



March 22, 2006,

8/2006

**CALL TO ACTION – SEEKING COOPERATION REQUEST IN ASSISTING
TO COMPILE LIST OF STAKEHOLDERS TO BE INVITED
TO ETHNIC SCHOOLS- LANGUAGES EDUCATION STATE -TERRITORY
ROUND TABLE**

AFESA Members

State and Territory Departments of Education and Training (Languages Education)

Multicultural Affairs Offices in States and Territories

Other Stakeholders

Dear Colleagues

As part of our Department of Education Science and Training (DEST) funded Project on Improvement of National Coordination and Quality Assurance in Ethnic Schools we have committed to organizing State and Territory Round Tables on ethnic schools-community languages schools.

Community Languages Australia has previously conducted these round tables in South Australia, Victoria, NSW, ACT and Queensland. In most cases they were conducted at a venue organized by the Department of Premier and Cabinet in the given jurisdiction. In all cases they had State–Territory Government support. Ministers of Education or their representatives, Parliamentary Secretaries together with Opposition education spokespersons also participated. Each Round Table proved to be great success,

The next series of Round Tables are being conducted with the following purpose in mind:

- *To raise the awareness of activities in ethnic schools and their role in delivering languages education*
- *Ethnic schools – community schools and their role in providing flexibility in program delivery*
- *How do we all cooperate in a more effective manner to improve quality and strengthen the delivery of languages education*
- *Linguistic and cultural maintenance –Future directions*
- *Examine proposals for cooperation and partnerships with other providers and stakeholders in enhancing languages education*
- *Present the current Quality Assurance Framework process*
- *Examine funding models*
- *Practical ways of identifying and sharing resources*

and a range of other issues

The format is a 2 hour to 2.5 hour lunch or dinner meeting.

We are requesting our key stakeholders – AFESA Members, Jurisdictional representatives, Multicultural Affairs Offices and others to assist us in identifying a possible list of participants in each State and Territory.

If you are able to assist, we are requesting you send a list of the key stakeholders in your State or Territory.

We are looking to invite those that you believe have some impact and interest in what happens in languages education and in ethnic schools - community schools and who could benefit from a raised awareness about the role and work of ethnic schools – community languages schools?

For example representatives from:

- Department of Education and Training
- Tertiary Institutions
- Boards of Study
- Parent Associations
- School Council groups
- Principal Associations
- Youth Groups, Student groups
- Modern Languages Associations
- Schools of Languages
- Boards
- Business sector
- Media
- Ethnic Communities Council
- Multicultural Affairs portfolios
- Arts and Culture peak orgs
- Peak national bodies based in your State or Territory
- or other stakeholders

If you are able to assist could you please send a list by April 4, 2006 providing the following information:

**Name, position,
Contact details-
Postal address, telephone, email**

Could you also suggest a possible timeframe for organizing the Round Table in your and State or Territory.

As on previous occasions we will be seeking to co host these Round Tables with interested Stakeholders such as: DET, Boards, and Multicultural Commissions active you are interested please let us know.

We will however contact you separately on this matter.

The current task at hand is to commence compiling lists of possible invitees and setting a timeframe.

The AFESA Council is proposing to endorse a national calendar of Round Tables at our April 9, 2006 meeting in Sydney.

Please do hesitate to call me on 0419 531255 if you require further information. Please email you list to romaniw@netsol.net.au or fax to 03 9347 0297.

Best Wishes

Stefan Romaniw
Executive Director
