July

Statement by Senator George J Mitchell 22 July 1999

The review process will resume on Monday 6 September.

In accordance with the remit given me by the Prime Ministers (copy attached)

"The review will take, as its starting point, the three principles agreed by all pro-Agreement parties on 25 June:

an inclusive Executive exercising devolved powers;

decommissioning of all paramilitary arms by May 2000;

decommissioning to be carried out in a manner determined by the International Commission on Decommissioning;

and will determine how to overcome the difficulties which exist in the practical implementation of those principles. This will be its only focus".

I have met with all the parties. Those who supported the Good Friday Agreement restated their support, those who opposed it restated their opposition. I hope that all will play a constructive role in the review process, and that the review will lead to full and timely implementation of the Agreement.

I am convinced that the political leaders and the overwhelming majority of the people of Northern Ireland want peace, political stability, and reconciliation. I will do all I can to help achieve those goals.