

Committee on Decommissioning

The Committee on Decommissioning shall be comprised of representatives of all the participants in the negotiations and chaired by the Chairman of the Plenary.

Responsibilities

The Committee will be charged with working to secure the implementation of all aspects of the Report of the International Body. In particular it will be required:

- to consider the draft Bills submitted by the Irish and British Governments and review progress towards their enactment;
- to debate the type of scheme or schemes for decommissioning and the precise role of the Independent Commission in respect of each scheme;
- to debate proposals for such schemes drawn up by the Independent Commission and submit any agreed opinion on these proposals to the Governments;
- to consider the circumstances in which mutual decommissioning would be expected to occur;
- to consider other aspects of the International Body's Report which participants may wish to raise in this format;
- to monitor and review the implementation of all aspects of the Report and to report to the Plenary;

Independent Commission

The Independent Commission shall operate in both jurisdictions with appropriate immunity. It shall be furnished with independent legal and technical advisors and, where appropriate, shall be given access to the technical expertise of the British and Irish Security forces.

Responsibilities

- to provide technical advice on decommissioning to the Committee on Decommissioning;
- to attend the debate in the Committee on Decommissioning on the type of scheme or schemes for decommissioning including precise role of the Independent Commission in respect of each scheme;
- to draw up proposals for schemes on the basis of debate in the Committee, taking account of the requirement of paragraph 38 of the International Body's Report that the details of decommissioning have to be determined by the parties themselves, and to submit these proposals to the Committee on Decommissioning and to the two Governments;
- to observe, monitor and verify decommissioning and to receive and audit armaments, according to the schemes laid down;
- to report periodically to the Committee on Decommissioning on progress achieved in the decommissioning process.

The British and Irish Governments

The British and Irish Governments would undertake:

- to introduce in their respective parliaments enabling legislation to provide for decommissioning in accordance with the International Body's Report, following discussion of their respective draft Bills in the Committee on Decommissioning;
- to establish the Independent Commission following the adoption of the legislation;
- to make available, as appropriate, and at the request of the Independent Commission, the technical expertise of their respective security forces;
- to enact schemes (or regulations) for decommissioning, including the definition of the precise role of the Independent Commission in respect of each scheme, on the basis of proposals submitted by the International Commission, the discussion of these proposals by the Committee on Decommissioning and any agreed opinions forwarded by the Committee.

Illustration of procedure for the adoption of schemes on decommissioning

1. Discussion in Committee on Decommissioning attended by members of the Independent Commission.
2. Drawing up of proposals by the Independent Commission based on the discussion in the Committee on Decommissioning and taking account of the requirement of paragraph 38 of the International Body's Report that the details of decommissioning have to be determined by the parties themselves.
3. Submission of the proposals to the Committee on Decommissioning and the British and Irish Governments.
4. Discussion of proposals by the Committee on Decommissioning and possible adoption of agreed opinions for submission to the Governments.
5. Adoption of schemes (or regulations) by the British and Irish Governments based on proposals submitted by the Independent Commission, the discussion of those proposals by the Committee on Decommissioning, and any agreed opinions submitted by the Commission.