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AFRICAN MUSIC AND CULTURAL FESTIVAL

I extend my warmest wishes to those attending the African Music and Cultural Festival in Melbourne.

Australia is the most successful multicultural society in the world. Our diversity is one of our greatest strengths and as a nation we are stronger because of the many religions and cultures we have welcomed.

The African Music and Cultural Festival, now in its sixth year, exemplifies our nation's multicultural success story by bringing together an array of cultural performances, fashion, artwork and culinary delights from over 35 African-Australian communities to the heart of Melbourne each year.

The Festival is an opportunity for African-Australian communities to share their cultural heritage and provides the wider community an opportunity to develop an awareness and appreciate the diversity of African-Australians and their cultures.

I send my best wishes to the organisers and participants of the African Music and Cultural Festival for a successful and enjoyable celebration of African music and culture.

DAVID COLEMAN