

CONFIDENTIAL

Incorporating some
reactions to British
Comments to on same
text of 12.00.

**A PROPOSITION FROM THE BRITISH AND IRISH GOVERNMENTS, 24
JULY 1996**

16.00

1. It is common ground that all participants wish to see the maximum possible progress before the summer recess. The two Governments have considered how this could best be facilitated.
2. The Opening Plenary session must complete the following points:
 - (a) adoption of the rules of procedure;
 - (b) establishment of the Business Committee;
 - (c) consideration of the International Body's proposals on decommissioning, including agreement on the mechanism necessary to enable further progress to be made on decommissioning alongside negotiations in the three strands;
 - (d) discussion and adoption of the comprehensive agenda for the negotiations;
 - (e) opening statements; and
 - (f) the launch of the three-stranded negotiations in parallel with the establishment of the agreed machinery to carry forward work on decommissioning.

3. With a view to achieving the desired progress, the two Governments believe that the Opening Plenary should complete its work on points (a) to (d) before the summer break.

4. We welcome the independent Chairmen's decision to publish draft rules of procedure reflecting their best judgement of what is likely to prove acceptable to all delegations. We support these proposals.

5. In order to assist further progress in the negotiations, we attach a draft agenda for the remainder of the Opening Plenary for the consideration of the parties.

6. We propose that the agenda and the rules of procedure be agreed this week in the informal round table discussions and be formally adopted by the Opening Plenary, which we propose should be reconvened at 10am on Monday 29 July.

7. We believe that it should be possible to reach agreement on the proposed rules of procedure and agenda relatively quickly. However, if efforts to achieve agreement on the basis of consensus prove to be unsuccessful, we would propose that agreement be reached on the basis of sufficient consensus.

8. We would also propose, with a view to preparing the ground for next week's work in the Plenary, that the relevant participants should be invited to forward to the Chairmen of the relevant strands by 6 pm on Monday 29 July, written amendments to the draft agenda for Strand One, tabled by the British Government, and the attached draft agenda for Strand Two, tabled by the two Governments. (Copies of these agendas are attached, together with the agenda for Strand Three

agreed between the two Governments.)

9. Following ratification of the rules of procedure and the agenda for the Opening Plenary, the reconvened Plenary meeting would proceed to work through the remainder of its agenda, beginning with the establishment of the business committee, before moving on to consideration of the International Body's proposals on decommissioning.

10. We also take the view that, before rising for the summer break, the Plenary should consider any proposals on the agendas for Strands One and Two, if necessary in sub-committee, and proceed to the adoption of the comprehensive agenda for the negotiations.

11. Following adoption of the comprehensive agenda, we would propose that the Opening Plenary should be adjourned until 9 September, and reconvene with opening statements, followed, not later than 16 September, by the launch of the negotiations in the three strands in parallel with the establishment of the agreed machinery to carry forward work on decommissioning.

PROPOSED AGENDA FOR RESUMED OPENING PLENARY

1. Adoption of Agenda for Opening Plenary.
2. Adoption of Rules of Procedures.
3. Establishment of Business Committee.
4. Consideration of International Body's proposals on decommissioning:
 - (a) Discussion of Proposals;
 - (b) Participants' commitment to work constructively to implement all aspects of Report of International Body;
 - (c) Consideration of mechanisms necessary to enable further progress to be made on decommissioning alongside negotiations in three strands.
5. Discussion of comprehensive Agenda for negotiations.
6. Adoption of comprehensive Agenda.
7. Opening Statements.
8. Establishment of agreed machinery to carry forward work on decommissioning; launch of three-stranded negotiations.
9. Concluding remarks by Independent Chairman.