



**BRITISH-IRISH  
INTER-PARLIAMENTARY BODY**

**COMHLACHT IDIR-PHARLAIMINTEACH  
NA BREATAINE AGUS NA hÉIREANN**

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**SIXTEENTH PLENARY SESSION**

**15 May 1998**

**Dublin Castle**

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**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

(Produced by JOHN ROYCROFT & FRANK CRANMER, Clerks to the Body)

**Friday 15 May 1998**

**The sitting was opened in public at 9.35 am in Dublin Castle, with Mr Michael O'Kennedy in the Chair.**

**The Chairman** announced that, pursuant to Rule 2(a), **Mr John Austin, Mr Paul Bradford, Mr Matt Brennan, Mr Sean Doherty, Mr John Grogan and Lord Glentoran**, being Associate Members, had accepted the invitation of the Steering Committee to assume the powers and responsibilities of Members for all of the Session.

#### **1. TIME LIMIT ON SPEECHES**

*Ordered*, That in respect of the debate on Recent Political Developments, members opening and closing the debate shall speak for not more than ten minutes each and other members shall speak for not more than four minutes each.-**(The Chairman.)**

#### **2. SITTINGS OF THE BODY**

*Ordered*, That in respect of this day's sitting, Rule 10 shall have effect as if for the words "six weeks" there were substituted the words "two weeks"-**(The Chairman.)**

#### **3. ADOPTION OF PROPOSED PROGRAMME OF BUSINESS, AS AMENDED**

*Ordered*, That the proposed Programme of Business for the current Session be approved.-**(The Chairman.)**

#### **4. RECENT POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS**

Motion made, and Question proposed, That the Body, recalling the unanimous approval of its motion on the multi-party talks at its recent 15th Plenary Session in Ballyconnell, Co. Cavan, welcomes the historic Agreement reached in the multi-party negotiations, congratulates all the participants in the Talks on reaching agreement, and looks forward to its endorsement by the people in the referenda, North and South, and to its successful implementation.-**(Mr Charles Flanagan.)**

**The sitting was suspended at 10.55 am.**

**The sitting was resumed in public at 11.30 am with Mr David Winnick in the Chair.**

**The Body was addressed by Mr David Andrews, TD, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Mr Paul Murphy MP, Minister of State for Northern Ireland, pursuant to Rule 2(c).**

**Mr Michael O'Kennedy resumed the Chair.**

**Mr David Winnick took the Chair as Chairman.**

**Mr Michael O'Kennedy resumed the Chair.**

**Mr David Winnick took the Chair as Chairman.**

**Mr Michael O'Kennedy resumed the Chair.**

**The sitting was suspended at 12.05 am.**

**The sitting was resumed in public at 12.15 am, with Mr David Winnick in the Chair.**

**The sitting was suspended at 1.00 pm.**

**The sitting was resumed in public at 2.40 pm, with Mr Michael O'Kennedy in the Chair.**

**Mr Michael Mates** claimed to move, That the Question be now put.

And the Question being put, That the Question be now put:-It was agreed to.

And the Main Question being put accordingly;

The Body divided: Ayes 26, Noes 1 (*Mr David Wilshire dissenting*).

So the Question was agreed to.

*Resolved*, That the Body, recalling the unanimous approval of its motion on the multi-party talks at its recent 15th Plenary Session in Ballyconnell, Co. Cavan, welcomes the historic Agreement reached in the multi-party negotiations, congratulates all the participants in the Talks on reaching agreement, and looks forward to its endorsement by the people in the referenda, North and South, and to its successful implementation.

## **5. ADJOURNMENT**

*Resolved*, That the Body do now adjourn.-(**Mr Michael Mates.**)

**The Session concluded at 3.40 pm.**