

**STATEMENT FROM THE VICTORIAN MULTICULTURAL COMMISSION
ON THE ATTACKS AT BONDI BEACH, SYDNEY**

The Victorian Multicultural Commission (VMC) is sickened and appalled by the horrific terror attack on innocent civilians at Bondi Beach, Sydney.

Aimed, as it was, at members of the Jewish community, we condemn the violence unequivocally as a manifest act of antisemitism and terror.

What should have been a moment of joy – Hanukkah, the festival of light – was plunged into darkness by murder and malevolence.

Families and communities are now mourning the dead and praying for the injured.

The attack challenges the fundamental values that underpin a diverse and inclusive Australia, where people from all backgrounds – and of any faith – are welcome, safe and respected.

We stand with the Jewish community – and with people of goodwill throughout the nation – who are appalled by violence and division.

The VMC will re-double its efforts to work across communities to promote cohesion, call out hate and division, and strengthen the ties that underpin multiculturalism.