pipes and fittings throughout Australia and the Pacific. He also has interests in the automotive retail industry. 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.

**Ms Malgorzata Skalban (to 31 December 2006)**

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 Metropolitan Domiciliary Care 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 SA, Vice 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 Board Member of Co.As.It., 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.

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.

### **Mr Teodoro Spiniello (to 31 December 2006)**

Born in Adelaide in 1969 of Italian parents, Mr Spiniello holds a specialised degree in medical/legal interpreting/translating, a degree in secondary/tertiary education and has completed studies in international trade.

He has been the Secretary General (CEO) of the Italian Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Australia-Adelaide since 1997 and Secretary of the National Council of Italian Chambers of Commerce and Industry in Australia since 1999.

In 2001, he was appointed a board member of the Committee of Italians Abroad (COMITES), the official body recognised by the Italian Government as the interface between the local Italian community and the Italian Government.

Mr Spiniello was appointed a board member of the Grants Committee of the Council of International Trade & Commerce in South Australia (CITCSA) in 2003. He was awarded CITCSA's "Top Achiever of the Year" award in 2001.

Mr Spiniello is Deputy Secretary of the Federazione Delle Associazioni Di Emigrati Campani in Sud Australia (FAECSA) and is actively involved in other Italian social/religious committees.

He has also been a member of the Advisory Group for the School of International Studies, Centre of International and Cross-Cultural Studies, University of South Australia.

His professional experiences have included teaching in both private and public secondary schools and appointments with several government departments in the areas of public relations, marketing, community development project work and also interpreting and translating, which he still maintains.

**Mr Petar Zdravkovski (Zed) (to 31 December 2007)**

Mr 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 (RMCN). 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 fishing, wine, etc 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 term of the following SAMEAC Member expired:*

**Mr John A Kiosoglous MBE KSA AE SM (to 31 December 2005)  
Former Chairman**

John Kiosoglous was Chairman of the South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission from 1 January 2003 to 31 December 2005. He has considerable experience in the areas of law, education, languages and multicultural and ethnic affairs.

Born in Port Pirie of Greek background, Mr Kiosoglous has an extensive background in law. He was appointed Stipendiary Magistrate in 1973 and in July 1984 appointed a Senior Member of the Commonwealth Administrative Appeals Tribunal and retired from this position in February 2003. He is currently an Auxiliary Stipendiary Magistrate.

Mr Kiosoglous has served on various SAMEAC committees over a number of years and was first appointed as a Member on 1 January 2000 and as Deputy Chairman on 1 March 2001.

Mr Kiosoglous has served as a Committee Member of the Overseas Qualifications Reference Group since 1 July 2004.

Mr Kiosoglous served as a Councillor of St Peter's Council for seven years. Mr Kiosoglous has a strong commitment to the teaching of languages and at the request of the Minister for Education he chaired a review of enquiry into the ethnic schools

system. The outcome of this review resulted in the establishment of the Ethnic Schools Board of which he was appointed the inaugural Chairman in 1990. It is a position which he still holds. He is also the inaugural Chairman of the South Australian Secondary School of Languages, now the SA School of Languages and is a Member of the Multicultural Education Committee.

Mr Kiosoglous was appointed to the Board of the National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters (NAATI) as a Director and subsequently its Chairman during the period 1989 to 1997 and 2000 to 2002. He continues to serve as a Director.

Mr Kiosoglous is actively involved within the Greek community and the Greek Orthodox Church and Archdiocese of Australia serving on the National Archdiocesan Council since 1963 including 16 years as Vice-President. He is the inaugural Chairman of both the Board of St George Greek Orthodox College and the Australian Hellenic Education Progressive Association (SA) and member of the National Executive as well as inaugural Deputy Chairman of St Basil's Homes for the Aged (SA).

Mr Kiosoglous has served on numerous Federal and State bodies, many of which he has served as Chairman, and has been the recipient of a number of awards.

## **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 fifteen 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
- 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**

### **Land Tax Relief for Community Clubs**

Ethnic-community organisations provide many vital services including:

- support programs 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
- 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.

The South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission advised the Government that the spike in land tax bills resulting from the housing boom was adding further pressure on ethnic-community organisations to meet these costs.

The *Land Tax Act 1936* already provides exemption from land tax for organisations that use land in a manner similar to the use of land by ethnic-community organisations.

The South Australian Government has an annual grants scheme that provides grants to not-for-profit ethnic-community organisations to cover the full cost of their land tax bills.

### **Multicultural Grants Scheme**

In the 2005-2006 budget the Government announced that it would re-double funding for the Multicultural Grants Scheme from \$150 000 to \$300 000.

The Multicultural Grants Scheme provides 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
- celebrate and value cultural diversity.

Through the two rounds of the grants scheme more than 160 community organisations received grants to undertake important community projects that will make South Australia a better place to live.

Many volunteer groups from across South Australia have also been assisted through this scheme so that they can continue with their vital work.

Some of the groups assisted through the grants scheme in 2005–2006 were:

Tatar Bashkurt Association of Australia  
 Irish Australian Association Inc  
 Club India  
 San Rocco Adelaide Inc  
 South Australian German Association  
 Overseas Chinese Association  
 Armenian Cultural Association  
 Organisation of Hellene and Hellene Cypriot Women of SA  
 Riverland Multicultural Forum  
 Federation of Polish Organisations in SA  
 Murraylands Filipino Australian Association Inc  
 Lao Association  
 South Australian Bangladeshi Community Association  
 Sierra Leonean Community of SA  
 Vietnamese Farmers Association Inc

The grants have gone towards the costs of festivals, cross cultural workshops, establishment of websites and refugee and youth and pensioner activities to mention a few.

This year for the first time grants have also been provided to established community associations to enable them to help newly arrived communities by providing a place to meet and hold functions.

### **Support for Volunteers**

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

During 2005–2006 information sessions organised for volunteers have focused on:

- services provided by the Royal District Nursing Service and various health issues

- energy providers
- falls prevention and mobility
- funding available from different state government departments for community organisations
- consumer protection and consumer rights
- role of local government, local government elections, voting and participation in local government
- depression and older people
- 2006 Census
- Women's Information Service
- Welfare to Work Reform
- Skills Recognition Support Services
- Overseas Qualifications Services
- Migrant Employment Consultancy Service
- Settlement Orientation Services
- Relationship Australia programs available to culturally and linguistically diverse communities
- cancer awareness
- government elections.

### **Working with South Australia's Muslim Communities**

#### *Visit of Imam Feisal Abdul Rauf – 8-14 July, 2005*

In 2005, SAMEAC worked closely with key Christian, Jewish and Muslim community stakeholders on Imam Feisal Abdul Rauf's second visit to Adelaide. Imam Feisal is a New York-based Muslim cleric devoted to building bridges between Muslims and the West and is a leader in the effort to build religious pluralism. As well as participating in the *Adelaide Festival of Ideas*, Imam Feisal's July 2005 visit explored possibilities for a South Australian version of the Cordoba Initiative – a project initiated by the Imam and dedicated to healing the relationship between Muslims and the West.

The Imam's visit included participating in events hosted by The Bob Hawke Prime Ministerial Centre, Migrant Resource Centre of SA, Don Dunstan Foundation, Muslim Women's Association as well as attending meetings with the Beit Shalom Synagogue, Adelaide Hebrew Congregation, Project Abraham Steering Committee, South Australian Council of Churches and Catholic Ecumenical Commission. A special Compass documentary, titled the Peacemaker, recorded Imam Feisal's visit to Adelaide and was screened on ABC TV on 18 December, 2005.

#### *Islamic Awareness Week – 22-26 August, 2005*

In August 2005, Multicultural SA provided some financial support to assist the University of Adelaide Islamic Students Society in holding Islamic Awareness Week.

*Muslim Community Burial Consultation – 6 September, 2005*

Throughout 2005, Multicultural SA was approached by a number of Muslim community representatives about the Muslim communities' needs in relation to religiously/culturally appropriate funerals and burials in South Australia.

In identifying and appropriately responding to these needs, SAMEAC invited diverse Muslim community stakeholders and cemetery operators to participate in a special consultation on 6 September, 2005. Since the consultation, Multicultural SA has been investigating various options to respond to and resolve community the concerns raised at the consultation.

The consultation, attended by the Minister for Multicultural Affairs, also provided an opportunity for community representatives to raise and discuss other community issues.

*Premier's Meeting with Muslim Community Leaders – 19 October, 2005*

On 19 October, 2005, the Premier, Deputy Premier and Minister for Multicultural Affairs met with South Australian Muslim community leaders for the purpose of furthering the work of the South Australian Government following the September 2005 meeting of the Council of Australian Governments (CoAG) and in further strengthening the working relationship between the Government and South Australian Muslim communities.

At the meeting, the Premier announced that the Minister for Multicultural Affairs would convene a special Muslim community working group to look at short, medium and long-term strategies to improve community relations and promote inter-faith dialogue, and inter-racial harmony.

*South Australian Government Muslim Reference Group*

On 12 December, 2005, the Minister for Multicultural Affairs officially opened the inaugural meeting of the South Australian Government Muslim Reference Group (SAGMRG), appointing:

- Mr Hieu Van Le as Chair
- fourteen members representing different mosques, sects, regions, ethnic and age groups from South Australian Muslim communities.

SAGMRG's Terms of Reference included providing advice to the Minister for Multicultural Affairs on short, medium and long term plans for improving community relations and promoting inter-faith dialogue relevant to Muslim communities in SA. This advice includes plans for:

- promoting a balanced public awareness of Muslim Communities in SA
- educating the public about Islam
- addressing physical and verbal attacks on Muslims
- other matters of cultural importance.

The Office of the Minister for Multicultural Affairs issued a media release announcing the appointment of SAGMRG. This resulted in six media interviews, all of which were managed by media spokespeople nominated from within SAGMRG.

On 25 March 2006, SAGMRG Members participated in a special professional development program aimed at building the skills of Muslim community representatives in managing media interviews and relationships. On 26 March 2006, an additional media training session was also presented to members of South Australian Muslim communities, nominated by SAGMRG Members.

Adjunct Professor Peter Manning from the University of Technology, Sydney, delivered the training program. Mr Manning is the former Executive Producer, Four Corners (ABC TV); former Controller of ABC TV News and Current Affairs; former Head of Current Affairs, Seven Network; and author of *Dog Whistle Politics and Journalism – Media representations of Arabic and Muslim People in Two Major Sydney Newspapers* and *Us and Them: A Journalist's Investigation of Media, Muslims and the Middle East*.

As per its Terms of Reference, SAGMRG, supported by Multicultural SA, has developed a comprehensive, draft action plan for the Minister for Multicultural Affairs. Some of the suggested strategies have already received government support and are currently being developed by Multicultural SA. This includes:

- launching the *Islam and Muslims in Australia Media Guide*, a publication developed by the Islamic Women's Welfare Council of Victoria
- developing a comprehensive list of resources relevant to Islam and Muslims in South Australia, to be published on the Multicultural SA website
- developing resources about significant Islamic events such as Ramadan, Eid Al-Adha, Muharram, Ashurah etc
- encouraging Muslim communities to develop websites containing information, resources and contacts relevant to the South Australian Muslim communities
- supporting the involvement of Muslim communities in mainstream events such as Australia Day, Anzac Parade etc
- ensuring that Muslim community organisations participate in community consultations conducted by SAMEAC.

#### *South Australian Government Contribution to the Commonwealth National Action Plan*

Following the London bombings (July 2005), CoAG at its Special Meeting on Counter-Terrorism, agreed to request that MCIMA develop a *National Action Plan* to reinforce social cohesion, harmony and support national security.

Several drafts of the *National Action Plan* have been developed through consultation with various State and Commonwealth Government stakeholders. Multicultural SA, on behalf of the South Australian Government, has managed the consultation process with South Australian government agencies.

Multicultural SA, in conjunction with South Australian government agencies, has developed a list of current and proposed South Australian government initiatives related to the Plan.

*National Muslim Youth Summit – 3 December, 2006*

On 3 December, 2005, a representative of SAMEAC- attended the National Youth Muslim Summit organised by the Commonwealth Government's Muslim Youth Sub-Group and the Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs.

The purpose of the conference was to:

- develop better links with Australian Muslim youth nationally and to build on a sense of inclusiveness and belonging
- provide the Government and service providers with information that better inform a process of decision making
- use the summit to identify useful projects towards a national action plan that engages and supports Australian Muslim youth
- encourage youth participation in projects beneficial to youth and the wider Australian community
- build leadership capacity among Australian-Muslim youth.

The outcomes from the summit will be used to identify useful projects to inform the implementation of a *National Action Plan* that engages and supports Australian Muslim youth and the wider Australian community.

*Eid Al-Fitr Reception at Parliament House*

On 4 November, 2005, the Premier, the Hon. Mike Rann MP, and the Minister for Multicultural Affairs, the Hon. Michael Atkinson MP, co-hosted an Eid Al-Fitr Reception at Parliament House. The reception was the first of its kind in South Australian Government history. About 180 guests attended the reception representing diverse Muslim sects and cultures. Every known Islamic organisation in South Australia was invited to the event, including Imams and representatives of mosques in Adelaide, Woodville North, Parkholme, Gilles Plains, Elizabeth, Royal Park, Mount Barker, Whyalla, Renmark and Murray Bridge.

A second Eid Al-Fitr Reception is being organised for October 2006.

*Muslim Women's Association of Marion Mosque – 22 July, 2006*

SAMEAC provided funds to the Muslim Women's Association of Marion Mosque towards the cost of a Muslim Women's Fashion Parade at Marion Cultural Centre on 22 July, 2006. The Fashion Parade is an attempt to break down barriers of ignorance and misunderstanding and build bridges of communication and respect.

## **PROMOTING MULTICULTURALISM**

### **Participation in Mainstream Events**

In 2005–2006 the South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission facilitated the participation of ethnic communities in large mainstream events to promote community harmony.

A multicultural float was featured for the second time in South Australia's annual Christmas Pageant. The multicultural float, the largest in the pageant, was led by Sudanese dancers and drummers and included representatives from the Afghan, Chilean, Filipino, German, Hungarian, Irish, Maori, Sierra Leonean, Ukrainian and Indonesian communities.

The float was the result of the joint efforts of SAMEAC, Multicultural SA and the pageant organisers.

On the 70 metre long float the words LOVE, TOLERANCE, PEACE were written in Chinese, Arabic, Greek, Spanish, Kurna and English.

It was a great way for the public to experience the diversity of Christmas traditions celebrated by so many of our communities in a high profile televised event.

Another highlight has been the participation of more than one thousand five hundred representatives of South Australia's culturally and linguistically diverse communities in the 2006 Australia Day Parade.

The community representatives walked behind banners signifying their countries of origin. A large contingent from the Polish community marked the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Polish settlement in Australia.

Approximately 44 ethnic community organisations participated in the parade in a celebration of their origins, their commitment to Australia and the success of multiculturalism.

Several young people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds took part in ANZAC Day ceremonies in a joint initiative between SAMEAC, Multicultural SA and the Returned Services League.

Young people representing American, Dutch, French, Greek, Irish, Italian, Maltese, Polish, Serbian and Scottish communities participated in a vigil at three different sites (Adelaide, Blackwood and Morphett Vale) on the evening of 24 April, Anzac Day Eve.

The ANZAC Memorial Youth Vigil provided an opportunity to say thank you and remember those who gave their lives in the service of their country.

The participation of our culturally and linguistically diverse youth has demonstrated the importance of multiculturalism in South Australia and shown that ethnic youth, as young Australians, are also very proud of their heritage.

SAMEAC will continue to promote the profile of culturally and linguistically diverse groups in those events that tell the story of the Australian nation.

### **Festivals**

Festivals play an important role in promoting inter-cultural understanding and social interaction in our multicultural society.

SAMEAC and Multicultural SA participate in cultural festivals to support and maintain links with multicultural communities. The Commission was represented and supported at many festivals including: Carnevale; Glendi; Tet Vietnamese Festival; Riverland Greek Festival; Schutzenfest; Middle Eastern Cultural Festival; MELA Indian Festival; MRCSA-Refugee Week Cultural Festival; Lions Multicultural Festival and the Uniting Care Wesley Bowden Multicultural Festival.

### **Multicultural Life Magazine**

Multicultural Life is published by Multicultural SA and is the State Government's flagship multicultural affairs publication. 8,000 copies of the magazine are circulated free to community organisations, Commonwealth, State and Local government agencies, industry, media, schools, public libraries and interested individuals.

Each issue of Multicultural Life is developed within the framework of a specific theme. For example:

The December 2005 edition of Multicultural Life included a special feature on SAMEAC's 25th Anniversary.

In marking the anniversary, the magazine celebrated the broad success of South Australian multiculturalism by featuring 15 remarkable South Australians. Their journeys represent diverse cultures and experiences that capture the essence of what it means to be a South Australian.

Those featured were: Pieter van der Hoeven; Angeliki (Kay) Alexiou; Justice John Sulan; Yasmin Ahmed; Fred Shain OAM; Dr Eva Sallis; Milan Ivanovic; Teresa Crea; Kazmer and Eva Ujvari; Max Basheer AM; Yenenesh Gebre; Dr Francis Nathan and Merlin Nathan; and Professor Jerzy Jaroslaw (George) Smolicz AM.

The June 2006 edition of Multicultural Life focused on Multicultural Festivals, on the basis that South Australia's diverse communities have many reasons to celebrate, and the dozens of festivals each year capture the energy and diversity of community life in South Australia.

Festivals featured included the Italian Carnevale in Adelaide; Vietnamese Tet; Greek Glendi, Middle Eastern Cultural; African; Lions Multicultural; Adelaide Multicultural; Polish Dozynki; German Schutzenfest; Riverland Greek; Coober Pedy Glendi; Blue Lake Multicultural; Spanish Romeria del Rocio; Latvian Australian Arts; Ukrainian Arts; Sri Lankan New Year and Mela Indian Festival.

### **Multicultural Events Calendar**

Multicultural SA produces an annual calendar to provide information about events and occasions that are celebrated by ethnic communities in South Australia.

Information is collected from ethnic communities every year for inclusion in the Multicultural Calendar.

The calendars are distributed to government agencies, local councils, libraries, schools community organisations and individuals.

The calendars can be seen in many public places such as hospitals, libraries, government offices and in many classrooms.

The Events Calendar is also available on the Multicultural SA website, where information about upcoming events can be submitted online.

## **MIGRANT FRIENDLY SETTLEMENT**

### **Promoting Migrant Friendly Communities**

Funding was provided to the Murraylands Regional Development Board, Limestone Coast Regional Development Board and Riverland Development Corporation to:

- promote the value of a multicultural society to specific regional communities where numbers of migrants are expected to settle over the next 12 months
- inform communities about the reasons for migration and how to be migrant friendly
- work with local governments, employers, businesses, service providers and local communities to develop local migrant friendly initiatives.

A range of activities in each region successfully raised cultural awareness in the local communities while assisting new migrants to settle as quickly as possible.

The Murraylands Regional Development Board:

- sponsored a research project into the needs of Chinese skilled migrants and their families
- ran a media campaign promoting community awareness about migrants settling in the region
- organised an Introduction to Murray Bridge Day for new arrivals
- organised a trip for new migrants to Chinatown and the Central Market in Adelaide
- funded and supported a Mayoral Reception for New Arrivals in Murray Bridge
- funded and supported a multicultural awareness day in Karoonda
- facilitated information sessions for more than 100 Chinese migrants.

Limestone Coast Regional Development Board:

- developed a television advertising campaign to improve understanding and recognition of migrants in the Limestone Coast – SAMEAC Member Dr Gala Mustafa and her husband Saad Mustafa featured in the 30-second advertisements
- funded and assisted the South East Multicultural Network to organise and run Community Multicultural Forums in Naracoorte, Mount Gambier and Bordertown
- developed information materials for local employers to raise their awareness and understanding of new migrants' settlement needs.

The Riverland Development Corporation:

- conducted a one day forum Prosperity Through People, bringing together employers, businesses, recruitment agencies, regional community leaders, government agencies, service providers, local community members and migrants to discuss migrant settlement issues in the region
- conducted a television advertising campaign to acknowledge and promote the contribution of migrants to the region.

As well as specific projects undertaken by boards receiving Migrant-Friendly Initiatives funding from Multicultural SA, other regional bodies were provided with advice and information about migrant-friendly settlement initiatives.

Regional Migration Officers working in the Limestone Coast, Riverland, Murraylands, Barossa and Light, Mid North, Adelaide Plains and Yorke Peninsula areas were supported in their efforts to help communities prepare for, welcome and assist in the settlement of new migrants, particularly groups from non-English speaking backgrounds.

### **Overseas Qualifications Recognition**

Migrants coming to South Australia bring with them valuable skills, experience and qualifications. It is vital that the qualifications and experience are recognised so that migrants can obtain appropriate employment, help meet local skills shortages and participate fully in society.

The State's population policy recognises the need for an efficient and effective system of qualifications recognition so that South Australia can compete with other jurisdictions to attract skilled migrants.

The Government established an Overseas Qualifications Reference Group under the auspices of the Training and Skills Commission in September 2004 to identify barriers to recognition and provide recommendations for improvement. Membership on the reference group included the Chairman of the South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission.

Following extensive community consultation, the reference group handed down its final report in October 2005, and has now completed its work. Recommendations in the report have been acted on resulting in the creation of a new and expanded Skills Recognition Support Services and Trades Recognition Support Services.

South Australia chairs a national working group on overseas qualifications recognition under the auspices of the Ministerial Council of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs, which recommended the development of a website to improve access to information about skills recognition.

The Commonwealth launched the new Australian Skills Recognition Information (A.S.R.I.) website, on the 27 May 2006, that points migrants in the right direction to have their skills and qualifications recognised. Information about nearly 500 skilled occupations is listed on the website.

### **Cultural Awareness Training**

Staff across the whole of government need to plan for and deliver services in a way that takes account of the fact that many new migrants are accustomed to different arrangements for schooling, health, policing, transport and other matters. In addition, many are of diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds. In many situations staff need the assistance of an interpreter to effectively deliver services for which they are responsible.

With the success of the government's immigration initiatives, the need for public servants to participate in cultural awareness training is increasing. To assist government departments in the procurement of appropriate cultural awareness training a panel of cultural awareness training providers is being established.

Government agencies will be able to get information about the providers and their services through the government intranet. The services delivered by each of the training providers will be described on the intranet site so that agencies can identify the most appropriate provider for their specific needs and circumstances. The providers have been through a thorough assessment process before being offered contracts and the opportunity exists for additional providers to apply to Multicultural SA to be assessed for possible inclusion on the panel.

## ACCESS AND EQUITY

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 is vital to ensure that those services are responding effectively to the needs of our culturally diverse community.

It is essential that service providers ensure government services are not only effective but also culturally appropriate. One of the key recommendations of SAMEAC's Access and Equity Evaluation Report, *Knowing Your Clients is Good Business* (1997) was the requirement for a management framework, which allows for monitoring of performance and appropriate performance indicators.

Each year the Chairman of the Commission writes to State Government Chief Executives to request them to report against three main activity areas: Policy and Planning; Program and Service Delivery and People. For 2005–06 departments will be required to provide additional statistical information on the use of; ethnic media, interpreting and translating, workforce profiling and cultural awareness training.

The issues raised by agencies are analysed and considered by the Commission. Key issues are then built into the program of work undertaken by the Commission and Multicultural SA.

The delivery of migrant friendly services is important not only because it is necessary for the success of the State Population Policy but also 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 SA and compiled into an Annual Access and Equity Report that is accessible on the Multicultural SA website.

## **REGIONAL INITIATIVES**

SAMEAC's Regional Advisory Committees (RACs) were established in the Northern, South East and Riverland areas to identify issues in regions for people from diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds.

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

The South East RAC met in September 2005, December 2005 and March 2006; the Riverland RAC met in September 2005 and February 2006; and the Northern RAC met in November 2005 and in April 2006.

Meetings of the Regional Advisory Committees of SAMEAC in two regions focussed on the readiness of their regions to receive groups of Humanitarian entrants under a Commonwealth Government scheme.

The RACs also considered the capacity of their regions to assist in the settlement of skilled migrants and their families, including significant numbers of overseas workers on temporary visas and their dependants, many of whom had little or no English.

The RACs also considered issues of isolation, loneliness, the need for vocational English language tuition and assistance with finding employment, for the spouses of skilled migrants and other dependants.

In recognition of the importance of regional issues, SAMEAC now holds some of its regular meetings in regional South Australia.

To assist community groups in regional areas to access funding, Multicultural Grants Scheme information sessions were held in Mount Gambier.

## **WOMEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

The Women's Advisory Committee of SAMEAC was established under Section 15 of the SAMEAC Act, to advise SAMEAC on issues relating to women of culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. The WAC's Terms of Reference are:

- 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 women.
- Foster cooperation amongst, and work closely with, community and women's organisations on issues identified by the Women's Advisory Committee.
- Recommend topics for Forums and other events, which raise awareness and encourage discussion on key issues for women of diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds.
- Identify and promote the achievements and contributions of women of culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds at all levels.
- Foster the development of leadership skills for women of culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds with emphasis on young women.

The WAC has partnered with the Office for Women in several leadership courses for women from culturally and linguistically diverse background.

The first Women's Leadership Course to be held in a region was conducted in collaboration with Berri TAFE in the Riverland from June to December 2005. A graduation ceremony was conducted in April 2006.

The successful program was specifically designed to meet the needs of the Riverland, the participants and the Australian National Training Authority and enabled 25 CALD women to gain:

- cross-cultural networking experience
- public speaking and presentation skills
- information technology skills
- specific writing skills for accessing grants, fundraising and budgeting
- community capacity building
- knowledge of community funding and grants opportunities
- conflict resolution strategies
- employment/citizenship/rights and responsibilities
- corporate governance knowledge.

In February 2006, 70 women who had participated in women's leadership courses were invited to a meeting to share experiences of how the skills gained during these courses had been of benefit and to gauge what further assistance or support course graduates might require.

The Women's Advisory Committee advised SAMEAC that a further Women's Leadership Course should be held in the metropolitan area.

The Women's Advisory Committee also provided advice on:

- a SAMEAC seminar on Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Background Women on Boards and Committees
- a Multicultural SA representative on the Women's Safety Strategy Interdepartmental Reference Group
- the need for the Women's Advisory Committee to be represented on the Women's Safety Strategy CALD Women's Working Party
- the level of interest in the Limestone Coast region for a Women's Leadership Course

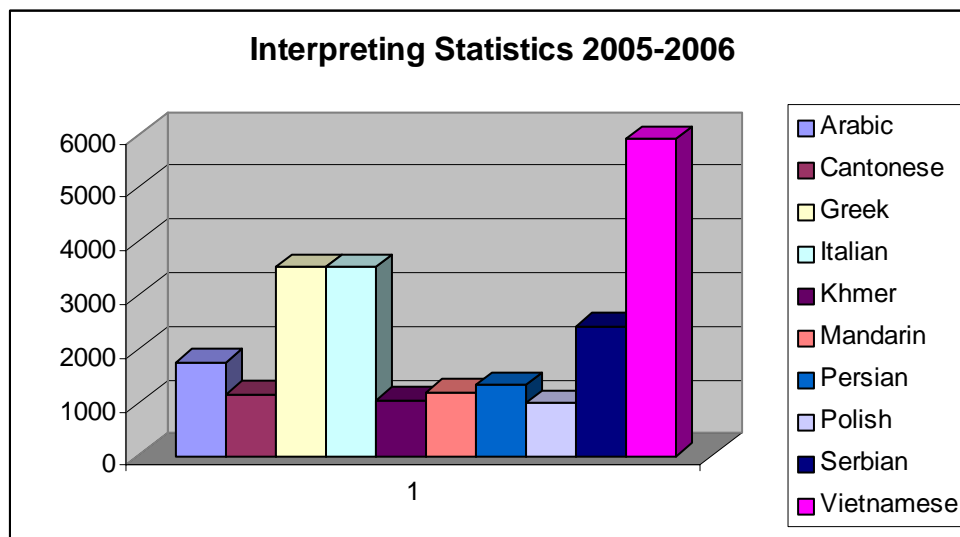
## INTERPRETING AND TRANSLATING SERVICES

The Interpreting and Translating Centre (ITC) 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 ITC continued, and there were a total of 34,669 interpreting and translating assignments carried out. This constituted a 3.9% increase over the previous year's statistics. These combined services assisted people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds access government and private sector services.

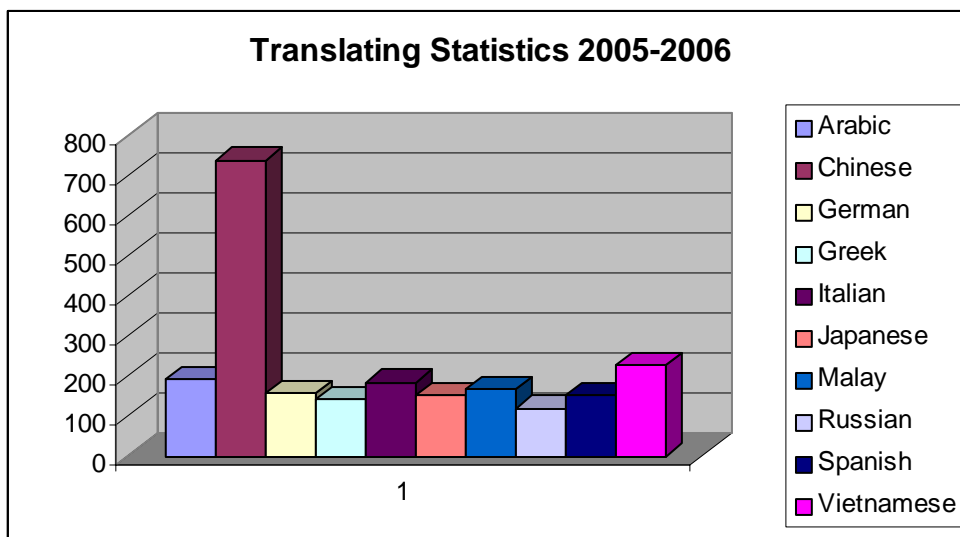
Interpreting assignments were carried out in 84 languages and translating assignments in 69 languages (the ten most popular of each category appear in the table below). This involved face-to-face interpreting, telephone interpreting and business interpreting, as well as special assignments such as facilitating communication for overseas business delegations visiting South Australia. Translation assignments ranged from simple birth certificates to complex projects in multiple languages involving typesetting, artwork manipulation or text overlay.

### ITC 2005–06 INTERPRETING ASSIGNMENTS THE TEN MOST COMMON LANGUAGES



The number of interpreting assignments, carried out in 84 languages, was 30,929 (against the previous year's tally of 30,022).

## ITC 2005–06 TRANSLATION ASSIGNMENTS THE TEN MOST COMMON LANGUAGES



The number of translating assignments, carried out in 69 languages, was 3,513 (against the previous year's tally of 3,004)

ITC delivered approximately 36 information sessions, two of them in the Riverland and one in SA country, 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.

ITC recruited and trained 35 new interpreters and translators based in Adelaide in the following languages: Albanian, Amharic, Arabic, Bosnian, Creole, Dari, Dinka, Dutch, Fuliiru, Gio, Gujerati, Hindi, Kikamba, Kikuyu, Kingoni, Krio, Lingala, Ma'di, Makua, Mandarin, Mandingoes, Mano, Mende, Nuer, Persian, Polish, Portuguese, Punjabi, Serbian, Spanish, Swahili, Temne, Thai, Tigre, Tigrigna, Turkish, Urdu and Vietnamese.

ITC is about to implementing a new Interpreting and Translating Centre Management System to facilitate online job assignment. This should be ready by early October 2006.

In 2004–05 ITC achieved upgrading its Quality Assurance Certification to AS/NZS ISO 9000:2000, which it maintained for 2005–06.

## **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;
- To publicise generally the work of SAMEAC.

## **APPENDIX 2**

### **Membership of SAMEAC's Advisory Committees as at 30 June 2006**

#### **Northern Regional Advisory Committee**

Mr Petar Zdravkovski (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, SAPOL Mid West Local Service Area  
 Ms Meghan Hanley, Community Development Officer, Corporation of the City of Whyalla  
 Mr Michael Ketses, Community representative  
 Ms Teresa Nowak, Whyalla Multicultural Communities Centre  
 His Worship Mr Jim Pollock, Mayor, City of Whyalla

Mr Pablo Rosa (to 18 August 2005)  
 Chief Inspector Jim Jeffery (to 30 November 2005)

#### **Riverland Regional Advisory Committee**

Mr Peter Ppiros (Convenor)  
 Mr Peter Ackland, Chief Executive Officer, District Council of Loxton Waikerie  
 Mr Trevor Bennett, Regional Project Officer - Skilled and Business Migration, Riverland Development Corporation  
 Ms Barbara-Ann Cowey, South Australia Works Regional Co-ordinator, Employment and Skills Formation Directorate  
 Mr Danyon De Buell, Arts Development Manager Riverland Mallee, Country Arts SA  
 Mr Baldev Singh Dhaliwal, Riverland Multicultural Forum  
 Senior Constable Russell Disher, Aboriginal and Multicultural Liaison Officer, SAPOL  
 Mr Tom Economou, Community representative  
 Ms Julie Gregurec, Community representative  
 Mr Barry Hurst, Chief Executive Officer, Renmark Paringa Council  
 Ms Lynley Jones, Regional Planner, Riverland Health Authority  
 Ms Domenica Latorre, Central Riverland Financial Counselling Service  
 Ms Elizabeth Loulas, Community representative  
 Chief Inspector John McCaffrey, Officer-in-Charge Riverland Local Service Area, SAPOL  
 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  
 Ms Gina Stephenson, Riverland Carer Respite Program Coordinator, Renmark Community Carer Services  
 Mr Nino Di Sisto, Riverland Health Authority (to 30 June 2006)

Mr Leon Miels, Murray Institute of TAFE (to 1 February 2006)

Mr Cengiz Sen, Community representative (to 30 June 2006)

### **South East Regional Advisory Committee**

Ms Gosia Skalban (Convenor)

Senior Constable Russell Disher, Aboriginal and Multicultural Liaison Officer, SAPOL

Superintendent Mark Fairey, Area Commander, SAPOL

Dr Gala Mustafa, Community representative

Mr David Kelly, Health Promotion and Development Officer, South East Regional Health Service Inc.

Ms Daniela Conesa, Community representative

Ms Jennifer Hourigan, Start Up and Participation Team Leader, Centrelink

Ms Andrea Pegler, Managing Director, Pegler Personnel

Ms Elaine Pollock, Executive Officer, South East Area Consultative Committee

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

Ms Susan Chadwick, Improvement Coordinator, Department for Education and Children's Services (to 13 December 2005)

Superintendent Terry Harbour (to 30 November 2005) Mr Tom Neilson, Regional Manager, South East Regional Health Service (to 18 August 2005)

Ms Gesina Siregar, South East Multicultural Network (to 18 August 2005)

Ms Lee Vorwerk, Community representative (18 August 2005)

### **Women's Advisory Committee**

Ms Maria Barredo, SAMEAC Member (**Convenor**)

Ms Marie Alvino LLB BA, SAMEAC Member

Ms Cynthia Caird, Migrant Resource Centre of SA Inc

Ms Gilda Campbell, Migrant Women's Lobby Group

Ms Miriam Cocking, Multicultural Communities Council

Ms Sapna Dogra, Co-ordinator Information and Monitoring Unit, Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement Inc.

Ms Laila El-Assaad, Muslim Women's Association of South Australia Inc

Ms Rita Kamara, President, African Women's Federation of South Australia

Ms Branka King, SAMEAC Member

Dr Maylene Loo, Council for Women of Diverse Cultural Background

Ms Subha Mameledzija, SAMEAC Member

Ms Vahedeh Mansoury, SAMEAC Member

Ms Gala Mustafa, SAMEAC Member

Ms Sandy Pitcher, Director, Office for Women

Ms Gosia Skalban, SAMEAC Member

Dr Elsabet Tamrat PhD, African Community

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

Ms Wendy Thompson, Women's Information Service

### APPENDIX 3

#### Representation on external Boards and Committees as the Commission's nominee as at 30 June 2006

Governing Council Adelaide Secondary School of English	Ms Vahedeh Mansoury
Multicultural Education Committee	Mr Archie Andrews
Watch SA	Ms Branka King
The Queen Elizabeth Hospital Health Services Consumer Advisory Council	Ms Gosia Skalban
State Advisory Committee for Accessible Transport	Vahedeh Mansoury
South Australian Police Multicultural Advisory Committee	Mr Hieu Van Le
Ethnic Schools Board	Dr Tilahun Afrassa
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
Multicultural Grants Committee	Mr Peter Ppiros Ms Branka King Mr Archie Andrews

## **APPENDIX 4**

### **External Boards and Committees of Commission Members as at 30 June 2006**

#### **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 Marie Alvino**

Member, Law Society of SA  
 Member, Courts Community Reference Group  
 Board Member, Victims Support Service Inc

#### **Ms Maria Barredo**

Board Member, Australian Refugee Association

#### **Ms Gala Mustafa**

Member, Women's Advisory Committee, South East  
 Member, Rural Australian for the Refugees  
 Member, Domestic Violence Service, South East  
 Member, Migrant Settlement Committee, Limestone Coast  
 Member, Museum of Human History, South East

#### **Mr Peter Ppiros**

Chairman, Riverland Multicultural Forum  
 Country Arts SA Trustee  
 Chair, Riverland and Mallee Country Arts SA Board  
 President, Regional Multicultural Communities Council

#### **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

**Mr Teodoro Spiniello**

Treasurer and committee member, Committee of Italians Abroad - COMITES, official representative body to the Italian government of Italians abroad.

Board member, Council for International Trade and Commerce SA- CITCSA

Secretary, National Council of Italian Chambers of Commerce in Australia.

Deputy Sec / Public Relations Officer, Federation of Associations of Campania in South Australia.

**Mr Petar Zdravkovski**

President, Port Lincoln Multicultural Council

Vice President, Regional Multicultural Communities Council

**APPENDIX 5****OFFICIAL VISITS  
1 JULY 2005 – 30 JUNE 2006**

15 July 2005	Chairman received Ambassador of Bulgaria, His Excellency Dr Lubomir Todorov.
7 April 2006	Chairman attended official lunch for Ambassador of Czech Republic, Mr Karel Pažourek.
2 May 2006	Chairman received High Commissioner of Pakistan, His Excellency Mr Babar W Malik.
9 May 2006	Chairman received Ambassador of Mexico, His Excellency Mrs Martha Ortiz de Rosas.
16 May 2006	Chairman received Ambassador of Belgium, His Excellency Mr Frank Carruet.
7 June 2006	Chairman received Ambassador of Iran, His Excellency Dr Hamid Aboutalebi.
15 June 2006	Chairman received Ambassador of Argentina, Mr Pedro Raul Villagra Delgado.

## **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 2005–2006 Annual Report.

One application was lodged under the *Freedom of Information Act 1991* during the twelve-month period to 30 June 2006.

### **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 policy and strategic planning documents may be viewed, free of charge, by arrangement with the FOI Officer. These documents include Strategic Plans and Annual Reports.

### **Access**

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

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

For general enquiries contact ☎ (08) 8226 1947

South Australian Multicultural  
and Ethnic Affairs Commission

24 Flinders Street  
Adelaide  
South Australia 5000

Telephone (08) 8226 1944  
Facsimile (08) 8226 1955

Email [multicultural@sa.gov.au](mailto:multicultural@sa.gov.au)