

CONFIDENTIAL

From: Independent Chairmen Notetakers
27 June 1996

SUMMARY RECORD OF INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS ON PROCEDURAL GUIDELINES AND
AGENDA FOR PLENARY SESSION - WEDNESDAY 26 JUNE 1996 (17.47)

Those present:

Independent Chairmen	Government Teams	Parties
Senator Mitchell	British Government	Alliance Party
General de Chastelain	Irish Government	Labour Party
Mr Holkeri		Northern Ireland Women's Coalition
		Progressive Unionist Party
		Social Democratic and Labour Party
		Ulster Democratic Party
		Ulster Democratic Unionist Party
		United Kingdom Unionist Party
		Ulster Unionist Party

1. At 17.47 the Chairman reconvened the meeting and stated that earlier discussions had covered all but the last section of the draft rules of procedure. He suggested that this section be completed but before doing so he wished to put a proposal to the participants.

2. The Chairman commented that he believed considerable progress had been made during the day in agreeing to many of the paragraphs, numerically at least, of the draft rules of procedure. This had included some amendments proposed prior to and during the business thus far for that day. He therefore proposed that it might be helpful if his staff prepared a further update on the rules,

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

reflecting today's decisions, for future discussion on the subject. He asked whether this was agreeable. There were no comments from the participants. The Chairman took this as everyone agreeing and stated that he would try to have the document to delegations by the next day.

3. The Chairman also commented that he didn't believe it would take long to get through the last remaining section since there had only been one substantive objection/point raised on it earlier in the day. He therefore proposed that his staff would work to prepare two documents for the following day which could then be distributed to delegations. Document 1 would be the update of the draft rules; document 2 would be a composite paper reflecting input sought from all the delegations earlier in the day on the status of the Ground Rules. The Chairman indicated his intention to have both these documents with the delegations by 09.30, allow 90 minutes to review them and convene a further informal meeting at 11.00. Bearing in mind remarks made earlier, he proposed that this session would then run continuously until a conclusion at 15.00 (with perhaps a small break in the middle if required). The Chairman asked for comments on this approach.

4. Mr Robinson stated that he was content with this provided eating arrangements were sufficient prior to 11.00 to enable participants to keep going through to 15.00. The Chairman commented he would try to ensure that arrangements would be organised in line with Mr Robinson's point. Mr Thomas for the British Government supported the Chairman's proposal.

5. The Chairman then turned to paras 35-37 of the draft rules of procedure. He reminded participants that earlier in the day Mr Robinson had queried the need for para 37. He asked whether anyone

CONFIDENTIAL

had any objection to the deletion of this paragraph. On hearing none the Chairman indicated that this section of the rules would now contain two paragraphs - namely 35 and 36. That being the case, he stated, there was no further need for deliberation in this session.

6. Dr Paisley asked that if there was a delay in the documents being distributed in the morning would the 11.00 start time remain. The Chairman indicated that if the documents arrived before 10.00 then 11.00 would be the start time. If they arrived later then a minimum of 60 minutes would be applied between distribution and a meeting being convened.

7. The Chairman asked for any further comments. On hearing none he adjourned the meeting at 17.57.

[Signed]

Independent Chairmen Notetakers
27 June 1996

OIC/25