



NORTHERN IRELAND OFFICE
11 MILLBANK
LONDON
SW1P 4QE

SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR
NORTHERN IRELAND

Mr David Trimble MP
Ulster Unionist Party
3 Glengall Street
BELFAST
BT2 5AE

15 May 1997

Dear David,

I am writing to let you know that I have today arranged for a draft Order to be laid before Parliament which will have the effect of reinstating the Forum from Tuesday 3 June, the date on which the multi-party Talks reopen.

As you know, my predecessor was obliged to suspend the Forum due to the suspension of the Talks. At that time, I gave an undertaking that a Labour Government would introduce the necessary Order to give the Forum a second year of life. The draft Order which has been laid would honour this commitment.

I look forward to following the proceedings of the Forum in the coming weeks and hope that it will be able to make a worthwhile contribution through the discussion of issues relevant to promoting dialogue and understanding within Northern Ireland.

Margaret