

NORTHERN IRELAND WOMEN'S COALITION

AMENDMENT

The Assembly

The Women's Coalition proposes the following amendment to the electoral system, which has yet to be agreed by all parties:

Paragraph 2, page 10 to be deleted and replaced with the following words:

“A 118-member Assembly will be elected using a mixed Westminster and European Constituency system, with six seats allocated by PR(STV) in each of the existing Westminster constituencies, and an additional 10 seats allocated on the basis of total party first preference votes, across the European constituency, using the d'Hondt system.”

RATIONALE:

This proposal is intended to secure inclusion and to ensure that the distribution of seats in the Assembly reflects as proportionately as possible the overall distribution of votes across Northern Ireland. As such, the proposed system is both more proportional and more inclusive than the system currently under consideration and could also facilitate the increased participation of women in politics.

10 April, 1998