DRAFT SUMMARY RECORD OF OPENING PLENARY SESSION -WEDNESDAY 6 NOVEMBER 1996 (10.00)

Those present:

Independent Chairmen	Government Teams	Parties
Senator Mitchell Mr Holkeri General de Chastelain	British Government Irish Government	Alliance Party Labour Northern Ireland Women's Coalition Progressive Unionist Party Social Democratic and Labour Party Ulster Democratic Party Ulster Democratic Unionist Party United Kingdom Unionist Party Ulster Unionist Party

1. <u>The Chairman</u> brought the session to order at 10.10 saying that four representatives had sought recognition.

2. <u>The UUP</u> inquired if British and Irish Government Ministers would be attending. The session was informed by the <u>British and</u> <u>Irish Governments</u> that Ministers would be attending shortly. <u>The</u> <u>UKUP</u>, expressing no reflection upon the civil servants present, said it preferred the political representatives of both governments to be present, and proposed that there be an adjournment until Ministers were present. <u>The Chairman</u> asked for views on that proposal. <u>The UUP</u> said that there was no point in proceeding in the absence of the political representatives. <u>The</u> <u>DUP</u> said that it wished to address questions to Ministers. 3. <u>The Chairman</u> adjourned the session at 10.14 on the basis that discussions would resume shortly when the British and Irish Ministers arrived.

Independent Chairmen Notetakers 8 November 1996

OIC/PS45