

**MEETING ON NORTHERN IRELAND, 16 NOVEMBER, 1615-1700**

(Prime Minister, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Foreign Secretary,  
Cabinet Secretary)

Points for Discussion1. Reactions to Guildhall speech:

- Unionists
- Adams/Sinn Fein
- Adams's motives in talking of contacts with British Government?

2. Joint Declaration initiative/relations with Irish Government:

- Irish Government's reactions to Guildhall speech
- position of Reynolds (his letter of 15 November attached)
- "Joint Declaration 13" (annex A to NIO letter of 12 November):  
substance and handling
- alternative proposal for a British draft Joint Statement for the  
Summit (annex B to NIO letter of 12 November): further action?

3. Timing of British/Irish Summit:

- case for and against slippage from 3 to ?13 December

4. Further steps:

- passage in Queen's Speech Debate?



- Prime Minister and Northern Ireland Secretary to see Archbishop Eames on 18 November
  - other soundings?
  - soundings through WAKING? Solicit indications by 21 November?
5. Meeting of Ministerial Group (PM, NI Sec, Foreign Sec, Chancellor, Home Sec, Defence Sec + Perm Sec/NIO, HM Ambassador, Dublin and DCI) 0930-1100 on Tuesday 23 December, to consider:
- WAKING position
  - response to Irish Government on JD13
  - draft UK statement for the Summit?
  - timing of Summit
  - preparations for the Summit
  - action in the talks process
  - case for Privy Counsellor briefing of Leader of Opposition
6. ?Case for a Prime Ministerial visit to Northern Ireland in December.