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AFIC SCHOOLS

**Malek Fahd Islamic School** Tel: (02) 9642 8766 Fax: (02) 9642 5479

Islamic School of Brisbane Tel: (07) 3841 3645

Fax: (07) 3841 3645 Fax: (07) 3841 4320

Islamic College of SA Tel: (08) 8340 7799 Fax: (08) 8340 9988

Langford Islamic College Tel: (08) 9458 5206 Fax: (08) 9258 5661

Islamic School of Canberra Tel: (02) 6241 9554 Fax: (02) 6241 5448

- Halal Certification & Accreditation
- Muslims Australia Magazine
- Islamic Schools Projects
- Zakat & Charitable Services
- Imams & Religious Services
- Dawah Work
- Interfaith Dialogue
- Political Advocacy

### MEMBER STATE COUNCILS

Muslim Council of NSW Islamic Council of VIC Islamic Council of VLD Islamic Council of WA Islamic Council of SA Islamic Council of ACT Islamic Council of TAS Islamic Council of TAS Islamic Council of Christmas Islamd

MEMBER SOCIETIES

Over 100

# الاتداد الاسترالي للمجالس الاسلامية AUSTRALIAN FEDERATION OF ISLAMIC COUNCILS INC.

AUSTRALIA'S NATIONAL ISLAMIC ORGANISATION
A.R.B.N. 007 757 155

9 February 2009

## **AFIC PRESS RELEASE**

### PRAYERS FOR BUSHFIRE VICTIMS

On behalf of the Australian Federation of Islamic Councils and all Australian Muslims I would like to offer sincere condolences to all fellow Australians affected by the horrific bushfires in Victoria this weekend, said the President, Mr Ikebal Adam Patel. To those who have lost their homes, possessions, and most devastatingly, their loved ones, we wish for you to know that our hearts, thoughts and prayers are with you in this time of great distress. To those who have been injured, and are currently fighting for their lives, we once again offer our prayers for your quick recovery.

Mr Patel added that we would also like to offer our thanks and admiration to all the fire fighters and emergency services personnel who bravely battled with the flames, risking their own lives, as always, for those of others. You have once again demonstrated the strength of the Australian spirit, with selflessness and bravery.

In times such as these, when faced with an inescapable disaster from a near indestructible force, all we can rely upon is each other. Mr Patel reiterated the Prime Minister, Mr Kevin Rudd's message that we all have strong faith in the resilient nature of Australian communities, and wishes to state that all efforts will be made on the part of the Australian Muslims to assist wherever we can.

On behalf of the Australian Federation of Islamic Councils Mr Patel pledged an initial donation of \$9,000 towards the Fire Victims Relief Fund. The Australian Federation of Islamic Councils also encourages all Muslims to donate food, clothing and money to the relief effort. The Federation has commenced a fund raising effort through its State Councils, societies, mosques and Islamic schools towards the alleviation of the hardship caused by this disaster.

For further information contact:

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