

FROM: D J R HILL  
POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT TEAM  
9 SEPTEMBER 1996

cc PS/Michael Ancram (B&L) - B  
PS/PUS (B&L) - B  
PS/Sir David Fell - B  
Mr Leach - B  
Mr Bell - B  
Mr Watkins - B  
Mr Stephens - B  
Mr Maccabe - B  
Mr Lavery - B  
Mr Whysall - B

*AMEN*  
*P.A.*  
*Practical*  
*Issues*  
*cc Procedural*  
*Rules*  
*file*  
*cc Opening*  
*Review*  
*(Minute*  
*+ attendance*

PS/SECRETARY OF STATE (B&L) - B

TALKS, 9 SEPTEMBER - MINOR ISSUES

#### Draft Plenary Records

Each delegation has been invited to let the Chairmen's staff have comments, during 9 September, on the draft records of the four plenaries held thus far.

The records are not particularly good: they go into too much detail which increases the chance that delegations will challenge the references to their contributions. However, there is nothing seriously amiss from HMG's perspective and in all the circumstances I suggest we offer no amendments and hope the drafts drop from sight without generating any controversy.

#### Rules of Procedure

Mr Whysall has organised the in-house publication of the rules of procedure in booklet form. Subject to the Chairmen's clearance, we will be circulating copies to delegates.



There would be some advantage in having the rules formally released into the public domain. It would demonstrate the progress made and make it easier to explain the finer points, eg of Rule 29.

Extracts, not all from the final version, have appeared in the press and it would be desirable to have an authoritative text in the public domain. We might pursue this suggestion with the Chairman at a convenient opportunity.

#### Accommodation

We are hoping to secure the use of a number of rooms on level 5 in the adjoining block, which could be used to provide better accommodation for Senator Mitchell and the staffers and give the other Chairmen and staff adjacent rooms. That would also allow us to create more space within Block B for informal contact between delegates (a coffee lounge etc). We hope to be in a position to put some proposals to Senator Mitchell and his colleagues later this week.

#### TALKS: HMG OPENING STATEMENT

The Minister has seen a copy of Mrs Mapstone's note to you of 6 September to the reference to framework on HMG's opening statement. The Minister believes the mention of frameworks in the opening statement will be regarded as deliberately provocative. If we are seeking to provoke, well and good. The Minister believes that we should be seeking to encourage progress and that we should leave it out. It will come up soon enough within the strands.

Signed

ANGELA GULLACHAN  
Private Secretary