

Office of the Independent Chairmen

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18 September 1997

TO: The UUP, PUP, and UDP

FROM: The Office of the Independent Chairmen

SUBJECT: Information on the Schedule for the Week of 22 September

A plenary has been scheduled for Tuesday, 23 September at 2:00 p.m. during which the formal representation submitted by the UUP against Sinn Fein will be addressed. The format used for the two previous formal representations, filed in September 1996, will be followed: The party that made the formal representation will have up to thirty minutes to state its case. The party subject to the formal representation will have up to thirty minutes to present its response. The floor will then be available to all participating parties to ask questions and express views. The amount of time devoted during the plenary to formal representation, response, and floor debate will be three hours. If a participating party has not had an opportunity to speak during that three hour period and still wishes to do so, the three hour period may be extended for a reasonable time to allow that party to have its say.

On another matter, the Office of the Independent Chairmen solicits the views of participating parties on the request of the DUP, received by phone on 17 September, for the minutes of meetings which took place subsequent to its voluntary withdrawal from the talks. Respondents may wish to take into account rules 43 in the Rules of Procedure in preparing their reply. It would be appreciated if views could be conveyed to the Office of the Independent Chairmen, orally or in writing, during the week of 22 September.