IN CONFIDENCE

MINUTE OF SEVENTH PLENARY MEETING OF STRAND 2 HELD AT PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS, BELFAST, ON WEDNESDAY 21 JULY 1992

- 1. The draft minute of the sixth Plenary Meeting was agreed.
- 2. The Chairman reported on the meeting of the Business Committee held the previous afternoon. The Committee had concluded that the Chairman should issue a statement to the media on the question of confidentiality of Strand 2 proceedings. He invited leaders of delegations to confer with him on the text of a draft statement at the end of the morning session. The Committee had also agreed that the current phase of Strand 2 meetings would end by Friday 25 July and would resume with a meeting of the Business Committee on 1 September 1992, followed by a Plenary Meeting on 2 September. The Business Committee would put a recommendation to this effect to Plenary before the conclusion of the current phase of Plenary deliberations. Procedures for the handling of documents had also been agreed.
- 3. A discussion took place on the question of leaks and confidentiality. Leaders of the delegations met with the Chairman at the end of the morning session and agreed the text of a statement for issue to the media.
- 4. Questioning of the British Government delegation on its opening statement resumed; owing to the unavailability of the delegation leader later in the day, it was agreed that questioning would be continued on Thursday afternoon.
- 5. Questioning of the UDUP delegation on its opening presentation commenced and was continuing at the adjournment.

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6. A brief statement on the day's proceedings was agreed for release to the media together with the Chairman's statement concerning confidentiality.

SIR NINIAN STEPHEN Independent Chairman

23 July 1992

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