FROM:

Minister of State  
3 June 1991

Dr Alderdice

Please find enclosed the workplan for Strand One. This is as approved by Seamus. I would be grateful for your confirmation that this is acceptable.

Dr Brian Mawhinney

ADMIN2/352/MD



WORKPLAN FOR STRAND ONE

1- Opening Statement by the Secretary of State.

1. Presentation by the Alliance Party.
2. Presentation by the SDLP.
3. Presentation by the UDUP.

5 Presentation by the UUP.

1. These presentations should be by written statements to which parties can speak and on which they can be questioned.- It is envisaged that in the resulting discussion the general principles and perceived political realities and requirements will be comprehensively aired. From this it is expected that common themes will emerge which will form the basis for furthe discussions.
2. At this stage it will be necessary to consider the institutional implications of these discussions and to address specific proposals which may be tabled by any of the participants. Issues to which specific proposals may be addressed are likely to include those in the attached Schedule
3. Elements of this workplan may need to be adjusted in the light of the discussions which may suggest new issues or approaches.

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SCHEDULE TO WORKPLAN FOR STRAND ONE

Specific issues are likely to include:

1. the constitutional position of Northern Ireland
2. relationships within the Northern Ireland community
3. the nature of all institutional arrangements and institutions for and within Northern Ireland
4. the relationship between any institutions within Northern Ireland and the Secretary of State and the UK Government and Parliamentary system
5. the role of the UK Government and Parliament in respect of matters which are not brought within the responsibilities of institutions within Northern Ireland (including legislative procedures at Westminster)
6. the relationship, if any, between any institutions within Northern Ireland and the European Community
7. the arrangements for the protection of individual and community rights
8. arrangements for validating the outcome of the talks process as a whole insofar as the issues for discussions in strand one are concerned.

This list is not comprehensive; other issues may emerge in discussion.

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STAFF IN STRAND TWO

The independent Chairman of strand two will have a personal Private Office staff but he/she will not have a high-powered Secretariat for the purpose of writing papers on the substance of the talks.

1. There will be a small team responsible for taking a record of strand two meetings. It will be staffed by civil servants selected by the Chairman from nominations put forward by the two governments involved in strand two. The team will work under the direction of the Chairman who will be able to seek advice from the Business Committee on the exercise of this as well as his/her other responsibilities.
2. In the case of plenary meetings and more limited meetings involving all delegations, the note-taking team will prepare and circulate a record. In the case of meetings between the Chairman and one or some delegations, the delegations concerned will be able to choose between not having a record of the meeting, having a record prepared by the Chairman's Private Office and having a record prepared by a member of the note-taking team selected by the Chairman after consultation with the delegation(s) concerned.

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Id.342/A2