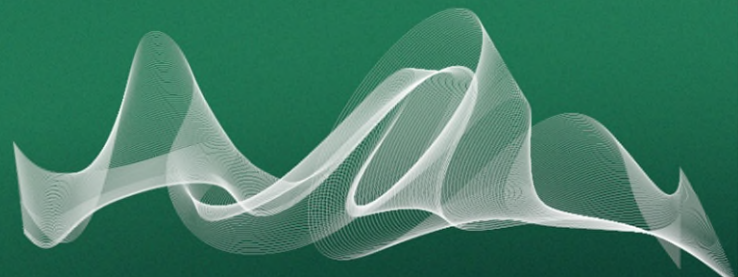




Australian Government



Australian Multicultural Council

Meeting communique – 6 March 2025

The inaugural meeting of the Australian Multicultural Council (AMC) 2025–2028 was held on 6 March 2025 at Parliament House, Canberra. The meeting was chaired by Christine Castley, Chair of the Australian Multicultural Council (AMC), and attended by the Assistant Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs, the Hon Julian Hill MP. The AMC membership includes representatives from every state and territory, nominated by their jurisdictions to represent a broad cross-section of Australian interests.

The Assistant Minister delivered an opening address, emphasising the importance of the Council's role in shaping policies that support Australia's multicultural communities. The Chair outlined the purpose and objectives of the new Council, setting the foundation for discussions on the Council's priorities for the 2025–2028 term, and opportunities to strengthen multiculturalism across Australia through an inter-cultural, inter-faith and inter-generational approach and strengthened links across states and territories. All members participated in a roundtable discussion sharing their perspectives on current challenges and opportunities facing multicultural communities.

Dr Bulent Hass Dellal AO, outgoing Chair of the AMC (2022–2025), led a handover session, reflecting on the achievements and challenges experienced by the outgoing Council as well as providing valuable insights to guide the Council's future efforts.

The AMC was briefed by the Multicultural Policy and Engagement Branch, Office of Community Cohesion and Refugee, Humanitarian and Settlement Division on current priorities and areas where the AMC can assist in providing community perspectives. AMC members affirmed their commitment to working with departments across Governments at all levels to achieve meaningful outcomes for multicultural communities. They also committed to developing a program of work that is framed with reference to the recommendations of the Multicultural Framework Review (MFR).

The Chair and members committed to increasing the visibility, transparency and accountability of the Council's work by: establishing Terms of Reference as a priority to provide clear guidance and expectations of the role ahead of their next quarterly meeting, and publishing a communique after each meeting. Priority focus areas for the Council are to ensure a multicultural perspective is woven into the design of service delivery responses, particularly youth, aged care, health, mental health and language services.

The AMC has expressed its collective commitment to fostering a strong and unified voice, ensuring the diverse perspectives of community are presented as part of a national conversation, emphasising the importance of the Council's role in promoting social cohesion and advancing the success of Australia's culturally and linguistically diverse communities.