

SBS Annual Report  
Review Inquiry  
Submission No. 5



Mr Bob Baldwin MP  
Chair  
Standing Committee on Communication, Information Technology and the Arts  
Suite R 1 116  
Parliament House  
ACT 2600

Dear Mr Baldwin

**re: REVIEW OF THE SPECIAL BROADCASTING SERVICE ANNUAL REPORT 2002-03**

I write to provide the Standing Committee with information about the positive relationship that is being built between the Federation of Ethnic Communities' Councils of Australia (FECCA) and the Special Broadcasting Service (SBS) television.

I have attached copies of several documents for your information:

- a letter sent to Mr Nigel Milan regarding community concerns with SBS and possible ways forward;
- a letter to Minister Gary Hardgrave regarding membership of the SBS Board;
- copies of two media releases regarding the broadcast of foreign news material;
- a Word version of an article about SBS published in the current edition of FECCA's magazine, *Australian mosaic*, by our Secretary, Russell Raymond, who is also a member of the SBS community advisory committee, and
- a copy of FECCA's submission to the SBS Review of Complaints Handling Procedures.

FECCA have had a constructive relationship with SBS Radio for a long time and we strongly endorse the quality and values of the service. SBS Television and FECCA continue to have discussions about consultations between the broadcaster and communities. At this time we hope these will be held in late April or early May.

I can be contacted at any time for further information or progress about SBS Television, its community consultations and additional FECCA positions on the service. Please note that the attached materials do not comprehensively address all FECCA issues with SBS. FECCA is therefore available to provide additional advice to the Standing Committee as opportunities arise.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Conrad Gershevitch', written over a horizontal line.

Conrad Gershevitch

Director  
29 March 2004