

JUL-97 MON 17:54

DEPT OF AN TAOISEACH

FAX NO. 353 1 6621972

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IRISH LANGUAGE (JULY)**A - Proposed amended version**

Both Governments are fully committed to the implementation of the Mitchell Report in all its aspects.

The two Governments see the resolution of the decommissioning issue as an indispensable part of the process of negotiation, alongside other confidence-building measures for all sides. They recognise that decommissioning should not become a blockage in negotiations, and that it depends on the co-operation of the paramilitary organisations themselves. But both are equally clear that they want to see real progress on decommissioning alongside progress in the substantive political negotiations, as part of the confidence-building process and look to all parties, in good faith, to negotiate on that basis.

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B - Proposed amended version

The two Governments recognise the importance of the consent principle, consistently applied, and believe it should be a guiding principle in the negotiations, in which no outcome is excluded or predetermined.