

POSSIBLE PRINCIPLES ON WHICH TO BASE INSTITUTIONAL  
ARRANGEMENTS FOR ENHANCED COMMUNICATION AND CO-OPERATION  
BETWEEN NORTH AND SOUTH

Channels of communication and co-operation between North  
and South should be:

- . such as to reconcile and acknowledge the rights of  
the two major traditions in Ireland represented on  
the one hand by those who wish Northern Ireland to  
remain as an integral part of the United Kingdom and <sup>on the</sup>  
on the other hand by those who ~~accept the de facto position of it as part of the UK~~ <sup>aspire to a</sup> ~~different~~ <sup>different</sup>  
sovereign, united Ireland achieved by peaceful means  
and through agreement
- . such as to encourage, promote and develop improved  
relations and better understanding within Northern  
Ireland and between Northern Ireland and the  
Republic of Ireland
- . conducive to a new spirit of cordial co-operation  
and friendship among the people of the island of  
Ireland, bringing a united effort for the common  
good
- . legitimate in the sense of respecting <sup>all</sup> the democratic  
rights of the people of Northern Ireland and the  
people of the Republic of Ireland
- . legitimate in the sense of respecting the validity  
of both the nationalist and unionist identities in

Ireland and the democratic rights of every citizen  
on the island

- . geared to the development of governmental  
arrangements that are widely acceptable and aimed at  
protecting and enhancing the interests of the people  
of the island of Ireland
- . widely acceptable in both parts of the island of  
Ireland
- . stable and durable
- . constructive and meaningful
- . capable of development, on an agreed basis, in  
response to changing political realities
- . workable, in the sense of being as straightforward  
to operate as possible
- . designed to provide a two-way channel of  
communication which would enable issues of mutual  
benefit or of concern to either party to the  
relationship to be addressed
- . innovative, in the sense of learning from and not  
merely modelled on any previous arrangements



. conducive to optimising the benefits from the EC framework, and its programmes, for the two parts of the island of Ireland, consistent with the role and responsibilities of the UK and the Republic of Ireland as separate member states