



CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE ON ETHNIC BROADCASTING

P.O. BOX 1005
NORTH SYDNEY N.S.W. 2060
Telephone: 9221188 ext. 264

P.O. BOX E202
CANBERRA A.C.T. 2600
Telephone: 733522 ext. 7

12 April, 1976.

Dear Sir/Madam,

Cabinet recently decided that the Ministers for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs and Post and Telecommunications should arrange consultations with the ethnic communities on how ethnic broadcasting might operate in the future.

For this purpose, the Ministers have formed a committee comprised of senior officers of their respective Departments, to be known as the Consultative Committee on Ethnic Broadcasting.

If your organisation has a view on the future of ethnic broadcasting, the Committee would be pleased to hear it.

I am enclosing a copy of the circular which has been prepared to provide guidance for those wishing to make submissions. Further copies of the circular are available if required at the offices of the Departments of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs and Post and Telecommunications in each capital city.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'I.K. Lindenmayer'.

I.K. LINDENMAYER
For the Committee

12 April, 1976.

ESTABLISHMENT OF ETHNIC
BROADCASTING IN AUSTRALIA

The ethnic radio experiment which commenced in Sydney and Melbourne in June, 1975, has proved successful. Accordingly, Cabinet has now decided that funds should continue to be provided to the ethnic radio stations 2EA and 3EA until 30 September, 1976. In addition, Cabinet decided that the Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs and the Minister for Post and Telecommunications should jointly arrange consultations with the ethnic communities on how ethnic broadcasting might operate in the future.

The purpose of this circular is therefore to seek the advice of persons and organisations, who because of their involvement in ethnic matters or for other reasons, may wish their views to be considered.

Following the joint consideration of submissions by a Committee appointed by the Ministers, it may be necessary to seek further information on the points made by some persons or organisations. We must unfortunately set a tight deadline for the completion of our consultations. This urgency is necessitated by the requirement to complete consideration of submissions, to make appropriate recommendations to Cabinet, and perhaps, initiate and present to Parliament the required legislation before the current funding for ethnic radio on its present basis, expires on 30 September. Therefore it will be necessary for submissions to be lodged at the Canberra address by 7 May, 1976, if possible.

To assist with the presentation of submissions in the short time available the following questionnaire has been prepared. Each question is on a separate page. Kindly write your comments in the space immediately below the question. If the space is insufficient please attach additional pages. Please ensure that your name and address is shown at the head of each question in the space provided. This should also be done in the case of attached pages which, in addition, should show the question number in the top left hand corner.

Name

Address

QUESTION 1

The following options for a permanent structure for ethnic broadcasting have been discussed. Which of these would you prefer and why?

- (a) An organisation wholly financed and operated by the Government.
 - (b) A government organisation partially financed by the government with support from the ethnic communities both financially and through voluntary participation in the operation of the stations.
 - (c) A government-owned organisation wholly financed by advertising revenue but supported initially by government loans or guarantees.
 - (d) Non-profit community organisation(s) wholly financed by community subscriptions, sponsorships, limited advertising or some combination of these.
 - (e) Commercial stations operated by privately-owned companies.
-

Name

Address

QUESTION 2

In the event of the government deciding that ethnic broadcasting should be financed completely or partially by contributions from the ethnic communities, to what extent would you or your organisation be prepared to contribute funds in one or other of the following ways?

- (a) Regular subscriptions.
 - (b) Sponsorships.
 - (c) Once-only donations.
 - (d) Loans (with or without interest).
-

Name

Address

QUESTION 3

The government feels that there should be ethnic community participation in the running and programming of the stations.

- (a) What form of ethnic community participation would you recommend in the overall direction and control of ethnic broadcasting? It would be helpful if you could relate your comments to the various organisational options specified in question 1.

 - (b) To what extent would you or your organisation be prepared to provide voluntary support to ethnic broadcasting? (For example, assistance in compiling community news, preparation of tape recordings of music and interviews, announcing.)
-

Name

Address

QUESTION 4

Ethnic radio is presently operating in Sydney and Melbourne. To what extent should it ultimately be extended to other parts of Australia and how would you recommend that this be done?

Name

Address

QUESTION 5

Other comments.
