

RECORD OF DECISION - IP/TB 8

Pursuant to the Agreement between the Government of Ireland and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland establishing a North/South Ministerial Council done at Dublin on 8 March 1999, the Agreement between the Government of Ireland and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland establishing Implementation Bodies done at Dublin on 8 March 1999 and to the supplementary Agreement between the Government of Ireland and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland constituted by the exchange of letters dated 18 June 1999, as amended by the supplementary Agreement between the Government of Ireland and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland constituted by the exchange of notes dated 19 November 2002, Mr. Barry Gardiner, MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State and Ms. Mary Harney, T.D., Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment have given consent to the decision sought in **Paper IP/TB 8** set out below. The effective date of this decision is 1 September 2004.

Decision sought in Paper IP/TB8

Ministers are invited to note InterTradeIreland's Annual Report and Accounts for 2003.

TRADE AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT SECTOR

INTERTRADEIRELAND

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR 2003

Purpose

The attached *InterTradeIreland* Annual Report and Accounts 2003 are hereby submitted for Ministerial consideration under the agreed interim procedures that apply during the period of the suspension of the Northern Ireland Assembly.

Background

The North/South Co-operation (Implementation Bodies) Northern Ireland Order 1999 and British-Irish Agreement Act, 1999 place a statutory obligation on all North South Implementation Bodies to submit an Annual Report and Statement of Accounts to the North/South Ministerial Council (NSMC).

The attached Annual Report and Accounts for *InterTradeIreland* relate to its activities and expenditure during 2003. It has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of *InterTradeIreland*'s Financial Memorandum and has the endorsement of Sponsor Departments, North and South. The Accounts have been audited and certified without qualification by the Comptrollers and Auditors General, North and South.

Given the dissolution of the Assembly, arrangements are now in place to have the Annual Report and Accounts laid before both Houses of Parliament at Westminster and the Houses of the Oireachtas.

There are no presentational issues arising from the content of the Annual Report and Accounts.