

Treaty Series No. 131 (2000)

**Exchange of Letters
between the Government of the
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
and the Government of Ireland amending the Agreement
concerning the International Fund for Ireland done at
London and Dublin on 18 September 1986**

Cm 5007

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CORRECTION

Page 4

Amend line 4 to read '10 October 2000'.

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United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
and the Government of Ireland amending the Agreement
concerning the International Fund for Ireland done at
London and Dublin on 18 September 1986

Dublin, 27 September and Belfast, 10 October 2000

[The Exchange of Letters entered into force on 10 October 2000]

*Presented to Parliament
by the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs
by Command of Her Majesty
December 2000*

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EXCHANGE OF LETTERS BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE GOVERNMENT OF IRELAND AMENDING THE AGREEMENT CONCERNING THE INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR IRELAND DONE AT LONDON AND DUBLIN ON 18 SEPTEMBER 1986¹

No. 1

The Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ireland to the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland

*Dublin
27 September 2000*

I have the honour to refer to the Agreement between our two Governments concerning the International Fund for Ireland done at Dublin and London on 18 September 1986 (“the Fund Agreement”) and to the Agreement between our two Governments done at Belfast on 10 April 1998² (“the British-Irish Agreement”).

I further have the honour to refer to recent discussions between our two Governments confirming that the continued operation of the International Fund for Ireland is an important expression of support for the successful implementation of the British-Irish Agreement and the Multi-Party Agreement annexed thereto and recognising the desirability of amending the Fund Agreement to take account of the provisions of the British-Irish Agreement and Multi-Party Agreement.

Having regard to the above discussions, I have the honour to propose that the Fund Agreement shall, in accordance with Article 13, be amended as follows:

(a) Substitute the following paragraph for the first preambular paragraph:

“Desiring to promote the economic and social development of those areas of both parts of Ireland which have suffered most severely from the consequences of instability and to secure international support for this work”.

(b) Substitute the following paragraph for the second preambular paragraph:

“Recognising that an international Fund is an important expression of international support for the shared commitment to peace, stability, dialogue and reconciliation in the island of Ireland and for the successful implementation of the Multi-Party Agreement, reached at Belfast on 10 April 1998”;

(c) in Article 6, delete “donor countries” and insert “donors”;

(d) in Article 10 insert the following sentence after the phrase “under Article 7.”;

“Representatives of the British Government shall include officials representing Northern Ireland Departments.”;

(e) in Article 12 insert “to the Northern Ireland Assembly” after “to the two Governments”.

If the foregoing proposals are acceptable to your Government, I have the honour to propose that this Note and your reply to that effect shall be regarded as constituting an Agreement between our two Governments which shall enter into force immediately on the date of your reply.

BRIAN COWEN

¹ Treaty Series No. 58 (1987) Cm 266.

² Treaty Series No. 50 (2000) Cm 4705.

No. 2

The Secretary of State for Northern Ireland to the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ireland

*Belfast
1 October 2000*

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 27 September 2000 which reads as follows:

[As in No. 1]

In reply, I have the honour to inform you that the foregoing proposals are acceptable to the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, who will regard your letter and this reply as constituting an Agreement between our two Governments which shall enter into force on today's date.

PETER MANDELSON