

THE HON ANDREW GILES MP

MINISTER FOR IMMIGRATION, CITIZENSHIP AND MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS

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The Multicultural Framework Review Report and Government Response

I am writing to you to express my gratitude for the time and effort that you took in participating in the Multicultural Framework Review (the Review). I would also like to take the opportunity to announce the release of the Review report: '*Towards Fairness: A multicultural Australia for all*' and the Government Response.

As you are aware, the Australian Government appointed a panel of three eminent Australians to conduct the Review, Dr Bulent Hass Dellal AO, Ms Nyadol Nyuon OAM and Ms Christine Castley. The Review Panel conducted comprehensive nation-wide public consultation in regional and metro locations, with over 1430 individual Australian community members and 750 organisations.

The Government and the Panel wanted the widest possible range of Australian voices to contribute to the Review. That meant finding innovative and inviting ways to communicate with the public. A tailored submission portal was created to accept submissions in all languages and by written, audio and video formats. The Review art competition was also established as a channel for children and young people to be involved and represent their vision of a multicultural Australia. In total, 796 submissions were received of which 126 were made in languages other than English.

The Review provides an essential, and timely, update of the current health of Australia's multicultural society. While Australia is one of the most successful multicultural societies in the world, continuous development is needed to uphold Australia's multicultural prosperity. The opportunities outlined in the Review for Government to consider, and implement, will be fundamental in achieving this success.

The three key themes connection, identity and belonging, inclusion will help to guide Government response when developing considered multicultural policies and appropriately allocating Government resources to support multiculturalism. Further, Government will work to ensure multiculturalism is recognised as a key driver of Australia's strong economy and democracy. By embracing the customs and cultures of our migrant communities, as migrants readily embrace Australian values, Government upholds that "This is the Australia we can build together".

Thank you again for your contribution and commitment, your feedback has directly informed and helped shape the Review Panel's findings.

I look forward to continuing this important work by drawing from and embedding the key features of the report for Government now and into the future.

Yours sincerely

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