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Prime Minister
L.O
26/6

The Taoiseach welcomed the Prime Minister's statement in the House of Commons today on Northern Ireland and in particular his expressed wish to move as rapidly as possible to an agreed political settlement.

The Taoiseach expressed the hope that all concerned would respond constructively and in good faith in what is a very difficult and delicate situation, in the interests of all the people of these islands.

He believes that, through the determined efforts of the Irish and British Governments over a long period, particularly in recent weeks, there is now an unrivalled opportunity to move forward, purposefully, decisively and hopefully on a fully inclusive basis, towards an agreed settlement.

25 June 1997

ENDS