The Northern Territory’s diverse population will soon benefit from the first ever multicultural policy, following the release of a public consultation paper today.

Minister for Ethnic Affairs Kon Vatskalis said the development of such a policy would further highlight the Territory’s proud status as an inclusive multicultural society.

"The Territory has gained a lot from the social and economic contribution and benefits that drive multiculturalism. In fact it is integral to our way of life," said Mr Vatskalis.

"Keeping this in mind, we need to plan ahead and not take it for granted. We need frameworks in place to guide our programs and services, for migrant and ethnic Territorians, across government.

"The Martin Government is firmly committed to an inclusive society. One where all Territorians can actively participate - regardless of country of birth, language, culture, race or religion.

"Programs and services should be available to everyone who is entitled to them, and I'd encourage the community to become involved in the development of this policy," said Mr Vatskalis.

The Minister said the consultation paper will be made widely available, with all Territorians urged to make their views known before the end of November.

The paper can also be accessed on the internet at www.ethnic.affairs.nt.gov.au