

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY  
LAID ON THE TABLE

03 Dec 2015

# South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission

## 2014–2015 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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## CHAIR'S EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As I report on my first nine months as Chair of the South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission (SAMEAC), I do so with a great sense of pride for the achievements of SAMEAC in 2014-15.

The past twelve months have been a period of change and renewal for SAMEAC, notable for the resignation of Chair Hieu Van Le AO as Chair in August 2014 to take up the vice-regal role of Governor of South Australia. His Excellency's passion for and contribution to multiculturalism in South Australia set a very high standard and wonderful example to follow. On behalf of all Commission members, I extend my sincere thanks to him for his outstanding service as a Member of SAMEAC for nearly 19 years, including his last eight and half years as Chair.

South Australia's reputation as a peaceful, inclusive and welcoming place to live for people of all cultures and ethnicities is the envy of the world. However, the success of multiculturalism and the social, cultural and economic benefits it undoubtedly brings to our State cannot be taken for granted. Despite the enormous advances migrants and refugees in South Australia have made over many generations, significant challenges still face many communities, in particular recent arrivals from new and emerging communities.

It is within this context that I set in place a strategic planning process to review the Commission's priorities and how it would undertake its statutory responsibilities.

In February 2015, following the strategic planning process the Commission adopted the following three key Strategic Priorities.

- Economic development and participation
- Domestic violence
- Ageing.

Key to the success of making a difference to the lives of CALD people is the ability for the Commission to gather expert advice and information from key federal and state government agencies, non-government organisations and experts from relevant sectors.

In considering the strategic priority areas the Commission has been gathering information from people and organisations which have policy, funding and service delivery responsibilities and expertise in each of the areas. This information will assist with the development of advice and recommendations to the State Government.

While the work on these strategic priorities has only recently started, the Commission has already developed a deeper understanding of the issues, challenges and opportunities migrants and refugees are facing.

The Commission has identified a need to further strengthen its understanding of South Australia's CALD communities. In response the Commission determined that it would adopt a new Community Engagement model. Under this new approach the Commission is systematically engaging directly with community leaders to gain an in-depth understanding of their communities, priorities, activities and aspirations.

In May, SAMEAC met with leading representatives of the Indian community, one of the largest and fastest-growing ethnic groups in South Australia. Meetings with other ethnic groups are planned for 2015-16.

Once again, the South Australian Multicultural Calendar was full of wonderful festivities, events, commemorations and anniversaries that were recognised and celebrated during the year. A number of CALD organisations and associations continued to take advantage of the opportunity to promote their events and celebrations through the online calendar on the Multicultural SA website, thereby increasing their organisation's exposure to the wider South Australian community.

The successful settlement of migrants and refugees remained a focus in 2014-15. Between Multicultural SA and SAMEAC, work in this area has included:

- co-chairing the South Australian Settlement Planning Committee with the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (now the Department of Immigration and Border Protection) to improve the coordination and targeting of settlement services; and
- identifying issues impacting on new and emerging communities in regional South Australia and working with agencies to improve service delivery in these areas.

SAMEAC continues to recognise the significant role that CALD community organisations play in supporting their communities, and in fostering and promoting multiculturalism in South Australia. The increase in funding for Multicultural grants from \$650,000 to one million dollars per annum from 1 July 2014 created more opportunities for CALD communities to be supported in their events and activities. In 2014-2015, a total of nearly one million dollars in grant funding was administered to support cultural diversity and CALD community initiatives:

- A panel comprising three SAMEAC members assessed applications for funding received under the Multicultural One-Off Grant program, with recommendations provided to the Executive Director, Policy and Community Development, Department for Communities and Social Inclusion (DCSI). The Multicultural One-Off grants supported community organisations to plan, organise and stage various festivals, to manage community education, learning and development projects, to purchase equipment and to deliver initiatives that used media to promote multiculturalism.

The increase in the amount of funding for Multicultural Grants from \$650,000 to \$1 million from 2014/15 generated interest with SAMEAC to ensure that all ethnic groups receive appropriate and timely information to assist them in accessing grants. SAMEAC Members also wanted to ensure that ethnic communities were in receipt of information about all grants available through the Department for Communities and Social Inclusion, which include Multicultural Grants; Volunteer Grants; National Youth Week; Office for the Ageing Grants and Community Benefit SA. The Chair will attend a Grant Information Session in early 2015/16.

SAMEAC continued to play a key role in supporting and promoting the Governor's Multicultural Awards. This annual program, held every year since 2008, aims to acknowledge people, organisations and initiatives that foster an open, inclusive, cohesive and equitable multicultural society, in which cultural, linguistic, religious and productive diversity is understood, valued and supported.

Nearly 100 applications were received for the 2014 Multicultural Awards across 12 categories, with 42 finalists considered for awards and 14 winners. The Governor's Multicultural Awards have seen a total of more than 840 nominations, resulting in 76 winners since their inception.

The relationship between SAMEAC and the many CALD community organisations in South Australia is the foundation stone for the work of the Commission. In November 2014 SAMEAC held a major consultation in Fulham Gardens in Adelaide's western suburbs. This consultation followed consultations held in the Northern suburbs, North-eastern suburbs and North-western suburbs in previous years. Community members representing CALD community organisations and service providers had the opportunity to raise issues with a panel of senior officers from a range of local, state and federal government departments.

The consultation provided government leaders, representatives from commonwealth and state agencies, and members of the Commission with the opportunity to meet members of the community, hear their views, and become aware and informed of issues affecting a range of different community groups. The topics that were raised included recognition of overseas qualifications, education and training opportunities, and access to facilities, meeting places and sporting facilities. Most questions were answered by the government representatives during the consultation, while others will inform the future agendas of SAMEAC and various government departments.

The Interpreting and Translating Centre (ITC) had another busy year, providing 36,833 interpreting and translating assignments (down from 37,296 in 2013-14) in 100 languages. Translations experienced some decline in total documents translated; 1,892 down from 1,953 the previous year in keeping with prior trends in this area.

In 2014-15 the Chair attended many community and business meetings, official functions, conferences and community events, and delivered speeches at most

of these. These events continue to demonstrate the vitality and diversity of the hundreds of cultural groups in South Australia which, when combined, makes up the unique tapestry of our society. Underpinning the success of these events and initiatives is the passion and generosity of volunteers dedicated to the task of preserving, promoting and renewing the culture, language and customs of their ancestral homeland and sharing them with the wider community.

The following is a sample of the key events attended by the Chair:

- Anniversaries of historical events, including: 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Italian Liberation Day;
- Celebrations aiming to foster cross-cultural understanding, including: the third annual Awards Ceremony for Muslim and Non-Muslim Understanding and World Refugee Day, Harmony Day Concert and Peace Festival.
- Conferences and Public Lectures, such as: the International Tamil Conference and Ageing in a Foreign Land and Australian Refugee Association (ARA) Oration.
- Major milestone celebrations for CALD community organisations, including: 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Netherlands Ex-Serviceman Association; and 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Bangladesh Australia Society.
- Religious ceremonies, including: 2015 Ramadan Itfar Dinner.
- Academic events, such as: Young Druze Professionals and Australian Unitarian Druze Community's 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Graduation Night.
- Various events hosted by academic institutions and associations, including the Ethnic Schools Association Children's Festival.
- Presentation of the Irene Krastev Award at the 2015 International Women's Day Luncheon.

The number of invitations received is a reflection of the diversity of ethnicities, cultures and religions in South Australia and the extent to which SAMEAC has developed a relationship with so many CALD communities. Attendance at these events, festivals and conferences enables the Commission to raise awareness and inform individuals and organisations about its important role and work. In turn, the Commission is also able to engage, foster relationships and where appropriate, provide support and referrals to other agencies.

2014-15 also saw Commission members attend Citizenship Ceremonies hosted by a number of metropolitan and regional councils: Adelaide, Adelaide Hills, Campbelltown, Charles Sturt, Holdfast Bay, Marion, Mount Barker, Mount Gambier, Onkaparinga, Prospect, Unley, West Torrens and Yankalilla.

The Commission continues to work across all sectors of the South Australian community to promote the advantages of multiculturalism to the social, economic and community life of our great State. Over several years the Commission's Regional Advisory Committees, the Women's Advisory Committee and the Youth Advisory Committee have provided a voice to CALD people, in particular those from new and emerging communities, in regards to their special circumstances.

Following a review of State Government Boards and Committees in 2014 the SAMEAC Advisory Committees were dissolved. To this end, I extend my sincere thanks for the work of the Advisory Committee members to engage their particular communities from all cultural backgrounds in the rich diversity of South Australia.

In closing, SAMEAC would like to extend its sincere thanks to Hon Zoe Bettison MP, Minister for Multicultural Affairs for her support of the Commission over the past twelve months.

Thanks also to the many hundreds of CALD associations, clubs and organisation who work so hard to promote their language, culture and customs and contribute to the economic, cultural and social life of South Australia.

I would also like to extend my sincere thanks to the staff of Multicultural SA for their support of the Commission.

The next twelve months will be an exciting and challenging time for the Commission, but one which I am confident will further strengthen the wonderful social and cultural asset that is multiculturalism in South Australia.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Grace Portolesi', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Hon Grace Portolesi  
Chair



## **MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION**

### **Hon Grace Portolesi (from 1 September 2014)**

Hon Grace Portolesi is the first woman to hold the position of Chair of the South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission, assuming the role on 1 September 2014.

Ms Portolesi served in the South Australian Parliament from 2006 – 2014 representing the electorate of Hartley in Adelaide eastern suburbs. In 2009, she was appointed Parliamentary Secretary to the Attorney General, Minister for Justice and Minister for Multicultural Affairs.

The following year, Ms Portolesi was appointed Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation, Multicultural Affairs, Youth and Volunteers. She later held the Education and Childhood Development portfolio before moving on to become Minister for Further Education, Employment, Science and Technology.

### **Mr Hieu Van Le AO, BEC, MBA, CPA (until 31 August 2014)**

Mr Le has been the Chairman of the South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission (SAMEAC) since 2007. He has been a member of SAMEAC since 1995, including three years as Deputy Chairman.

Mr Le migrated to Australia in 1977 from Vietnam. He gained a degree of Bachelor of Economics and Master of Business Administration (MBA) from Adelaide University. He is a member of the Certified Practising Accounts (CPA) and from 1991 worked at the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC). He held the position of Senior Manager – Financial Services Regulation until his early retirement from ASIC in March 2009.

Mr Le is a Member, Honorary Member, Trustee or Patron of over 30 organisations (see Appendix 4). He is a recipient of the following awards of recognition:

- Australia Day Medal for outstanding service to the Australian Securities and Investments Commission.
- 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, 2008.
- Officer in the Order of Australia (AO), 2010.
- Honorary Doctorate for service to society, University of Adelaide, 2008.
- Honorary Doctorate for significant contribution to society, Flinders University, 2011.
- Paul Harris Fellowship awarded by the Rotary Foundation (Rotary International), 2009.

On 25 June 2014, the Premier announced that Mr Le, who had been the Lieutenant-Governor of South Australia since August 2007, would become the

35<sup>th</sup> Governor of South Australia. Mr Le commenced his role as Governor on 1 September 2014.

### **Ms Teresa Nowak**

Ms Teresa Nowak is the Deputy Chair of SAMEAC. A Polish multilingual woman, Teresa has a background in economics and counselling. She gained a Graduate Diploma in Counselling in 1985, and is currently employed as a Coordinator with Uniting Care Wesley Community Services in Whyalla. Ms Nowak has been a dedicated community worker for more than three decades, and was a Justice of the Peace for 32 years.

Ms Nowak is heavily involved in the Whyalla community, specifically in supporting migrant women and bridging the interface with other special needs and opportunities. She is involved with the Filipino Cultural Association, the Pastoral Council of the Catholic Parish of Whyalla, St Vincent De Paul Society's Whyalla Conference and SAMEAC's Women's Advisory Committee. Ms Nowak was awarded Whyalla Citizen of the Year in 2002, and in 2005 was awarded the Federation of Ethnic Communities Council of Australia (FECCA) Award, celebrating 25 years of service for commitment and contribution to Australian multiculturalism. Ms Nowak is a Member of the Migrant Women's Lobby Group SA, and twice received this group's Irene Krastev Award (2004 and 2011) for ongoing leadership, commitment, dedication and passion and community spirit in regional Australia.

Ms Nowak was the Convenor of the SAMEAC Northern Region Advisory Committee until 30 October 2014.

### **Mr Peter Ppiros**

Mr Peter Ppiros has been a member of the Commission since January 2003, and held the role of Deputy Chairman from 2006 to December 2011. Mr Ppiros 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 organisation that represents the region's multicultural community and provides settlement services to new migrants. He is also the founder of the Riverland Greek Festival, which was 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.

Mr Ppiros was the Convenor of the SAMEAC Riverland Region Advisory Committee until 30 October 2014.

### **Ms Daniela Valentina Conesa**

Daniela Conesa migrated to Australia from Argentina with her family in 2003. Born in Argentina, she has lived in Canada, the USA, Peru and Argentina, before finally moving to Australia. She and her family settled in Mount Gambier in the State's South East, through the Regional Skilled Migration Scheme.

Ms Conesa is a graduate of the University of Buenos Aires where she studied Biology. She has an extensive background in research and teaching at the secondary and university level. Ms Conesa was the South East's first Community Settlement Services Officer, and is also a NAATI-accredited English-Spanish interpreter. She has also been a Bilingual School Services Officer and a volunteer committee member organising the South East's Multicultural Festival. Ms Conesa is employed as a Senior Policy Officer with the South East Natural Resources Management Board.

Ms Conesa was the Convenor of the SAMEAC South-east Region Advisory Committee until 30 October 2014.

### **Mrs Branka King**

Branka King is a long-standing member of the Adelaide Serbian Community. She volunteers at the Australian Refugee Association's Senior Homework Clubs and is also a Leader of Youth with Girl Guides SA. Mrs King 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 Service Institutions. She is also a member of the Cavan Youth Training Centre Review Board.

Mrs King is a qualified interpreter and has a Diploma in Professional Counselling. She is a Chair and Member of the Standards Committee for the Department of Planning, Transport, Energy and Infrastructure, and is also the Secretary and Zone Leader for West Hindmarsh Neighbourhood Watch.

Mrs King was first appointed to SAMEAC in January 2006.

Mrs King was the Convenor of the SAMEAC Women's Advisory Committee until 30 October 2014.

### **Mr Norman Schueler OAM**

Norman Schueler was born in the United Kingdom. He migrated to Australia in 1966 and joined Hines Metals. In 1984 he founded Normetals, a scrap metal, steel sales and marine equipment business. Mr Schueler has travelled extensively, including regular trips to China to establish an import/export business.

Actively involved in the Jewish community, Mr Schueler is a past President of the South Australian Jewish Youth Council, the B'nai B'rith Youth Organisation,

and the Jewish Community Council SA. He has also been Vice President of the Executive Council of Australian Jewry.

Mr Schueler is currently a Board Member of the Australia-Israel Chamber of Commerce and Adelaide Symphony Orchestra, as well as being a Director of Pipes International (Qld), S & D Chemicals, Darwin Steel & Pipes Supplies and several other companies.

### **Associate Professor Vesna Drapac (until 19 February 2015)**

Vesna Drapac is Associate Professor of History at the University of Adelaide. She is an Australian of Croatian background. She was born in Adelaide and educated at Mary MacKillop College, the University of Adelaide and Oxford University where she attended New College as a Rhodes Scholar. She holds degrees from the University of Adelaide (BA Hons) and Oxford (D.Phil).

Associate Professor Drapac is on the board of the Croatian Studies Review coordinated by Macquarie University and the Universities of Split and Zagreb (Croatia). She was Deputy Chair of the Croatian Community Council for 10 years and has been a delegate of the Croatian Community on the Board of Ethnic Broadcasters Inc (5EBI). Associate Professor Drapac has managed and co-convened several community projects including various Fringe Festival events and the 'Plaque Project', which coordinated activities involving the Croatian Ethnic School Adelaide, refugee artists from Bosnia, and the South Australian Migration Museum. She has chaired a conference held by the South Australian Multicultural Arts Centre, Nexus, and spoken at conferences on Croatian immigration held in South Australia and New South Wales.

Currently, Associate Professor Drapac is working on research projects investigating the impact of the Second World War on Croatian immigrant communities in Australia and the contribution of Croatians to cultural life in South Australia. Her major research interest is the study of European societies in conflict, notably the impact on social cohesion of war in the twentieth century. She is Head of History at the University of Adelaide and teaches a range of subjects on modern European history and co-convenes a course on ethnic cleansing and genocide in world history.

### **Ms Sumeja Skaka**

Sumeja Skaka was born in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. She is an active member of the Muslim community, conducting cross cultural workshops in schools about Islam, through the Muslim Women's Association of South Australia, as well as organising various educational programs about Islam with a youth-run organisation, Ayn Academy. She has also initiated an interfaith program entitled 'Building Bridges', in collaboration with the Catholic youth group, Magis, which conducts Soup Kitchen events for the homeless four times a year.

In 2006, Ms Skaka was named as Youth of the Year in the Australian Muslim Achievement Awards and in 2008 she was named Bosnian Youth of the Year by the Australian Council of Bosnia and Herzegovina Organisations.

Ms Skaka was the Convenor of the SAMEAC Youth Advisory Committee until 30 October 2014.

### **Ms Miriam Silva**

Miriam Silva came to South Australia from England as a six year old with her family who heralded from Guyana in South America. She has more than 20 years' experience across multiple industries including pharmaceuticals, banking and agribusiness, managing large and geographically diverse teams.

In September 2014 Ms Silva was appointed as acting chief executive of TAFE SA. She had previously been the Chief Operating Officer for FleetPartners, a leading leasing and fleet management organisation across Australia and New Zealand. Prior to this, Ms Silva was General Manager, Commercial Operations, at Elders Ltd, responsible for national operations. She has previously held a number of roles with ANZ Banking Group, including Chief Operating Officer for the Pacific, a role which involved looking after operations across a number of Pacific Island countries.

Ms Silva is a member of a number of boards including TAFE SA and University of SA Council. She volunteers with a number of organisations including the Muslim Women's Association of SA, International Women's Day Committee (SA) and Rotary. She is a Member of the South Australian Women's Honour Roll for 2011 and in 2012 was named as one of Australia's 100 Women of Influence in the Financial Review and Westpac Awards. Ms Silva is a founding mentor for the Financial Review BOSS Emerging Leaders Program.

### **Ms Malgorzata (Gosia) Skalban OAM**

Gosia Skalban was born in Poland and came to Australia in 1968. Prior to her current employment with Domiciliary Care SA as Multicultural Consultant, Ms Skalban set up linkage and advocacy services across Adelaide, Whyalla and the Riverland. She has also worked with refugees and victims of domestic violence. Ms Skalban has a Bachelor of Arts (Spanish and Italian major), a Bachelor of Social Administration and a Masters of Business Administration.

Ms Skalban has been involved in various community and departmental committees responsible for the initiation of ethno-specific services. She is President of the Polish Women's Association in Adelaide, and a Member of advisory groups including the National Cross Cultural Dementia Network, the Queen Elizabeth Hospital Consumer Advisory Council, the International Women's Day Committee of South Australia, the Migrant Women's Lobby Group and the Polish Hill River Church Museum Committee.

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 a

Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) for services to the community, particularly through multicultural and aged care organisations. In 2009 she was awarded the Commander's Cross of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Poland for services to the Polish community.

### **Dr Joseph Masika**

Dr Joseph Masika is a Team Leader in the Statewide Services Directorate of Families SA. He has a Doctor of Medicine degree, a Masters of Public Health, and Certificates in Australian Migration Law, Management and Leadership, and Environmental Health.

Dr Masika has 28 years of experience in the health and community service industries in a range of clinical, administrative, research, service co-ordination and delivery, service evaluation and managerial positions. Dr Masika has also given 28 years of voluntary service to the community including 16 years of actively volunteering in Australia and 12 years overseas.

Dr Masika was the Chairperson of the African Communities Council of SA from 2007 until 2014. He is also a Board Member of Health Consumers Alliance, Associate Board Member of Migrant Resource Centre of SA, Vice Chairperson of Australian-African Services Foundation, and Board Member of Multicultural Aged Care. He also provides expertise in multiculturalism in his involvement with a range of projects and organisations that address mental health and stigma across South Australia.

Dr Masika is a White Ribbon Ambassador, and was the Finalist of the National White Ribbon Ambassadors Awards in 2011. He is the Winner of the Australian-African Man of the Year Awards 2011 and Winner of African- Australian Living Legend Awards 2012. In February 2013, Dr Masika was awarded the Governor's Multicultural Award for Outstanding Individual Achievement.

### **Ms Swee Ming (Michelle) Dieu**

Michelle Dieu is of Chinese Malaysian background. She migrated to South Australia in 1992 as a skilled migrant, joining her parents who had migrated four years earlier. She speaks Mandarin, Bahasa Malaysia and the dialects Fuzhou and Fujian.

A qualified teacher with a Bachelor of Education from Flinders University and a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Alberta (Canada), Ms Dieu 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 ten years for the Overseas Chinese Association of South Australia coordinating the Community Settlement Services Scheme and managing the Settlement Grants Program, Joblink Services and Coaching for Multicultural Taxi Driver Training for Chinese and humanitarian entrants. Ms Dieu is currently employed at the Migrant Resource Centre of SA.

In 2003 Ms Dieu 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.

### **Major General Vikram Madan, VSM (Retd.)**

Major General Madan served as an Infantry Officer with the elite Gurkha Regiment for 37 years, following four years of training as an officer cadet. He was twice decorated by the President of India receiving the Vishist Seva Medal in 2000 and 2006 for services of distinguished order. His company, battalion, brigade and divisional commands have been in operational areas bordering China and Pakistan.

In the latter part of his service (2003-2006) he was Deputy Master General of Ordnance, responsible for the project management and maintenance of Indian Army material. Upon retirement from the Army, he assumed a role as Vice President Corporate Affairs and Business Development with a multinational company, before moving to Adelaide in 2007. Major General Madan also owns a strategic defence consultancy company in the sub-continent and the gulf region, and is a Senior Advisor to an Adelaide-based international counter terrorism consultation and training company.

Major General Madan has a post-graduate degree in Defence & Strategic Studies, a post-graduate degree in Management and Master of Philosophy in International Relations and Strategic Studies. He speaks English, Hindi, Urdu, Punjabi and Nepalese fluently. He is a former President of the Indian Australian Association of South Australia and currently sits on the Passenger Transport Standards Committee of the SA Government and the International Humanitarian Law Committee of the Red Cross SA Chapter.

### **Commander Don Totino OAM (up to 25 June 2015)**

Comm. Don Totino was born in Reggio Calabria, Italy in 1950 and migrated to Australia in 1968, aged 18. In Adelaide he worked as a barber, and was awarded Australia's youngest Master Barber and Hairdresser. In 1974 he sold the barber shop and opened a family pizza bar. In the ensuing years, he invested in a range of businesses, including founding Festival City Wines and Spirits.

He has founded a number of Italian fundraising and social ventures, and his business and community roles have included: Vice-President of the National Council of the Italian Chambers of Commerce and Industry in Australia; President of the SA Italian Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Australia; Vice-Chairman of the SA Associazione Beneficenzi Calabresi; Co-Founder of the Italian Golf Club; Founder of the Festival Challenge Cup; and President of Radio Television Italiana.

In 2003, Comm. Totino was made a Cavaliere dell'Ordine al Merito della Repubblica Italiana. Six years later, he was Awarded Commander of the Order of Merit of the Italian Republic – the third highest ranking in the order of Merits,

for his continued service in the business and charity fields. In 2007 Comm. Totino was awarded an Order of Australia Medal (OAM) for service to the Italian community.



## **ROLE OF THE COMMISSION**

SAMEAC is a Statutory Authority, which was established under the *South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission Act 1980*. 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 for Multicultural Affairs on matters relating to multicultural and ethnic affairs by facilitating communication between the Government and CALD 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 CALD backgrounds;
- promote social harmony amongst CALD communities and the wider community;
- foster and support community development activities by CALD 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 have been 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.

Following a review of State Government Boards and Committees in 2014 the SAMEAC Advisory Committees were dissolved.

### **External Boards and Committees**

SAMEAC Members are nominated to represent the Commission on a variety of relevant boards and committees, detailed at Appendix 3.

### **Diplomatic and Official Visits**

During 2014-2015 the Chair had the pleasure of meeting with several visiting officials, including:

- His Excellency Mr Paolo Cunha-Alvez, Ambassador for Portugal in Australia
- Mr Andreas Constantides – Gouras, Greek Consul General in Adelaide
- Ms Keiko Haneda - Japanese Consul General in Australia in Melbourne.

## **BUILDING COMMUNITY CAPACITY**

### **Multicultural Grants Program**

For many years, funding has been provided under the Multicultural Grants program to multicultural and ethnic community organisations to:

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

Community organisations apply for funding to develop and strengthen multicultural communities in South Australia. Projects aim to support an open, inclusive, cohesive and equitable multicultural society, where cultural, linguistic, and religious diversity is understood, valued and supported.

The State Government increased the amount of funding available through Multicultural Grants from \$650,000 to \$1 million from 1 July 2014. In 2014-15, funding was provided to approximately 170 different organisations for festivals, events, equipment and furniture, cultural awareness programs and education and learning projects.

### Multicultural One-Off Grants 2014/15 – Funded Projects

<b>Organisation Name</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Adelaide Bangladeshi Cultural Club	Bangladesh Food and Culture Festivals 2014	\$2,000
Adelaide Bangladeshi Cultural Club	Mother Language Day 2015	\$3,700
Adelaide Bangladeshi Cultural Club	Bengali New Year	\$3,000
Adelaide Kannada Sangha Incorporated	Kannada Rajjyostava	\$1,500
Adelaide Kurdish Youth Society	Newroz Festival	
Adelaide and Metropolitan Malayalee Association	2014 Kerala Festival	\$3,000
Adelaide and Metropolitan Malayalee Association	Adelaide and Metropolitan Malayalee Association Sports Meet 2014-15	\$1,220
Adelaide Sri Lanka Buddhist Vihara Incorporated	Sri Lankan Curry Night	\$1,500
Adelaide Sri Lanka Buddhist Vihara Incorporated	Sri Lankan New Year Festival and Multicultural Program 2015	\$3,200
Adelaide Tamil Association	Adelaide Pongal 2015 (Harvest Festival)	\$3,000
Adelaide Tamil Association	Towards the cost of the Sangamam	\$5,000
African Communities Council of South Australia Incorporated	Hires costs for the Azande Young Dynasty of South Australia 2015	\$4,000
African Community Organisation of South Australia Incorporated	Africa Day Celebration	\$3,000
African Community Organisation of South Australia Incorporated	May African Celebration Day	\$7,960
Ahwazian Language and Culture Association of South Australia Incorporated	Hall hire and costumes for 2014 Eid celebration	\$600
Alliance Francaise D'Adelaide Incorporated	French Christmas Markets	\$4,500
Anthonian Australia Association Incorporated	Feast of Saint Anthony of Padua	\$1,200
Arabic Language and Culture Association of South Australia Incorporated	Venue hire and movie screening for the launch of the Arabic Language and Culture Association of South Australia Incorporated	\$800
Armenian Cultural Association of South Australia Incorporated	Production of 'Aleppo'	\$2,000
Association of Latvian Organisations in South Australia Incorporated (SA Latvian Youth Group)	Costs for the Latvian Youth Arts and Cultural Festival	\$4,500
Associazione Nazionale Carabinieri Sezione 01 Adelaide Incorporated	2015 Associazione Nazionale Carabinieri Dance	\$1,000
Australia Day Council of SA Incorporated	Venue hire for 2015 Australia Day workshops	\$5,000
Australian Refugee Association	Refugee Week and 40 <sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations 2015	\$10,000
Australia Sri Lanka Association Incorporated	Sri Lankan Cultural and Food Fair 2015	\$1,500

Association of the Burundian Community of South Australia Incorporated	Burundian Community's 10 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary and 53 <sup>rd</sup> Multicultural Independence Day Celebration 2015	\$4,400
Bangladesh Australia Society of South Australia	Bengali New Year 1421	\$1,200
Bangladesh Australia Society of South Australia	Bangladesh Australia Society of South Australia 30 <sup>th</sup> anniversary event	\$3,510
Bangladesh Puja and Cultural Society of South Australia	Bengali New Year 2015	\$2,320
Bantu Ethnic Community of SA	Purchase of equipment	\$4,000
Bantu Ethnic Community of SA	Governance and volunteer training for the Bantu Ethnic Community	\$10,000
Bosnia and Herzegovina Muslim Radio Program of South Australia Incorporated	'The People of Srebrenica' event 2015	\$2,670
Bund der Bayern Incorporated	Video and photo equipment	\$1,360
Burmese Christian Community of South Australia Incorporated	Venue and equipment hire for the 'Living Well in Australia' Information Seminars 2015	\$3,450
Callington A & H Society Incorporated	Costs of Multicultural Dance and Drumming Festival 2015	\$3,360
Celebrations of African Nations Incorporated	Celebration of African Australian Awards 2015	\$3,500
Ceylon Tamil Association of SA Incorporated	Annual Cultural Function	\$2,500
Chinese Language Teacher Association of South Australia	Printing and banner for the 2014 Chinese Language Award Ceremony	\$750
Chinese Welfare Services of South Australia Incorporated (Cantonese Opera Adelaide SA)	Cantonese Opera Cultural Concert 2015	\$1,500
Chinese Welfare Services of South Australia Incorporated (Opera Association)	Cantonese Delights to celebrate the Mid-Autumn Festival 2015	\$4,100
Chinese Welfare Services of South Australia Incorporated (School of Chinese Music and Arts)	Traditional Chinese Instruments	\$1,500
Co.As.It. (SA) Italian Assistance Associations Incorporated	Italian language android and management application	\$14,300
Community Centre – Serbia and Montenegro SA Incorporated – Serbian Film Festival	2014 Serbian Film Festival	\$1,000
Congo-Kinshasa Council of South Australia Incorporated	Anniversary and Independence Day event 2015	\$4,430
Congolese Community Network Access Incorporated	Congolese Cultural Festival and Independence Day	\$2,000
Congolese Community Network Access Incorporated	Costumes and materials for the Congolese Culture Events and Independence Day celebrations 2015	\$4,000
Congolese Community of South Australia	Congolese Independence Day celebration	\$1,000

Coober Pedy Multicultural Community Forum Incorporated – Coober Pedy Centenary Committee	2015 Coober Pedy Centenary Celebration Street Party	\$5,000
Croatian Sports Centre SA Incorporated	Volunteers Bus trip	\$1,200
Dozynki Incorporated	Dozynki (Polish Harvest Festival)	\$6,000
Dutch Social and Welfare Club	Dutch Festival 2015	\$12,000
Ethnic Radyo Philipino Incorporated	Traditional Filipino costumes	\$1,000
Family of the Vietnamese Red Berets Veterans Association of South Australia Incorporated	2014 Annual Conference of the Family of the Vietnamese Red Berets Veterans	\$800
Federation of Hellenic Associations for Pensioners and Aged South Australia	Printing of booklet about the contribution of Greek pensioners in South Australia	\$1,000
Fiji Seniors Club of South Australia Incorporated	Computer equipment	\$1,000
Filipina Network of South Australia Incorporated	2015 Phillipine Fiesta of South Australia	\$6,900
Former Thu Duc Military Academy Association of South Australia Incorporated	Anniversary of the Former Thu Duc Military Academy Association of South Australia	\$1,000
Greek Orthodox Community and Parish of Prophet Elias of Norwood and Eastern Suburbs Incorporated	2015 Norwood Greek Festival	\$4,000
Greek Orthodox Community of South Australia Incorporated	2014 George Street Community Greek Festival	\$3,000
Greek Orthodox Community of South Australia Incorporated	25 <sup>th</sup> Celebration of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary	\$3,000
Greek Orthodox Community of South Australia Incorporated	Venue launch, lectures, cultural evening and printing	\$5,000
Greek Orthodox Community of the Nativity of Christ Port Adelaide and Environs	2015 Semaphore Greek Festival	\$6,000
Greek Orthodox Community of Port Pirie	St George Greek Community 90 <sup>th</sup> anniversary	\$10,000
Greek Union of Aged Pension of Thebarton and Suburbs	Dining supplies for the Greek Union of Aged Pensioners of Thebarton and Suburbs	\$1,910
Guru Nanak Society of Australia Incorporated	Lohri Mela 2015	\$3,500
Gujari SA Incorporated	Hall hire for 2014 Diwali celebration	\$1,000
Adelaide Sri Lanka Buddhist Vihara Incorporated	Sri Lankan Food and Culture Night 2013	\$1,500
Gurjari SA incorporated	Navartri Festival	\$2,500
Hindu Society of SA Incorporated	Audio-visual equipment	\$5,000
Igbo Community of South Australia	Iri-ji Festival	\$2,000
Igbo Community of South Australia	Equipment hire and insurance for Iri-ji Festival	\$3,430
Indian Australian Association of SA	Indian Independence Day celebration	\$1,500
Indian Australian Association of SA	2014 Diwali event	\$1,500
Indian Community Radio Akashvanu Adelaide South Australia	Pan-Indian Classical Dance –drama Exposition on Kailasa's Shakuntala	\$15,000

International Society for Krishna Consciousness Adelaide	Janmastami 2015 Festival	\$6,650
Iraqi Women Voice of South Australia	Eid Festival for Arabic Speaking Women and Families	\$2,520
Islamic Information Centre of SA	Eid Al Fitr Festival	\$5,000
Islamic Information Centre of SA	2014 Eid Al Adha Multicultural Festival	\$2,000
Islamic Society of South Australia	Al-Salam Festival 2015	\$10,000
Japan Australia Friendship Association	Kodomo-no-Hi (Children's Day) Japan Festival 2015	\$15,000
Kenyan Association of South Australia	Madaraka Day Gala Night	\$1,000
Kenyan Association of South Australia	2014 Kenya Independence Day and KASA 10 Year anniversary celebration	\$2,500
Kenyan Association of South Australia	Madaraka Festival 2015	\$3,970
Korean Community of SA Incorporated	10 <sup>th</sup> Korean Culture and Food Festival	\$8,000
Korean Community of SA Incorporated	11 <sup>th</sup> Korean Cultural and Food Festival	\$10,000
Kurdish Australia Association SA Incorporated	2015 Kurdish New Year Celebration	\$2,000
Laziza Festival Incorporated	Laziza Mediterranean Festival 2015	\$8,000
Let's Talk Together Association Incorporated (A. Pushkin Russian School)	Russian Performance of 'The Wizard of Oz'	\$4,920
Liberian Community of South Australia	Peace, unity and harmony forum	\$2,150
Liberian Community of South Australia	Liberia's 168 <sup>th</sup> Independence Day Celebrations 2015	\$5,000
Many Threads Fund – East Timor Student Association – South Australia	Traditional costumes	\$1,000
Messinian Association of South Australia Incorporated	Regional Soccer matches in Port Elliott and Port Pirie	\$1,700
Messinian Association of South Australia Incorporated	Family Fun Day	\$2,000
Middle Eastern Communities Council of South Australia	Nowrez Festival 2015	\$5,500
Migrant Resource Centre of SA Incorporated	'Celebration of Journey' Festival 2015	\$3,500
Migrant Resource Centre of SA Incorporated	2015 Limestone Coast Harmony Day events	\$3,500
Migrant Resource Centre of SA Incorporated – Chin Youth Group of SA	Dance equipment	\$2,000
Migrant Resource Centre of SA Incorporated – Hawke Centre	SA Refugee Week Student Poster Exhibition and Awards 2015	\$5,450
Migrant Resource Centre of SA Incorporated – SA Refugee Week Committee	SA Refugee Week Calendar	\$4,500
Miss Africa South Australia Incorporated	Miss Africa Australia event 2015	\$6,720
Multifaith Association of South Australia Incorporated	Printing and advertising for the 2014 Interfaith Symposium	\$750
Multicultural Communities Council of SA Incorporated	'Future Building from the Past- history gathering project	\$14,600
Overseas Chinese Association of SA Incorporated	Marquee hire for the 'Infused: All about tea' event	\$1,000

Panache Adelaide French Theatre Incorporated	Antigone (French Play) 2015	\$1,930
Panicarian Brotherhood Icarus of Australia Incorporated	Oven and cooktop	\$4,500
Pan Macedonian Association of South Australia	36 <sup>th</sup> Dimitria Greek Festival	\$4,000
Pakistani Australia Association of South Australia Incorporated	Equipment	\$1000
Papua New Guinea Association of South Australia Incorporated	Paua New Guinea Independence Day	\$1,500
Punjabi Association of South Australia	2014 Diwali Mela Festival	\$2,000
Riverland Greek Pensioners Aged and Younger Disabled Association Incorporated	Bus hire	\$1,750
Riverland Youth Theatre – Riverland Harmony Day Organising Committee	Riverland Harmony Day Cultural Event (Renmark) 2015	\$6,700
SA Zhu-Lin Buddhist Association	2015 Chinese New Year	\$4,000
Serbian Community Radio Program Incorporated	IT equipment for the 'Vidovdan' celebration 2015	\$2,500
Sikh Society of South Australia Incorporated	Annual Vaisakhi Dinner and Dance 2015	\$4,500
Sikh Society of South Australia Incorporated – Welfare Club	2014 Punjabi Mela	\$3,000
Shruthi Adelaide Incorporated	Malladi Brothers Concert	\$1,150
Society of St Hilarion Incorporated	St Hilarion Feast Day 2014	\$2,000
Solomon Islands Wantock Association of South Australia	Solomon Islands Interstate Games	\$1,600
Somali Bantu Community Association of Australia	Somali Independence Day and Eid Celebrations	\$1,000
Somali Women Association of South Australia Incorporated	2014 Eid Al Fitr and Eid Al Adha celebrations	\$1,500
Somali Women Association of South Australia Incorporated	Somali Independence Day Celebration 2015	\$2,000
South Australia Council for the Greek Cultural Months Incorporated	Stage and productions costs of 'Greece: Mother of Mine – Stavros Xarhahos' 2015	\$5,000
South Australian Bangladeshi Community Association	Pohela Boishaka 1421 event	\$2,500
South Australian Bangladeshi Community Association	2014 Bijoy Dibosh event	\$3,600
South Australian Bangladeshi Community Association	Pohela Boishak (Bengali New Year) Celebration 2015	\$3,000
South Australian German Association Incorporated	2015 Schutzenfest	\$20,000
South Australian German Association Incorporated	German Town information Signs	\$2,000
South Australian Lebanese Women's Association	Global Village: Where the world comes together	&7,260
South Eastern Liberian Association of Australia Incorporated	Aussie Day event	\$2,500

Sophia Ecumenical Feminist Spirituality Incorporated	Printing and launching of 'Pictures in My Heart: Sharing stories and supporting refugees' book	\$14,920
St Catherine Society of SA Incorporated	Flags	\$1,100
St Catherine Society of SA Incorporated	St Catherine Feast Ball	\$550
St Catherine Society of SA Incorporated	2015 Feast of St Catherine Celebration	\$690
St Spyridon's Greek Orthodox Community Incorporated	2015 Delphi Bank Unley Greek Festival	\$5,000
Sudanese Cultural and Social Society of South Australia Incorporated	Sports equipment for Sudanese men's soccer team	\$2,000
Tatar Bashkurt Association of Australia Incorporated	2014 Tatar Sabantui Festival	\$2,500
Telugu Association of South Australia	Telugu Association of South Australia Winter Get Together event	\$500
Telugu Association of South Australia	Telugu Association of South Australia 2014 Deepavali Celebrations	\$2,000
Telugu Association of South Australia	Ugadi Celebrations (Telugu New Year) 2015	\$2,330
Tongan Community Association South Australia	Helical Night	\$750
Turkish Association of South Australia	Turkish Festival	\$3,250
Ukrainian Women's Association Incorporated	Festival – 65 years of Ukrainian Dance in SA 2015	\$2,500
Ugandan Community of South Australia	Independence Day celebration	\$500
Ugandan Community of South Australia	Cultural costumes, drums and equipment for cultural events	\$2,440
United Eritrean Association of South Australia Incorporated	Kitchen equipment	\$2,000
Upper Nile State Association of South Australia	Computing Equipment	\$2,000
Vietnamese Navy Veteran's Association	Vietnamese New Year, Anniversary Day of the Vietnamese Hero and the Vietnamese Naval Celebrations 2015	\$2,000
Vietnamese Veterans Association of South Australia Incorporated	RPVN Armed Forces Day Commemoration	\$1,500
Vietnamese Women's Association SA	2014 Full Moon Festival	\$500
Zomi Innkuan Adelaide	Zomi Harvest Festival (Khuado Paw) 2015	\$2,100
Adelaide and Metropolitan Malayalee Association	2014 Onam Festival	\$3,000
Adelaide Russian Ethnic School Incorporated	2015 New Year Festival	\$1,000
Adelaide Sarvajanic Ganeshotav Samittee Incorporated	Adelaide Sarvajanic Ganeshotav Festival 2014	\$1,000
Adelaide Tamil Association Incorporated	Deepavali 2014	\$1,000
African Communities Council of SA Incorporated	Equipment hire	\$1,000



## PROMOTING MULTICULTURALISM

SAMEAC places an emphasis on increasing the participation of CALD communities in major public events. This serves dual purposes of facilitating participation and inclusion of members from these communities, and showcasing the richness and uniqueness of South Australia's cultural diversity.

The Commission supports diverse community organisations' involvement in many activities, and particularly the opportunity to share cultural activities, performances, displays and festivals, with the wider South Australian community. In 2014-15 SAMEAC's Showcasing Multiculturalism Program supported the participation of CALD communities in iconic South Australian events including the Christmas Pageant, the Australia Day Parade and the ANZAC Commemorations as well as other major public events.

In May 2015 the State Government announced it will triple its investment in multicultural communities, with an extra \$8 million over four years included in the 2015-16 State Budget. The additional \$2 million annual boost in funding will be used to expand cultural festivals, develop community programs, and improve infrastructure. The funding will also support a number of new activities that reflect SAMEAC's new priorities including:

- establishing the *Stronger Families, Stronger Communities* funding program, to support community development projects covering areas such as family and relationship support, domestic violence and racial discrimination
- improve and modernise facilities to better meet the needs of the community and to support greater access to venues for an ageing population
- staging more cultural events and festivals to provide all South Australians with an opportunity to explore and understand the many different cultures in our state
- expanding a number of current events to support engagement with a wider audience

### **Christmas Pageant**

2014 was the eleventh year in which South Australian multicultural communities were involved in the Christmas Pageant, bringing the number of different ethnicities represented in the event to more than sixty. Groups from the Japanese, German, Filipino, Croatian, Liberian and Vietnamese communities walked, danced and sang alongside the popular 'Christmas around the World' themed float. The South African Choir, which was positioned on the float, provided the musical entertainment,

### **Australia Day Community Parade**

Adelaide's Australia Day Community Parade celebrates multiculturalism and the diversity of people who call South Australia home. The Commission helped to organise the participation of more than 75 community groups, representing 50

ethnicities, in the Australia Day Community Parade on 26 January 2015. In total, more than 2,500 people from culturally diverse backgrounds participated. Prize-winning groups included the Girl Guides of South Australia (Judge's Choice), SaSamba and the Brazilian Community (Best Music), Falun Dafa (Most Creative) and the Adelaide Chinese Dance Academy.

### **ANZAC Day**

After ANZAC Day 2014, Multicultural SA made arrangements for a member of SAMEAC (Mr Peter Ppiros), a representative from the Returned and Servicemen's League (RSL) and two winners of the Premier's ANZAC spirit School Prize to visit Renmark Primary School to speak to students about multiculturalism. At the end of the visit, the books laid at the War Memorial on North Terrace, Adelaide as tokens of remembrance of the ANAC Eve Youth Vigil are donated the Youth Vigil books to the school library. The visit was held on 11 August 2014.

On 24 April 2015, 17 young people from nine different CALD backgrounds participated in an ANZAC Day Eve Youth Vigil. Young people of East Turkish, Indian, Irish, Liberian, Filipino, Polish, Tongan, Ukrainian and Vietnamese backgrounds placed war related books, gifts and flowers on the steps of the South Australian War Memorial on North Terrace, Adelaide. The gesture, part of the annual Youth Vigil staged by the Returned and Services League (RSL), is designed to provide an opportunity for culturally diverse youth to recognise those who gave their lives in the service of the country. The young people wore national dress reflecting their cultural background and were encouraged to wear their ancestors' medals.

Preparations are underway for the 2015 post-ANZAC Day school visit.

### **Partnership with the Australian Football League**

A partnership between SAMEAC and the Port Adelaide Football Club (Australian Football League) saw the advent of a Multicultural Round on 20 July 2014. The former Chair, Hieu Van Le, attended the match between Port Adelaide and Melbourne where he officially welcomed candidates for Australian citizenship. Before the match, a Citizenship Ceremony was conducted on Adelaide Oval where candidates took the Oath or Affirmation of Allegiance before the Right Honourable Stephen Yardwood, Lord Mayor of the Adelaide City Council.

### **Governor's Multicultural Awards**

This year SAMEAC once again supported and promoted the Governor's Multicultural Awards. The Awards are open to everyone in the community, and aim to honour outstanding contributions to promoting social harmony and inclusivity and the positive influence of cultural diversity in the community.

In 2014, an independent panel of nine judges, chaired by His Honour Judge Rauf Soulio, Chair of the Migrant Resource Centre of South Australia, was assembled to determine the winners of the Governor’s Multicultural Awards.

The applications received were of a particularly high calibre. A total of 42 finalists were selected across twelve (12) categories. On 17 March 2015, His Excellency Hieu Van Le AO, Governor of South Australia hosted a reception for 400 guests to present the awards for 2014. The award winners are listed below.

<b>Award</b>	<b>Recipient</b>
Outstanding Individual Achievement	Mr Dilip Chirmuley AM
Arts and Culture Organisation	Mr Ben-Hur Winter Roxby Downs Multicultural Forum
Community Sector- Individual	Ms Laura Adzanku
Community Sector- Organisation	Football Federation of South Australia
Media Award	Ms Karen Ashford
Public Sector Award	TAFE SA and Migrant Health Service: Vulnerable Women and Children Project
Private Sector Award	Mr Port Adelaide Football Club
Volunteer Award	Mr Edward Dudzinski
Senior Volunteer Award	Ms Maria Dnistrjanski OAM and Mr David Lim
Youth – Individual	Mr Wathank Vy
Youth- Organisation	ActNow Theatre

These Awards have now seen a total of more than 840 nominations provided, resulting in 76 winners over seven years.

### **Refugee Week**

Each year, the Commission supports Refugee Week in South Australia. Refugee Week is held across Australia each year to coincide with World Refugee Day on 20 June. An estimated 20,000 people took part in more than 50 local events held across the state as part of Refugee Week, included movie screenings, exhibitions, excursions, public lectures, lunches and a soccer tournament. On 19 June 2015, the Chair attended a SA Refugee Week event organised by the SA Refugee Week Committee, Migrant Resource Centre and the Local Government Association of South Australia (LGASA), at Local Government House, Adelaide.

### **Multicultural Events Calendar**

In 2015, a Multicultural Events Calendar was published online at [www.multicultural.sa.gov.au/events](http://www.multicultural.sa.gov.au/events). The online calendar replaces the previously published hard copy Calendar. The Multicultural Events Calendar contains information about days of religious significance and other multicultural events in South Australia.

## **Multicultural SA and SAMEAC website**

The Multicultural website includes a wide range of information about services available to migrants settling in South Australia, and information about the State's diverse communities as well as a new and improved online events calendar which now allows communities to submit details of their upcoming celebrations and days of significance online at [www.multicultural.sa.gov.au](http://www.multicultural.sa.gov.au)

## ACCESS AND EQUITY

SAMEAC is involved in many activities that aim to ensure that no person living in South Australia faces barriers to accessing information and services because of their CALD background. The Commission is also pro-active in addressing issues of real or perceived prejudice and discrimination when they arise in the local community. Some of these initiatives are listed below.

### **Access and Equity Strategy**

SAMEAC has continued to work with the Department for Communities and Social Inclusion towards the development of access and equity guidelines for a multicultural South Australia.

The goal is to ensure that agencies provide services which:

- are accessible to all people who are eligible;
- are designed and delivered in a manner which is responsive to people from CALD communities; and
- result in equitable outcomes for all.

### **Community Consultation and Community Engagement**

The Commission held a major community consultation in Adelaide's western suburbs on 5 November 2014. The consultation focused on ethnic community organisations within the West Torrens Local Government Area.

Approximately 50 community members attended, addressing questions to a panel of senior officers from local government, and state and federal government agencies across a range of portfolios. The questions and issues raised covered a variety of topics from accessing community meeting places to facilitating employment.

In 2015 SAMEAC adopted a different approach in terms of its face-to-face contact with ethnic communities and organisations. Unlike the previous Community Consultation model which sought to hear from CALD organisations from a defined geographic area, the Community Engagement approach ensures Commission is able to meet with specific ethnic groups to get an in-depth understanding of their issues and concerns.

On 25 June 2015, the Commission met with and heard from members of the Indian community at the City of Prospect Council offices. The Indian Community was selected as it is one of the largest and fastest-growing ethnic communities in South Australia and the City of Prospect has the highest percentage of Indian-born people of any Local Government Area (LGA) in South Australia.

The Commission intends to engage with Afghan and African Communities, among others in the coming twelve months.

## **Parliamentary Receptions**

In 2014-15 the Honourable Jay Weatherill MP, Premier of South Australia hosted several Receptions at Parliament House which SAMEAC members attended. As part of the 2015 International Cricket Council (ICC) World Cup, separate Receptions were held for the Indian, Pakistani and Bangladeshi communities. The national cricket teams of these countries played matches in Adelaide as part of the World Cup.

In June 2015, the Premier also hosted about a 100 African community leaders at a reception to celebrate World Africa Day.

## **2015 Multicultural Festival**

The Department for Communities and Social Inclusion has started preparations for the 2015 Multicultural Festival. This bi-ennial festival, first held in 2013, will once again be held in Rundle Mall, Adelaide in November. CALD community groups and organisation interested in participating in the festival had the opportunity to apply for a Multicultural Grant to support their participation in the festival. The application period for grants ran from 18 May – 14 June 2015, with about 120 applications received. In all, 62 multicultural and ethnic community organisations, representing 14 different ethnicities, have been awarded 76 grants to support their participation in the 2015 Multicultural Festival.

## **Policing for a Multicultural Society Awards**

The Policing for a Multicultural Society Award, initiated by SAMEAC, moved into its sixth year, after being initiated in 2009. In 2014-15 SAMEAC members presented the *Policing for a Multicultural Society Award*, which is given to a police cadet in each graduating recruit course. The award is given to the cadet who shows the highest level of appreciation and understanding of migrant, refugee and cultural diversity issues relating to policing.

Recipients of the *Policing for a Multicultural Society Award* are:

- Michael Plunkett
- Rebecca Campbell
- Shaun Smith
- Danielle Senior

## **Partnership with SA Police**

2015 has seen strengthened bonds between SAMEAC and SA Police. Regular liaison meetings are held between Senior SA Police officers, Multicultural SA staff SAMEAC members, in which information about issues affecting South Australia's CALD communities is shared, and culturally appropriate responses explored.

## **Meetings with Muslim Community Leaders**

In response to requests from SAPOL and the President of the Afghan United Community Association, the Chair of SAMEAC convened a meeting of Muslim community representatives on 17 October 2014. The meeting provided an opportunity for SAPOL and Muslim community representatives to share information about the national security environment.

Community representatives reported that in the context of the heightened national security alert there was a general view that many members of the wider community had been supportive and positive to the Muslim communities. Nevertheless there were some reports of harassment and some community members were reluctant to report incidents to police.

Community members welcomed the support and assurances provided by SAPOL. They requested an opportunity to meet with a member of the Federal Government to raise their concerns.

Subsequently, a further meeting was organised on 11 December 2014, which was attended by about 50 Muslim community leaders, representatives from SAPOL and the Hon Senator Concetta Fierravanti-Wells, Parliamentary Secretary for Multicultural Affairs. This meeting gave the Muslim community an opportunity to express their concerns directly to the Federal Government and receive information regarding Commonwealth Government initiatives to address violent extremism.

## **Aged Care Information Session**

SAMEAC is working with the Commonwealth Department of Social Services to hold an Information Session for older people from ethnic communities to inform them about the Commonwealth Aged Care Reforms being introduced from 1 July 2015. SAMEAC members expressed concern that older people from CALD backgrounds would experience difficulty transitioning from the existing system to the new arrangements without adequate support or information.

## **Honorary Consuls**

The Australian Government has a long tradition of accepting Honorary Consuls, and more than half of the many consular posts established in Australian State and Territory capital cities are headed by Honorary Consular Officers. SAMEAC recognises that Honorary Consuls can make a substantial contribution to the conduct of individual bilateral relationships, especially in cases where the sending country does not maintain resident diplomatic representation in Australia.

SAMEAC maintains relationships with the many Honorary Consuls based in South Australia.

## **Women's Leadership Course**

The Women's Leadership Course, initiated by SAMEAC in 2002, now has more than 200 graduates from the program. In 2014-15 the course was coordinated through TAFESA, Multicultural SA and SAMEAC. Participants graduate with a Certificate IV in Frontline Management. To date, ten Women's Leadership Courses have been conducted. SAMEAC members are invited to attend the graduation ceremonies. The 2015 Women's Leadership Course graduation ceremony is expected to be held in December 2015.



## REGIONAL INITIATIVES

SAMEAC Regional Advisory Committees (RACs) have been based in the Riverland, South East and Northern areas of South Australia. The committees, each convened by a SAMEAC member, have provided advice to the Commission on regional multicultural issues and concerns for people from CALD backgrounds. Membership has comprised representatives of communities as well as Government and non-Government organisations.

The Regional Advisory Committees' primary objectives have been to focus on:

- programs and policies which address the issues and concerns of people from CALD backgrounds in the regions; and
- 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.

Regional Advisory Committee members are listed in Appendix 2.

### **The Riverland Regional Advisory Committee (RRAC)**

The Riverland Regional Advisory Committee focuses on communities across the area where the Murray River flows into South Australia downstream to Blanchetown. Town centres in the region include Renmark, Berri, Loxton, Waikerie, Barmera and Monash. The RRAC is convened by SAMEAC Member Mr Peter Ppiros, and membership includes representation from local councils, SA Police, local media and business, education, and community housing.

Mr Peter Ppiros is the Convenor of the RRAC.

No meetings of the RRAC were held in 2014/15 up until the time the Committee was dissolved on 30 October 2014.

### **The South-East Regional Advisory Committee (SERAC)**

The South-Eastern Regional Advisory Committee is based in Mount Gambier, the second most populous city in South Australia. It is convened by SAMEAC member Ms Daniela Conesa. The SERAC boasts a diverse membership representing local services including the council, a community migrant group, a religious centre, a school, an aged care facility, environmental management, a mental health service, and local crime prevention.

Ms Daniela Conesa is the Convenor of SERAC.

No meetings of the SERAC were held in 2014/15 up until the time the Committee was dissolved on 30 October 2014.

### **The Northern Regional Advisory Committee (NRAC)**

The Northern Regional Advisory Committee is based in Whyalla and is convened by SAMEAC Deputy Chair Ms Teresa Nowak. The NRAC boasts a diverse membership representing local services including the council, a community migrant group, welfare and aged services a school, economic development, health services, and the Rotary Club of Whyalla.

No meetings of the NRAC were held in 2014/15 up until the time the Committee was dissolved on 30 October 2014.

## WOMEN'S INITIATIVES

The SAMEAC Women's Advisory Committee (WAC) 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 CALD 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 CALD (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.

Members of the WAC are from a range of cultural backgrounds, and the committee includes representation from the Office for Women.

Ms Branka King was the Convenor of the WAC until the committee was dissolved on 30 October 2014.

No meeting of the WAC were held in 2014/15.

Women's Advisory Committee members are listed in Appendix 2.

## YOUTH INITIATIVES

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

The YAC was 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 CALD backgrounds;
- Work closely with CALD 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 CALD backgrounds; and
- Identify and promote the achievements and contributions of youth of CALD backgrounds.

Ms Sumeja Skaka held the role of Convenor of YAC since June 2011 until the committee was dissolved on 30 October 2014.

No YAC meetings were held in 2014-15.

All Youth Advisory Committee members are listed in Appendix 2.

## INTERPRETING AND TRANSLATING SERVICES

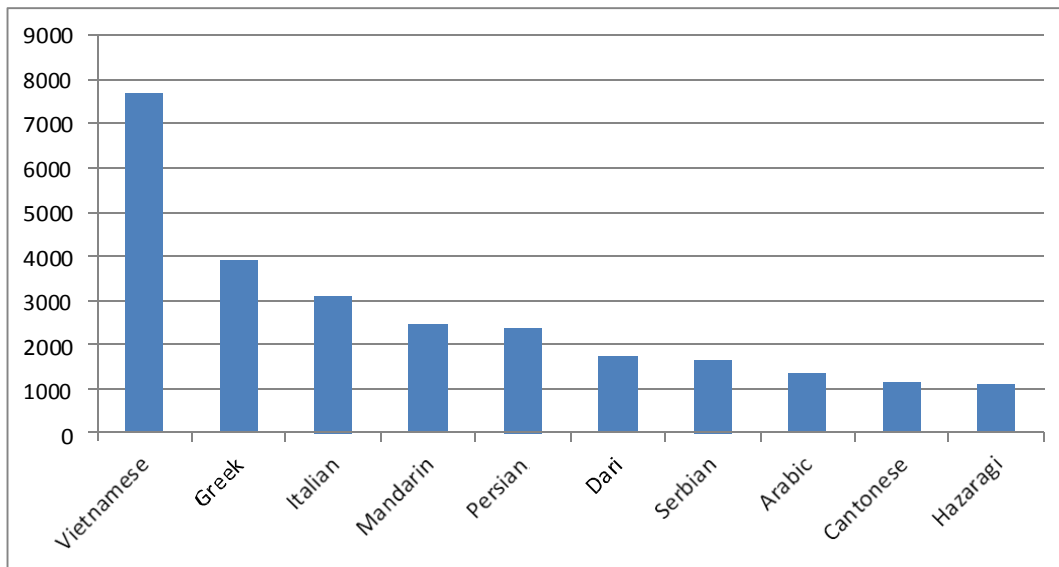
The Interpreting and Translating Centre (ITC) provides interpreting and translating services to a wide range of private, corporate and Government clients. Through 2014-15 ITC administration and operational sections remained relatively stable in FTE's with nine full-time administrative staff, 283 casual interpreters and translators and two casual customer service consultants. Services offered include face-to-face interpreting sessions, interpreting over the phone, interpreting for business meetings, translations and multilingual typesetting.

### Interpreting and translating assignments

Activity around ITC's interpreting section remained steady through 2014-15 with 36,833 assignments completed. Translations again experienced some decline with total documents translated down slightly to 1,892 from 1,953 the year previous. This is in keeping with prior year trends in this area.

Interpreting assignment requests were in 100 languages, similar to the level of 104 last year, while translating assignments again remained steady with 55 languages compared to 55 last year. The ten most popular of either category appear in the tables below. Interpreting includes face-to-face interpreting, telephone interpreting and business interpreting, as well as special assignments, while translation includes a wide variety and size of documents translated to or from the designated language.

### Ten most common languages for interpreting assignments in 2014-15



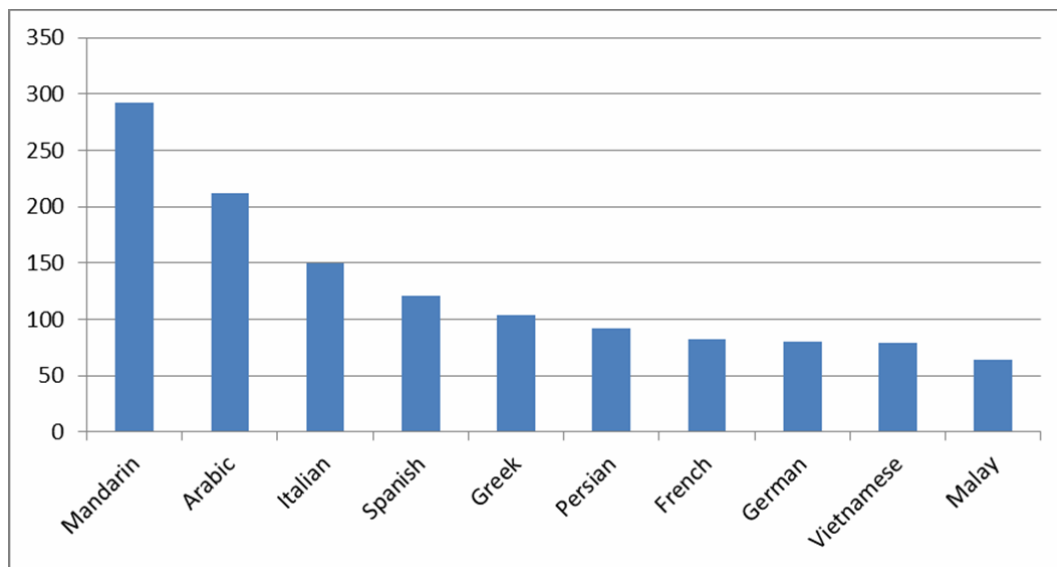
Interpreting assignments for 2014-15 were requested in 100 languages and 72% of these assignments occurred in the ten most common languages as shown in the table below. As with most recent years, Vietnamese remained the most common language for interpreting assignments, with 7,669 assignments.

saw Cantonese displace Nepali in the top ten and other top 10 languages remain in similar positions to last year.

Translating assignments were requested in 55 different written languages and just over two thirds (68%) of these assignments were represented in the top ten languages, as shown in the figure below. These languages have consistently been the most popular ten languages over the past 3 years; however, the demand for these 10 has changed consistently each year.

Analysing assignment numbers over 2014-15 shows Mandarin (Chinese Simplified) remaining the most common language for document translation with 292 assignments followed by Arabic with 212 assignments. Increases were experienced in Persian and French while Vietnamese has decreased significantly.

### Ten most common languages for translating assignments in 2014-15



### Training sessions

ITC continued with its delivery of training sessions on 'Working with Interpreters' in 2014-15 to a number of government and private clients in the legal and health sectors. 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 when using interpreters with non-English speaking clients.

### New interpreters and translators

In 2014-15, ITC recruited and trained 53 new interpreters and translators. These recruitments represent the following 41 languages: Amharic, Arabic, Bengali, Burmese, Cantonese, Chin, Croatian, Dari, Dinka, Ethiopian, Falie Kurdish, French, Greek, Hazaragi, Hindi, Italian, Japanese, Khmer, Kinyarwanda, Kirundi, Kiswahili, Mandarin, Nepali, Persian, Polish, Portuguese, Punjabi,

Pushto, Rohingya, Russian, Serbian, Sinhalese, Somali, Sorani Kurdish, Spanish, Swahili, Tamil, Tigrigna, Ukrainian, Urdu and Vietnamese.  
The Interpreting and Translating Centre (ITC) provides interpreting and translating services to a wide range of private, corporate and Government clients.

## APPENDIX 1: FUNCTIONS OF SAMEAC

The main functions of 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 CALD 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 CALD groups and organisations concerned in CALD affairs;
- to inform and consult with CALD groups and other interested groups and organisations about the work of SAMEAC and issues relating to multiculturalism and CALD affairs;
- to provide or assist in the provision of interpreting, translating, information and other services and facilities for the benefit of CALD groups and others; and
- to publicise generally the work of SAMEAC.



## **APPENDIX 2: SAMEAC ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP AS AT 30 OCTOBER 2014 (DATE OF DISSOLUTION)**

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

Ms Daniela Conesa, SAMEAC Member (**Convenor**)  
Ms Gillian McGinty  
Mr David Mezinec  
Ms Louise Waters  
Pastor Rudy Furlong  
Senior Constable Norman Elliot  
Ms Fernanda Mayumi Ikeda  
Ms Marcelle Lipriore

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

Mr Peter Ppiros (**Convenor**) (SAMEAC Member)  
Ms Danyon De Buell  
Mrs Imelda Roberts  
Ms Gina Stephenson  
Mr David Beaton  
Ms Pamela Perre  
Ms Ferda Sen  
Ms Cathy Perre  
Superintendent Les Buckley  
Ms Elizabeth Loulas  
Ms Poppy Papageorgiou  
Mr Tooba Awais  
Mr Rajib Ali  
Mr Amritpal Singh-Mahli

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

Ms Teresa Nowak (**Convenor**) (SAMEAC Member)  
Mr Paul Bernard Freimenis  
Mr Alex Todd  
Mrs Migelle Hiscock  
Ms Claire Wiseman  
Mayor Jim Pollock  
Ms Tanya Cumerlato  
Ms Jean Osborn  
Ms Daniela Asperti  
Mr Muhubija (Bill) Brkic  
Ms Karen Lau  
Father Arno Vermeeren  
Mr James Francis  
Dr Mehoob Patel

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

Ms Branka King (**Convenor**) (SAMEAC Member)  
Ms Teresa Nowak (SAMEAC Member)  
Ms Gosia Skalban (SAMEAC Member)  
Ms Cynthia Caird  
Ms Maria Hagijs  
Ms Sumeja Skaka (SAMEAC Member)  
Ms Hoa Nguyen  
Ms Nimfa Farrell  
Ms Monica Chiappe  
Ms Cathy Chong  
Ms Melati Lum  
Ms Vanessa Swan  
Ms Tripti Dey  
Dr Sumbo Ndi  
Ms Assina Ntawaumenya

### ***Youth Advisory Committee***

Ms Sumeja Skaka, SAMEAC Member (**Convenor**) (SAMEAC Member)  
Mr Vinh Tai Lieu  
Ms Jennifer Baccanello  
Mr Abu Bakar Sidique Bah  
Michelle Dieu (SAMEAC Member)  
Mr Van Bawi Tinhlawng  
Mr George Fomba  
Ms Genevieve Sika Adzanku  
Ms Charlotte Gillespie

**APPENDIX 3: REPRESENTATION ON EXTERNAL BOARDS AND COMMITTEES AS THE COMMISSION'S NOMINEE AS AT 30 JUNE 2015**

Transport Accessible Advisory Group	Ms Michelle Dieu
Courts Administration Authority Community Relations Committee	Ms Branka King
Australia Day Council	Mr Norman Schueler
Governing Council Adelaide Secondary School of English	Ms Sumeja Skaka
The Queen Elizabeth Hospital Health Services	Ms Gosia Skalban
Ethnic Schools Board	Ms Sumeja Skaka

## APPENDIX 4: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

### 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 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 1.

### 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 (such as the Annual Report) may be viewed, free of charge, by arrangement with the Freedom of Information Officer.

### Access

Requests relating to access to other documents should be carried out in accordance with the *Freedom of Information Act 1991* and outlined on the State Records of South Australia website at <http://www.archives.sa.gov.au/foi>

Requests should be accompanied by the Freedom of Information Access Fee (if applicable) and directed in writing to:

Senior Freedom of Information Officer  
Department for Communities and Social Inclusion  
Riverside Building  
North Terrace  
ADELAIDE SA 5000  
South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission

Level 6 Chesser House 91-  
97 Grenfell Street  
ADELAIDE SA 5000

Telephone (08) 8226 1947  
Website <http://www.multicultural.sa.gov.au/sameac>