

DOORSTEP WITH TAOISEACH

- We are discussing Community issues, foreign policy problems including UN peace-keeping operations, and of course the talks process in Northern Ireland. The Taoiseach and I are doing this as old friends and close partners. We shall continue our talks over a working supper.

- On Copenhagen, there are no serious differences between us over the points to come before the European Council. We both attach importance to discussion there on growth and employment; on enlargement and the Community's relations with Central and Eastern Europe and Russia; and on subsidiarity.

- On Northern Ireland:
 - we would like the talks process to continue and develop;
 - we continue to believe that its objectives are achievable;
 - the next phase will involve further bilateral contacts to try to establish more common ground between the participants;
 - the British and Irish Governments will work closely on the substance of, in particular, Strand 3.

- We have also, of course, discussed security. Security cooperation between Ireland and the UK has been a success story.