

Prisoners

1. Both Governments will put in place mechanisms to provide for an accelerated programme for the release of prisoners, including transferred prisoners, convicted of scheduled offences, committed before 9 April 1998, and not de-scheduled by the Attorney-General, in Northern Ireland, ~~similar~~ ~~offences~~ in the case of those sentenced outside N. Ireland (including those committed in Great Britain and not transferred to N. Ireland or the Republic of Ireland, ~~similar~~ ~~offences~~ politically motivated offences (referred to hereafter as "qualifying prisoners"). Any such arrangements will protect the rights of individual prisoners under national and international law.

2. Prisoners, affected to organization, which have not established or are not maintaining a complete and equitable

ceasefire will not be sufficient.
The arrangements.

Add: "If an individual prisoner, currently affiliated to an organisation not maintaining a complete and unequivocal ceasefire, explicitly disassociates himself from that organisation and expresses a personal disavowal of violence in the context of the current peace process, he will be considered as a qualifying prisoner."

situation in this regard will be kept under review.

3. Both governments will complete a review process within a fixed time frame and set prospective dates for release for all qualifying prisoners.

~~Amend so as to read:~~ "The intention will be to provide for the advance of the release dates of qualifying prisoners in order of the length of time they have left to serve, thus allowing account to be taken of the seriousness of the offences for which the person was convicted as decided by the court."

~~Add further sentence:~~ "Indeterminate sentence prisoners should immediately be given a notional release date by the appropriate mechanism, based on normal criteria, and then should be included in the release programme on the basis of length of time (notionally) still to be served."

~~Add further sentence:~~ "The latest release date will be a maximum of two years after the date on which enabling legislation is passed."

~~Add further sentence:~~ "The trial of those on remand will proceed in the normal way, but those who are qualifying prisoners after sentence will be added to the process on the same basis of length of time left to serve."

4. "Each Government will establish a Truth and Amnesty Board whose remit will be to allow the formal testimony of victims about the offences perpetrated against them or their relatives and to allow former prisoners, or those who may be accused of politically motivated offences, to apply for amnesty and/or immunity from prosecution. Amnesty would have the effect of removing criminal records and any other disabilities resulting from imprisonment."

5.

The Governments continue to recognise the importance of measures to facilitate the reintegration of prisoners into the community by providing support both prior to and after release, including assistance directed

towards availing of employment opportunities, retraining and/or re-skilling, and further education, and so will re-integration.