

## Negotiations: Bottom Lines

### Strand One

An Assembly and an Executive

- (a) with the maximum possible devolved powers
- (b) in which there are safeguards, based on sufficient consensus, which ensure that decisions are taken on a cross-community basis.
- (c) in which the members of the executive work together in partnership and under the rule of collective responsibility.

### Strand Two

A North/South Council with a clear institutional identity, separate from and independent of East/West arrangements.

Council to have defined and meaningful decision-making functions in specified areas. Capacity to develop by agreement.

Initial implementation bodies, operating under the aegis of the Council, in a number of significant areas to be designated in an Agreement and in subsequent Westminster/Oireachtas legislation.

A Secretariat operating under the direction of the Council.

### Strand Three

A continuing and clearly defined role for the Irish Government, equivalent in substance to that enjoyed under the Anglo-Irish Agreement, in the consideration of

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non-devolved matters.

### Constitutional Change

Repeal of Government of Ireland Act 1920, and changes to Northern Ireland Constitution Act incorporating both sides of principle of consent.

### Policing and Justice

An Independent International Commission with detailed and strong terms of reference to formulate proposals for new policing structures and arrangements, to report within a limited timescale. Similar independent international commission to review criminal justice.

### Prisoners

Meaningful commitments to early release of prisoners associated with organisations maintaining ceasefires.

### Security Measures

Early moves by British Government to achieve a peaceful society.

### Rights and Equality

A statutory commitment to communal equality and parity of esteem. Legal recognition for Irish language.

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