

3/80

Important!

30 January 1980

NEW MULTICULTURAL BROADCASTING CORPORATION

Australia's new Independent and Multicultural Broadcasting Corporation (IMBC) would take special steps to protect the interests of small language groups.

This point was stressed by the Minister for Posts and Telecommunications, Mr Staley, and the Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs, Mr Macphee, when they launched the new Corporation in Sydney and Melbourne last week.

They said that the Corporation, which would be encouraged to operate commercially, would replace the Special Broadcasting Service, the National Ethnic Broadcasting Advisory Council and the State Ethnic Broadcasting Advisory Committees.

It would begin its interim multicultural television service later this year and aimed to be presenting 35 hours of television weekly by October.

IMBC would be administered by a Board of between seven and 11 part-time members appointed for up to five years.

"The establishment of the Independent and Multicultural Broadcasting Corporation will give further status and coherence to multicultural television," the Ministers said.

"We believe Australia can become a world leader in using radio and television to help integration of migrants and to enable them to maintain their languages and a pride in their cultures. The Corporation will aim to encourage a mutual understanding with the Australian society and increase our appreciation of what a diverse and multicultural society we have.

"The Corporation will be given the same editorial discretion as other broadcasters to present matters of a political and controversial nature."

The Ministers said there would be an emphasis on quality presentation of programs.

The Corporation's Board would appoint State and National Consultative Committees. The Board would call for applications for appointment to the State Committees with members serving as individuals and not as representatives of particular organisations.

A review of services and performance would take place two years after the Corporation came into operation.

(News release by the Minister for Posts and Telecommunications, Mr Staley, and the Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs, Mr Macphee, 3/80, 24/1/80. Further inquiries: Peter Windsor, Canberra 64 2184).

MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS INSTITUTE COUNCIL CHOSEN

Australia's unique Institute of Multicultural Affairs will be headed by the man who urged its establishment - Melbourne lawyer, Mr Frank Galbally, CBE.

His appointment as the Institute's chairman for its formative first two years -- was announced by the Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs, Mr Ian Macphee.

Mr Macphee also announced the names of the Institute's initial Council appointed by the Governor General.

They are: Mr Michael Steven Diamond, a Sydney solicitor and the son of Greek migrants; Mr Lou Engledow, CBE, Secretary of the Commonwealth Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs; Mr Herman Huyer, Chairman and Managing Director of Philips Industries Holdings Pty Ltd and Patron of the Netherlands/Australian Returned Servicemen and Servicewomen Association.

Mrs Yolanda Klempfner, Co-ordinator of the Women's Affairs in the Victorian Premier's Department who speaks a number of European languages; Miss Helen Lesnewski a Sydney business woman and fluent Italian speaker who has her own book publishing company and Professor Jerzy (George) Zubrzycki, Polish-born head of the the Australian National University's Department of Sociology. Professor Zubrzycki is also chairman of the Australian Ethnic Affairs Council.

Mr Macphee said that Mr Petro Georgiou had been appointed to the full time position of Director of the Institute. In that role he is the executive member of the Council.

Mr Georgiou was born in Corfu, Greece, and has been Consultant to the Ethnic Television Review Panel.

Mr Macphee said the Institute would have a major research and community education role and would advise the Federal Government on multiculturalism and related issues.

"It will also be a repository for historical and cultural information on Australia's diverse ethnic groups," he added. "Once established, the Melbourne-based Institute will also play a key role in developing a socially-cohesive though culturally-

diverse Australian society and will help develop tolerance and understanding among community groups."

(Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs news release 6/80, 24/1/80. Further inquiries: Don Lawler, Canberra 64 2726).

LOOKING FOR SKILLED MIGRANTS

The Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs, Mr Macphee, has congratulated the Metal Trades Industry Association on its initiative in sending a mission to the UK and Europe to recruit skilled workers needed by Australian industry.

Mr Macphee said despite increased training programs in Australia a substantial intake of tradesmen from overseas would be necessary to meet overall skilled labour requirements.

"From the inception of this project my Department has lent its complete support both at the Australian end and in the relevant Australian migration offices overseas," Mr Macphee said. "My Department will continue its co-operation in this important project by the Metal Trades Industry Association by facilitating the migration of the tradesmen selected by the mission and by aiding them in their speedy settlement into the Australian community when they arrive."

(Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs news release 5/80, 24/1/80. Further inquiries: Don Lawler, Canberra 64 2726).

3EA GETS MORE POWER

People throughout Melbourne - and Geelong and beyond - will soon be able to receive radio station 3EA broadcasts as clearly as those from national or commercial stations.

3EA has a new transmitter that two months from now will transmit on 5 000 watts compared with the previous 500. Once the new transmitter is in use listeners should simply turn the dial on their radios to 1224kHz.

The Ministers for Posts and Telecommunications, Mr Staley, and Immigration and Ethnic Affairs, Mr Macphee, said that in providing the new transmitter the Government had acted positively on demands to improve reception.

They said that in future the new Independent and Multicultural Broadcasting Corporation (IMBC) would be responsible for radio stations like 3EA.

(Joint release, Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs, Mr Macphee, and Minister for Posts and Telecommunications, Mr Staley, 25/1/80. Further inquiries: Ms N. Pratt, Canberra 46 6379).

For the Ethnic Media summarises selected news releases and other information of interest to migrants and is issued on Wednesdays.

Produced by the Information Branch of the Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs, Canberra, A.C.T. 2600. For editorial inquiries, phone Michael Armit, Canberra 64 2156. Distribution and mailing inquiries, phone John Shannon, Canberra 64 2157. Please quote the computer number for change-of-address inquiries.