

## **Towards a successful outcome to the Review - Some Questions, Propositions and Understandings**

- \* Can all sides agree that it is in the interests of each that the Agreement be implemented in all its aspects, and that the Agreement offers the best opportunity to secure a stable and peaceful future for all the people?
- \* Is it accepted by all sides that the key requirement now in breaking the deadlock is the implementation of the three principles agreed on 25th of June, ie an inclusive Executive exercising devolved powers; decommissioning of all paramilitary arms by May 2000; and decommissioning to be carried out in a manner determined by the International Commission on decommissioning?
- \* Do all sides accept that the implementation of those principles will have to be done on a basis that is acceptable to all sides?
- \* How is that to be tested in advance of actual implementation?
- \* How is the commitment to the principle of an inclusive Executive demonstrated in the continued absence of the establishment of that Executive?
- \* Equally, how is the commitment to the principles on decommissioning demonstrated in advance of their implementation?
- \* What are the elements and understandings that would need to go into an agreed outcome? Can we begin by seeking to construct those?

### **Details**

- \* What do you understand to be the relationship between the establishment of the institutions and decommissioning under the terms of the Agreement?
- In the Agreement, all participants "reaffirm their commitment to the total disarmament of all paramilitary organisations".
- \* How can we express the nature of that commitment in the context of this review?
- \* To whom does the commitment to decommissioning apply? The participants? All of them? Some? (The Agreement text does not differentiate or specify.)



\* Who has responsibility for ensuring that this commitment is discharged?

\* How does the International Commission's role square with the concept of decommissioning as a voluntary process? Is it the case that the Commission can only operate in the event that, on a voluntary basis, the paramilitaries come forward to the Commission?

\* What do the parties understand by the concept of achieving decommissioning "in the context of the overall settlement?"

\* Does that mean that implementation of all other elements have to be completed before decommissioning takes place? (The Agreement does not state that in terms.)

\* Does it mean implementation of every other element has at least to be proceeding before decommissioning takes place? (The Agreement does not state that in terms.)

- If the Agreement is not specific in this regard, does that not mean that the precision of when decommissioning takes place, and the inter-relationship of that to the implementation of the other elements of the settlement, needs still to be worked out by the participants in the Agreement, namely in this Review?

\* That, at the very least, some understanding is needed between the participants as to what that phrase means? Otherwise, who adjudicates on the inter - action of the decommissioning element with the other elements of the Agreement?

#### Elements.

✓ \* On the basis of all of this, we try to agree what the elements of a successful outcome might be?

✓ ✓ \* Perhaps we can list what everybody needs, and try to draw together an accomodation of those lists?

✓ \* Where do guarantees fit into that?

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