



**Ulster Democratic Unionist Party**  
**91Dundela Avenue**  
**Belfast, BT4 3BU**

Dear Senator,

Thank you for your letter of 16th September 1997. This communication contradicts what was reported in the press. I think that your office has a responsibility to correct those misleading reports. I trust, in making your ruling, you will be informed only by the legislation setting up the Talks and the Rules of Procedure for the Negotiations. I hope your willingness to consider the views of the present participants at the Talks does not carry with it the implication that in arriving at your ruling you feel it necessary to act in accordance with a political consensus.

You know my view that Paragraph 29 does not exclude representation being made by non-participants. But more particularly in relation to a representation made by my party I want you to consider the following:-

- we won seats at the Forum Elections;
- we succeeded in having the second highest number of representatives returned;
- we were invited by the Secretary of State to bring a delegation to the Talks;
- we signed the Mitchell Principles and,
- we were declared, by you, to be qualified for membership.

What Rule removes the right of any qualified delegation, though it may have withdrawn from attendance, to make a representation under Paragraph 29? We are advised, in law, that such our entitlement in this respect is unaffected.

Yours sincerely,

**Ian R K Paisley MP MEP**

Leader of the DUP