



# Commonwealth News Release

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## COMMONWEALTH SECRETARY-GENERAL HAILS JOINT DECLARATION ON NORTHERN IRELAND

Commonwealth Secretary-General Emeka Anyaoku has described yesterday's joint declaration on the future of Northern Ireland between the British and Irish Prime Ministers as an 'historic step' which opens the door to peace in Northern Ireland.

Chief Anyaoku said:

The Joint Declaration between the Governments of the Republic of Ireland and the United Kingdom opens the door to peace in Northern Ireland. It is an historic step which all in the Commonwealth will applaud. The path ahead will no doubt be difficult; but in the same way as there now exist the prospects of lasting peace in South Africa and the Middle East, a cessation of hostilities and the negotiation of a just and lasting peace in Northern Ireland should also be possible. The whole Commonwealth will wish this peace process to succeed and, with it, to see an end to so much bloodshed and misery.