

CORE

JOINT INTERNATIONAL
PROGRAMME ON CONFLICT
RESOLUTION
AND ETHNICITY



The United Nations University



University of Ulster

Director: Professor J. Darby

6 January 1995

0382195.

Mr Gerry Loughran
Department of Economic Development
Netherleigh
Massey Avenue
Belfast BT4 2JP

Dear Gerry

INCORE, the Initiative on Conflict Resolution and Ethnicity, is organising an invited conference on the Northern Ireland Peace Dividend, to be held on Friday, 10 February in Belfast. The conference is funded by the Central Community Relations Unit.

We would like to invite you to participate in the conference. Attendance will be limited to thirty people, invited on a personal basis from government, public, industrial, local and academic communities, as well as from funding interests. An important aspect of the conference is the opportunity to benefit from the experiences, positive and negative, of Israel and South Africa, divided societies which have also been depending on expected peace dividends.

There has been a great deal of speculation about the nature, conditions and effects of additional funding and investment following the ceasefires in Northern Ireland. It is likely that the picture may clarify somewhat, at least in relation to possible funding from the United States and the European Union, before the end of 1994. The December conference on Inward Investment should further clarify the situation. We estimate that a conference scheduled for February 1995 will be better informed to review the reality of the peace dividend, and to consider its implications for Northern Ireland.

The conference will be constructed in two parts. The morning sessions will set out to separate the reality about the 'Peace Dividend' from the myth. A senior official will review developments and two speakers have been invited to describe the experiences of Israel and South Africa, how expectations have worked out in reality, how spending priorities were established and what problems and opportunities have arisen. The afternoon sessions will concentrate on Northern Ireland, and isolate four key considerations: the general principles which should guide approaches to a peace dividend, how general priorities might be established, what specific proposals deserve support and what are the most effective procedures for publicity, consultation and implementation. The

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conference will conclude with a panel discussion. A provisional programme is attached.

INCORE, the Initiative on Conflict Resolution and Ethnicity jointly established by the United Nations University and the University of Ulster in 1993, carries out research and training on ethnic issues. Its research agenda reflects concerns of the United Nations, and includes a particular interest in the dynamics of ethnic violence from its pre-violence stage (including preventative diplomacy, early warning and educational programmes) to the disengagement stage (including approaches to mediation, economic reconstruction and the restoration of civil society). All INCORE's work is comparative and international, and based on the belief that there is much to be learned from the experiences of other societies.

We believe that a comparative review of the Peace Dividend process will help to move matters constructively at this important time in Northern Ireland's history. We hope you will be able to participate. I would be grateful if you would complete the attached form and return it before 6 January at the latest.

Yours sincerely,



John Darby,
Director, INCORE

Enc

INCORE Peace Dividend Workshop

Programme: Draft

The aims of the workshop are to consider what is known, as distinct from rumoured, about a possible Peace Dividends following the ceasefire, to learn from comparative examples in Israel and South Africa and to make a start in approaching principles and priorities about how it should be used. A short report on the proceedings will be produced by the end of March.

The morning will concentrate on providing background and comparative information. The afternoon will focus on Northern Ireland, moving from general principles, through priorities to specific proposals.

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| 9.30 | A Peace Dividend for Northern Ireland? Keynote Speaker |
| 10.15 | Questions and Discussion |
| 10.30 | Coffee |
| 11.00 | The Israeli Experience Oded Eren, Deputy Director of Finance, Israel |
| 11.30 | The South African Experience Somerset Morkel, South Africa London Embassy |
| 12.00 | Questions and Discussion |
| 12.30 | Lunch |
| 2.00 | What general principles should guide approaches to a Peace Dividend in Northern Ireland? Introduced by John Simpson |
| 2.30 | What general priorities should be established? Introduced by William McCarter |
| 3.00 | Afternoon tea |
| 3.30 | What specific proposals might be proposed? Introduced by Maurice Hayes |
| 4.00 | What are the most effective procedures for implementation and consultation? Introduced by Jackie Redpath |
| 4.30 | Panel Discussion Representatives from Europe and the United States |
| 5.00 | Workshop ends |

INCORE

THE INITIATIVE ON CONFLICT RESOLUTION
AND ETHNICITY

PEACE DIVIDEND WORKSHOP

I will be able/unable* to attend the
INCORE Peace Dividend Workshop in Belfast on Friday, 10 February 1995

* Insert name and delete as appropriate

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