

new agenda

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David Trimble MP and Seamus Mallon MP
First and Deputy First Ministers Designate
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Stormont
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27 September 1998

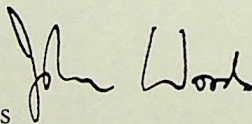
Dear Mr Trimble and Mr Mallon

In June this year New Agenda embarked upon a series of discussions within civil society on the Civic Forum as outlined in the Good Friday Agreement. The enclosed proposal is an attempt to clarify some of the issues and to set out some ideas and options. It is intended to be an aid to discussion rather than a set of firm conclusions. We would very much appreciate the opportunity of meeting you to explore some of the thinking in this document. Participants from New Agenda would include key figures from the relevant sectors.

Although the consultation process in which we have been involved has sought to be as inclusive as possible, there is clearly a demand for widespread discussion and deliberation on the various aspects of the Civic Forum. I also enclose a proposal as to how such a debate (involving a range of sectors of civil society, political parties, Government and international practitioners) could be facilitated between now and the establishment of the Forum in February 1999.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information. I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely



John Woods
Acting Director



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