

Press Arrangements for Plenary Sessions

Drawing on experience gained during the last Forum Plenary, it is proposed that the following arrangements be put in place for this week's Plenary session. These arrangements can be modified as required to meet the needs of press coverage for future sessions of the Forum.

Press Facilities

Journalists will have access throughout the day to the Foundation Bar which will be equipped with telephones, faxes and work spaces. A member of the Secretariat staff will be on hand in the Foundation Bar to assist journalists and, for example, to distribute copies of speeches delivered during Public Sessions.

TV Coverage

RTE has plans to cover all Public Sessions of the Forum although there will not usually be a live broadcast. This will involve two cameras being in George's Hall for the duration of each public session. RTE will be in a position to supply material from the public sessions to other broadcasters.

Access for Photographers

Photographers and TV crews will have access to the Castle Yard for the arrival of delegations.

For Public Sessions, it is proposed that photographers be allowed to take pictures of the arrival of delegates in George's Hall. Arrangements can be made to enable a handful of photographers to remain in the room throughout the Plenary provided that their presence does not interfere with the work of the Forum.

For Private Sessions, access would be limited to the arrival of Forum members plus a brief, 5 minute photocall in George's Hall each day.

Briefing of Journalists

To provide for a satisfactory flow of information to the media, it is proposed that Dan Mulhall should meet journalists at noon and 4 pm each day the Plenary meets in order to explain the work of the Forum. These briefings will have to be tailored to meet the competing needs of (i) public information and (ii) the level of confidentiality conducive to the progress of the Forum's work.