

DRAFT SUMMARY RECORD OF OPENING PLENARY SESSION - ing copied and
TUESDAY 3 DECEMBER 1996 (12.09) With this comment, the Chairman

Those present: the session be adjourned until 13.15 to allow for

Independent Chairmen	Government Teams	Parties
Senator Mitchell	British Government	Alliance Party
Mr Holkeri	Irish Government	Labour
General de Chastelain		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. The Chairman convened the meeting at 12.09 and sought approval of the two draft records from week commencing 25 November. On hearing no comments, he approved both records. The Chairman stated that the second item of business concerned the ruling by the chair on procedural questions raised the previous week in relation to the motion put forward by the UKUP.

2. The Chairman read his ruling from a prepared text. Following completion of this, the DUP stated that it wished to have an adjournment, since the ruling was not yet available in writing. The DUP said that, listening to its contents, the ruling was far reaching and it didn't believe that the unionist people of Northern Ireland would go along with the evident suggestion in it that it was not possible to have a determination of such a motion.

3. The Chairman stated that he would accede to the DUP request. Alliance sought clarification on whether the ruling would be

circulated. The Chairman said that it was now being copied and would be available shortly. With this comment, the Chairman proposed that the session be adjourned until 13.15 to allow for lunch etc. On hearing no further comments, the Chairman adjourned the session at 12.19.

Independent Chairmen Notetakers
5 December 1996

OIC/PS53

Labour Party
Labour
Irish Women's
Progressive Unionist
Party
Social Democratic and
Labour Party
Ulster Democratic Party
Ulster Democratic
Unionist Party
United Kingdom Unionist
Party
Ulster Unionist Party

The Chairman convened the meeting at 12.15 and sought approval for the minutes of the previous meeting. The minutes were approved. The Chairman then moved to the business of the day. He stated that the first item of business was the report of the Independent Chairmen. The report was read out by the Chairman. The report stated that the Independent Chairmen had been asked to report on the progress of the negotiations between the British and Irish Governments. The report stated that the negotiations had been held in a confidential manner and that the Independent Chairmen had been asked to report on the progress of the negotiations. The report stated that the negotiations had been held in a confidential manner and that the Independent Chairmen had been asked to report on the progress of the negotiations.

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3. The Chairman stated that he would accept the request of the Independent Chairmen. The Independent Chairmen sought clarification on whether the request would be accepted.