

## WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS DECLARATION?

The Declaration shows the joint position of the two Governments - for peace, and against violence.

This is settled policy against which those who pursue violence must reflect whether there is any justification for their continuing to do so.

The declaration opens up the possibility of Sinn Fein joining in due course the democratic process if they renounce violence. A political route is now open to them and they have no excuse not to follow it.

That is the achievement of this statement. And it has been obtained without compromising any of the constitutional principle which this Government has consistently espoused.

The onus is now on the IRA and Sinn Fein.