

Friday 14th June 1996.....12.45pm

Proposals from the Progressive Unionist Party concerning the upcoming talks on 17th and 18th June in relation to the 'Guidelines and Ground-rules' governing Chairmanships and opening Plenary agenda.

After further perusal and deliberation in relation to the 'Guidelines and Ground-rules' governing the proposed Chairmanships, the **Progressive Unionist Party** is of the opinion that the 'Guidelines and Ground-rules', initially presented on June 6, should stand as written with the proviso that the definition of the terms 'Consensus and Agreement' should clearly be determined, spelled out and accepted by a sufficient consensus or agreement at the multi-party sessions to be held on 17th & 18th June.

We are not obstructive and we have no wish to stifle debate on these vitally important issues.

We believe that a good idea...is a good idea...is a good idea.

In furtherance of this, we look forward to receiving and discussing papers on the named subjects from the various participating political parties.

No sense of dogmatism, begrudgery or negativity will govern our participation.

The proposed agenda for the opening Plenary also presented 6th June is adequate.

Having founded our political principles on **consent // sufficient consensus // agreement**, it will be our determination to ensure the same at every step and stage of negotiations.

John Hume
Leader - SDLP