

TALKS STATEMENT

The Secretary of State and Mr Hanley held a number of meetings with the party leaders.

There was a plenary meeting in the afternoon. The Secretary of State announced that, after consultation, he was formally proposing the launch of the later strands of the talks.

The party leaders indicated that they accepted the proposal to launch the second strand. ~~As it is understood,~~ the Irish Government has ~~also~~ also accepted the proposal.

The Secretary of State is informing Sir Ninian Stephen, to whom the convening of the opening meeting of Strand 2 now falls.

Subject to the basis that was outlined above.

Strong input from Dublin.

overseeing

2.7e