

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 24, 1996

Dear Jim:

The International Fund for Ireland (the "Fund") has been a significant force in promoting investment and jobs in Northern Ireland and adjacent areas of the Republic of Ireland. It has actively promoted reconciliation and has established an excellent record on equal opportunity and fair employment issues, which are of critical importance for economic vitality in Northern Ireland and the border region.

In the 1996 Foreign Affairs Authorization Act (HR 1561) as passed by Congress, Section 1615 stated that U.S. contributions to the Fund "should be used in a manner that effectively increases employment opportunities in communities with rates of unemployment higher than the local or urban average of unemployment in Northern Ireland. In addition, such contributions should be used to benefit individuals residing in such communities." The Act also stated that such contributions "should be provided to individuals or entities which employ practices consistent with the principles of economic justice" as defined in the Act.

I vetoed HR 1561 for reasons entirely unrelated to the language in Section 1615. I am committed to equal opportunity and fair employment as necessary foundations for a just, peaceful and prosperous future for all the people of both jurisdictions in Ireland. I therefore ask you, in discharging your duties under the Anglo-Irish Agreement Support Act of 1986, to ensure that the intent of Section 1615 of HR 1561 is carried out to the greatest extent possible.

It must be clearly understood that the principle of equal opportunity and nondiscrimination in employment must apply to everyone, regardless of religious tradition. To this end, and consistent with applicable U.S. law, I ask you to urge Fund support for those projects within disadvantaged wards and sub-wards of both communities that embody the principles of economic justice and the charter of the Fund. Of course the U.S. contribution to the Fund must not be used to require or mandate

TUE 27 AUG 96 23:21

PG.03

NO.177 004

27/06 TUE 18:42 FAX 202 456 0150
202 456 0150 -> BRITISH EMBASSY; #5
EUROPEAN DIR

+++ BritEmb

0005

quotas or reverse discrimination by individuals or entities assisted with such contributions.

Sincerely,

Brian Clinton

The Honorable Brian Atwood
Administrator
Agency for International Development
320 21st Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20523

In the 1989 Foreign Affairs Authorization Act (P.L. 101-223), as amended by Congress, Section 1015 stated that U.S. contributions to the Fund "should be used in a manner that effectively increases employment opportunities in communities with lower employment rates than the local or urban average of unemployment in northern Ireland. In addition, such contributions should be used to benefit individuals residing in such communities." The Act also stated that such contributions "should be provided to individuals or entities which employ practices consistent with the principles of advanced Ireland" as defined in the Act.

I worked at 1991 for reasons entirely unrelated to the language in Section 1015. I am committed to equal employment and employment as necessary foundation for a just, free and prosperous future for all the people of both Ireland and the United Kingdom. I therefore ask you to reauthorize your funding under the Anglo-Irish Agreement Support Act of 1985, as amended, in the amount of Section 1015 of the Act is directed and to the maximum extent possible.

It must be clearly understood that the principle of equal opportunity and nondiscrimination in employment shall apply to all persons, regardless of religious beliefs. It is the policy of the United States to support the international trade and investment in the United States for those projects which demonstrate a commitment to the principles of advanced Ireland and the principles of the Act. It is the policy of the United States to support the principles of the Act and to the maximum extent possible.