

DRAFT SUMMARY RECORD OF OPENING PLENARY SESSION -
WEDNESDAY 6 NOVEMBER 1996 (10.00)

Those present:

Independent Chairmen	Government Teams	Parties
Senator Mitchell	British Government	Alliance Party
Mr Holkeri	Irish Government	Labour
General de Chastelain		Northern Ireland Women's Coalition
		Progressive Unionist Party
		Social Democratic and Labour Party
		Ulster Democratic Party
		Ulster Democratic Unionist Party
		United Kingdom Unionist Party
		Ulster Unionist Party

1. The Chairman brought the session to order at 10.10 saying that four representatives had sought recognition.

2. The UUP inquired if British and Irish Government Ministers would be attending. The session was informed by the British and Irish Governments that Ministers would be attending shortly. The UKUP, expressing no reflection upon the civil servants present, said it preferred the political representatives of both governments to be present, and proposed that there be an adjournment until Ministers were present. The Chairman asked for views on that proposal. The UUP said that there was no point in proceeding in the absence of the political representatives. The DUP said that it wished to address questions to Ministers.

3. The Chairman adjourned the session at 10.14 on the basis that discussions would resume shortly when the British and Irish Ministers arrived.

**Independent Chairmen Notetakers
8 November 1996**

OIC/PS45