

# MEDIA RELEASE

TUESDAY 15 MAY 2012

## **SBS Victoria awarded Multicultural Media Internship Grant**

A \$5000 grant was today awarded to SBS intern Naomi Selvaratnam as part of the Multicultural Media Internship Program administered by the Victorian Multicultural Commission (VMC).

The Victorian Government established the program to support multicultural media organisations to deliver work experience, professional development training and leadership to aspiring journalists.

The grant was presented by Premier Ted Baillieu at the Alfred Deakin Building at Federation Square this afternoon. "This is a unique program in Australia aimed at building up multicultural media organisations by investing in their future, and by investing in skilling people" Mr Baillieu said.

Chairperson of the VMC, Mr Chin Tan, said "Victoria's multicultural media organisations provide a powerful voice for our culturally and linguistically diverse communities".

"My hope is that the Multicultural Media Internship Program will help increase the knowledge of emerging journalists like Naomi about the operations of multicultural media, and develop their skills through hands-on experience in a diverse organisation like SBS", Mr Tan said.

Naomi is studying journalism at Monash University and has worked as a student reporter in Finland and Norway. "Having the opportunity to complete an internship at a multilingual and multicultural broadcaster like SBS is a wonderful opportunity, and I'm very grateful for this grant from the Victorian Government" she said.

Through the VMC, five grants of \$5,000 each are available to multicultural media organisations working in television, newspaper, radio or online publishing. Further grants will be awarded later this week.

**Media enquires:** contact Aysen Gazi at the VMC on 0420 552 676.