

MINUTE OF FIRST PLENARY MEETING OF STRAND 2 IN LANCASTER HOUSE, LONDON, ON MONDAY 6 JULY 1992

1. The Chairman welcomed the delegations and outlined his view of the role of the Independent Chairman of Strand 2. He reminded delegates of the aims and ground rules of Strand 2 as set out in the agreed statement of 26 March 1991 and emphasised the need to maintain the confidentiality of discussions. (Copy of Opening Statement attached at Annex 1.)
2. At the invitation of the Chairman, Sir Patrick Mayhew invited Mr Wilson to deliver a message on the opening of Strand 2 from the Taoiseach and the Prime Minister. (Copy attached at Annex 2.)
3. The Chairman called on Sir Patrick Mayhew to deliver his Report as Chairman of Strand 1. Sir Patrick reported on the progress of the talks in Strand 1. (Copy attached at Annex 3.)
4. The Chairman asked for comments on the possible Agenda for Strand 2 which had been drafted at the meeting of 19 June 1992. Following discussions on how the opening presentations and responses to them should be handled, the Agenda was agreed. In view of the time constraints on the plenary session, it was agreed that opening statements should be made by the delegations as proposed by the Chairman. Detailed questioning and responses would take place after all presentations had been made.
5. After a short adjournment, Dr Alderdice made the opening presentation on behalf of the Alliance Party. (Copy attached at Annex 4.) Mr Wilson then delivered the opening presentation of the Irish Government (Annex 5). Mr Hume followed on behalf of the SDLP (Annex 6). Sir Patrick Mayhew delivered the opening presentation on behalf of the United Kingdom Government (Annex 7). Copies of all the presentations

