CONFIDENTIAL

POLITICAL TALKS

To: Members of the Business Committee

- 1. As agreed at the meeting of the Business Committee on Wednesday 29 April, please find attached:
 - (a) the draft minutes of that meeting;
 - (b) a paper setting out the Government's view of the fundamental political realities which emerged from the previous talks; and
 - (c) a paper on "Common Themes" incorporating the revisions suggested at the Business Committee meeting.
- 2. For ease of reference, the summary record of the plenary session of the talks held on the morning of 29 April is also attached.
- 3. Copies of this note and its enclosures are also being sent to the party leaders; and the Business Committee minutes and the summary record of the plenary discussion will be delivered to party delegations on the next talks day, Tuesday 5 May.
- 4. In response to the point raised by the UDUP representatives at the Business Committee on 29 April with regard to the payment of Talks Allowance to other members of their delegation who might need to be available in Parliament Buildings on Monday 4 May for consultation, the Government will pay Talks Allowance on 4 May, on the basis of the normal criteria.

JEREMY HANLEY
1 May 1992