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DRAFT: 13 September 1996

POSSIBLE TIME-LIMITED AGENDA FOR REMAINDER OF OPENING PLENARY

[Preliminary stage: Debate and agreement on agenda for remainder of opening Plenary. 3 days: 23-25 September]

1. Consideration of International Body's proposals on decommissioning. [3 days: 30 September-2 October]
2. Consideration of comprehensive agenda for three-stranded negotiations. [2 days: 7-8 October]
3. Statements by participants. [3 days: 9 October, 14-15 October]
4. Adoption of comprehensive agenda; establishment of whatever mechanisms to enable further progress to be made on decommissioning are agreed pursuant to item 1. [$\frac{1}{2}$ day: 16 October]
5. Concluding remarks by Independent Chairman. [$\frac{1}{2}$ day: 16 October]

Assumptions:

- a. Plenary sessions to run for total of 6 hours per day [10-12.30 and 14.30-18.00].
- b. Each participant allowed 1½ hrs for statement (and questions?) under item 3.
- c. Trilaterals between British Government, Irish Government and UUP to be concluded before item 1 ends (ideally, before it starts).
- d. Objective is launch of 3 strands and decommissioning sub-committee on 21 October.

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e. Several variants are possible - eg

- statements by participants taken as item 1 (this would allow more time to complete the trilaterals);
- statements by participants dropped altogether - or no questions allowed (this would cut down the time between the conclusion of the address to decommissioning and the commencement of the strands - and therefore reduce opportunities for the DUP/UKUP to unpick the deal);
- agenda business proper could start during week of 23 September, if agreement on the opening Plenary agenda were reached early in that week.

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