

North/South Ministerial Council



An Chomhairle Aireachta
Thuaidh/Theas

annual report 2002

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The background is a solid dark blue. Overlaid on this are several large, light blue geometric shapes. There are two overlapping circles in the center, one slightly to the left and one slightly to the right. There are also several angular, polygonal shapes that appear to be outlines of larger shapes, some of which are partially cut off by the edges of the page. The overall aesthetic is clean and modern.

INTRODUCTION BY JOINT SECRETARIES

INTRODUCTION

We are pleased to present this, the third Annual Report of the North/South Ministerial Council (NSMC). As the Council noted at the Plenary meeting held in June 2002, significant progress has been achieved across a wide range of sectors. The North/South Implementation Bodies have continued to exercise their functions for the mutual benefit of both parts of the island, and have consolidated their position as part of the institutional architecture established under devolution.

Following the suspension of the Assembly on 14 October 2002, the Agreement between the two Governments establishing the Bodies was amended by way of Exchange of Letters. Under the terms of the amendment, "Decisions of the North/South Ministerial Council on policies and actions relating to the Implementation Bodies, Tourism Ireland Limited or their respective functions shall be taken by our two Governments. No new functions shall be conferred on the Implementation Bodies". This was designed to ensure that the Bodies

could continue to carry out their important public functions on a care and maintenance basis. As this Report goes to press, the two Governments are continuing their efforts to bring about the restoration of devolved Government in Northern Ireland.


It has been our privilege to work with our colleagues in the Joint Secretariat to support the work of Ministers and to help accomplish the efficient conduct of business. Towards the end of the year this important work was carried out against a backdrop of difficulties in the wider political process, and we commend the staff of the Joint Secretariat for their commitment in continuing to provide a quality service in a complex environment.

We would like to express our sincere appreciation for the co-operation and support of Ministers and officials in both jurisdictions, and of the Boards and staff of the North/South Bodies, without which our job would be impossible. We look forward to playing our part in the taking forward of North/South co-operation to mutual benefit.

Dr. Peter Smyth
Joint Secretary (North)

Tim O'Connor
Joint Secretary (South)

Armagh
November 2003



CHAPTER 1
BACKGROUND TO THE NORTH/SOUTH
MINISTERIAL COUNCIL

THE NORTH/SOUTH MINISTERIAL COUNCIL

1.1 The North/South Ministerial Council (NSMC) was established on Thursday 2 December 1999 on the entry into force of the British-Irish Agreement of 8 March 1999, which was signed by the British and Irish Governments as part of the Agreement reached in the Multi-Party Negotiations in Belfast on Good Friday, 10 April, 1998. The Agreement stipulates that the North/South Ministerial Council will bring together those with executive responsibilities in Northern Ireland and the Irish Government to develop consultation, co-operation and action within the island of Ireland - including through implementation on an all-island and cross-border basis - on matters of mutual interest and within the competence of each Administration, North and South. The NSMC comprises Ministers of the Northern Ireland Administration and the Irish Government, working together to take forward co-operation between both parts of the island to mutual benefit.

AREAS OF OPERATION OF THE COUNCIL

1.2 The Agreement provided that at least 12 subject areas would be identified for co-operation and implementation for mutual benefit under the aegis of the Council. Co-operation in these areas would be implemented in two ways - in the case of at least six of them by means of existing bodies in each jurisdiction separately (also commonly

referred to as the Areas for Co-operation), and in the case of at least six others by means of new North/South Implementation Bodies (also commonly referred to as the North/South Bodies) operating at a cross-border or all-island level.

1.3 The six Areas identified as those in which co-operation would be taken forward by the new North/South Bodies, were:

- Inland Waterways
- Food Safety
- Trade and Business Development
- Special EU Programmes
- Language (Irish and Ulster-Scots)
- Aquaculture and Marine Matters.

1.4 Aspects of six other Areas were identified as those in which co-operation would be taken forward by existing bodies in each jurisdiction separately:

- Agriculture
- Education
- Environment
- Health
- Transport
- Tourism, including Tourism Ireland Limited.

1.5 The British and Irish Governments subsequently concluded an Agreement on the establishment of the North/South Bodies - "Agreement between the Government of Ireland and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland establishing Implementation Bodies," signed on 8 March, 1999 ("the British-

Irish Agreement of 8 March, 1999"). This formally set out the functions and structure of the North/South Bodies and the common arrangements applying to them, and was given domestic effect, North and South, by means of the North/South Co-operation (Implementation Bodies) (Northern Ireland) Order, 1999, and the British-Irish Agreement Act, 1999, respectively.

- 1.6 The 12 Areas constitute those matters on which the Council can take decisions by agreement on (a) policies for implementation separately in each jurisdiction and on (b) policies and actions at an all-island and cross-border level for implementation by the North/South Bodies. Further development of these arrangements is possible by agreement in the Council, and with the specific endorsement of the Northern Ireland Assembly and the Oireachtas, subject to the extent of the competences and responsibilities of the two Administrations.



CHAPTER 2

**THE OPERATION OF THE NORTH/SOUTH
MINISTERIAL COUNCIL**

THE FORMATS OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

2.1 The NSMC meets in a number of Formats. It meets in Plenary Format with the Northern Ireland Executive delegation led by the First Minister and Deputy First Minister and the Irish Government delegation led by the Taoiseach and the Tánaiste. The task of the Plenary is to take an overview of co-operation on the island and of the North/South institutions. The NSMC met in Plenary Format once in 2002. This was in Armagh on 28 June.

2.2 The NSMC also meets in Institutional Format with the Northern Ireland Executive being represented by the First Minister and Deputy First Minister and the Irish Government by the Minister for Foreign Affairs. The task of the Institutional Format is to consider institutional and cross-sectoral issues, including in relation to the European Union and to resolve any disagreements. There were no NSMC meetings in Institutional Format in 2002.

2.3 The NSMC meets in Sectoral Format to oversee co-operation in the agreed 12 Areas or Sectors, as described in Chapter 1. At these meetings, the Irish Government is represented by the Minister responsible for that Sector, while the Northern Ireland Administration is represented by two Ministers nominated by the First Minister and Deputy First Minister on a cross-community basis, one normally being the Minister with responsibility for the relevant Sector within the Executive. This is in line with the requirements of

the Agreement and the Northern Ireland Act 1998 that participation by the Executive in the NSMC must be such as to ensure cross-community involvement. During 2002, a total of 17 meetings in Sectoral Format were held.

2.4 All NSMC decisions are by agreement between the two sides in the Council.

FUNCTIONS OF THE COUNCIL

2.5 The Council carries out a number of functions in accordance with Strand Two of the Agreement. These were set out in the Agreement, as follows:

- To exchange information, discuss and consult with a view to co-operation on matters of mutual interest within the competence of both Administrations, North and South;
- To use best endeavours to reach agreement on the adoption of common policies, in areas where there is a mutual cross-border and all-island benefit, and which are within the competence of both Administrations, North and South, making determined efforts to overcome any disagreements;
- To take decisions by agreement on policies for implementation separately in each jurisdiction, in relevant meaningful areas within the competence of both Administrations, North and South;

- To take decisions by agreement on policies and action at an all-island and cross-border level to be implemented by the North/South Bodies.

NORTH/SOUTH BODIES

2.6 Each of the six North/South Bodies operates on an all-island basis. While having a clear operational remit, all function under the overall direction of the North/South Ministerial Council, with accountability lines back to the Council and to the Oireachtas and the Northern Ireland Assembly.

2.7 The Bodies are:

Waterways Ireland

The Food Safety Promotion Board (FSPB)

The Trade and Business Development Body (InterTradeIreland)

The Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB)

The North/South Language Body (consisting of two Agencies i.e. Foras na Gaeilge and Tha Boord o Ulstèr-Scotch)

The Foyle, Carlingford and Irish Lights Commission (FCILC) (consisting of two Agencies i.e. the Loughs Agency and The Lights Agency)

2.8 In regard to three of the Bodies, InterTradeIreland, the North/South Language Body and the FCILC, the functions of each Body are exercised by a Board appointed by the NSMC. A fourth Body, the FSPB, has an advisory Board, also appointed by the NSMC. In its case, the functions of the Body are exercised by the Chief

Executive. The remaining two Bodies, Waterways Ireland and the SEUPB, do not have Boards; in each of these cases, the functions of the Body are exercised by the Chief Executive.

2.9 The North/South Bodies are funded from grants made by the two administrations, North and South. The Bodies may employ staff or may employ the services of other persons for particular purposes. In the initial stage of their establishment the Bodies were largely staffed by civil servants seconded from their parent Departments, North and South. However, the Bodies have also been taking on directly recruited staff.

2.10 Further information on the work of the North/South Bodies is set out in Chapter 4.

AREAS FOR CO-OPERATION

2.11 The Areas for co-operation and the aspects that were agreed for initial consideration by the NSMC are as follows:

- Transport: strategic planning and development of cross-border co-operation (while co-operation would primarily arise in respect of road and rail planning, it would take account of issues arising in the port and airport sectors), and road and rail safety;
- Agriculture: discussion of CAP issues, animal and plant health policy and research and rural development;
- Education: education for children with special needs (eg autism, hearing impairment), educational underachievement, teacher qualifications, and school, youth and teacher exchanges;

- Health: accident and emergency planning; emergency services, co-operation on high technology equipment, cancer research and health promotion;
- Environment: research into environmental protection, water quality management and waste management in a cross-border context;
- Tourism: it was agreed to establish a publicly-owned limited company to market the island of Ireland overseas as a tourism destination.

2.12 Further information on the work of the Council in these areas is set out in Chapter 4.

2.13 Following the suspension of the Northern Ireland Assembly on 14 October 2002, an agreement between the UK and Irish Governments was made and contained in an exchange of notes dated 19 November 2002. This agreement provided a mechanism for decisions to be taken on policies and actions relating to the Implementation Bodies and Tourism Ireland Limited during the period of suspension of the Assembly.

2.14 It was deemed necessary to make provision for essential decisions to be taken to ensure continuation in those services provided by the Implementation Bodies. Only those decisions required to ensure the proper care and maintenance of the Implementation Bodies and Tourism Ireland in the performance of their necessary public functions are taken under what are known as Interim Procedures. The two Governments pursue only the policies and actions already agreed in the North/South Ministerial Council and do not introduce any new

policies. The agreement expressly provides that “No new functions shall be conferred on the Implementation Bodies”.

Both Governments consult as appropriate in the exercise of these powers to ensure the continued good governance of the Implementation Bodies and Tourism Ireland.

NORTH/SOUTH MINISTERIAL COUNCIL JOINT SECRETARIAT

2.15 The work of the North/South Ministerial Council is supported by a standing Joint Secretariat, staffed by members of the Northern Ireland Civil Service and the Irish Government Civil Service - see Chapter 5.



CHAPTER 3
NSMC PLENARY FORMAT MEETING

NSMC PLENARY MEETING



- 3.1** The Council met in Plenary Format in the Armagh City Hotel, Armagh, on 28 June. At this, the fourth Plenary Meeting, the Northern Ireland Executive delegation was led by the First Minister, The Rt Hon David Trimble MP, MLA, and Deputy First Minister, Mr Mark Durkan, MLA who jointly chaired the meeting. The Taoiseach, Mr Bertie Ahern TD, led the Irish Government delegation.

being done in the various sectors. Both sides looked forward to the delivery of further tangible benefits to both jurisdictions.

North/South Consultative Forum

- 3.4** The Council agreed an outline structure for a North/South Consultative Forum. A twice-yearly conference will take place, comprising representatives of civil society, North and South. The planning and organisation of the first conference would be undertaken by a steering committee drawn from the Northern Ireland Civic Forum and the social partners in the South participating in the Central Review Mechanism of the Programme for Prosperity and Fairness, in liaison with the two administrations. The steering committee will also invite representatives from a range of relevant organisations, North and South, to participate in the conferences.

Activities

- 3.2** The Council reviewed the programme of co-operation which it oversees and considered a number of specific proposals.
- 3.3** The Council noted the 2001 Annual Report on the activities of the North/South Ministerial Council. The Council also received a progress report on the work of the NSMC in its sectoral meetings between 1 January 2002 and 14 June 2002. The Council heard reports on the valuable work

North/South Parliamentary Forum

- 3.5** Recognising that any development of a Joint Parliamentary Forum is a matter for the Northern Ireland Assembly and the Houses of the Oireachtas, the Council agreed that officials from the two administrations should make contact with officials in the elected institutions and report to the next Plenary Meeting.

Areas of Co-operation

- 3.6** The Council agreed that the appropriate Ministers in the respective NSMC sectors should consider whether there were items falling within existing areas of co-operation which might be included in the future programme of work in these areas. Ministers also agreed that the Council would examine proposals in regard to North/South co-operation currently taking place outside the NSMC. The Council also agreed that there was a potential for mutual benefit to be gained from co-operation in areas such as strategic investment /infrastructure (including strategic transport issues). The Council acknowledged that any expansion of the current work programme of the NSMC would require the specific endorsement of the Northern Ireland Assembly and the Houses of the Oireachtas.

Co-operation on European Union Matters

- 3.7** Recognising the importance to both jurisdictions of the European Union (EU), the Council decided that at the next meeting of the NSMC in each sector Ministers may consider the EU

dimension of North/South co-operation in that sector, and that an EU Working Group should bring forward an overall assessment of EU issues likely to arise. Further consideration will be given as to how the views of the Council can be appropriately reflected at EU meetings.

Obstacles to Cross-Border Mobility

- 3.8** The Council considered proposals on Obstacles to Cross-Border Mobility on the island of Ireland. A study on the matter, undertaken by consultants, had been published earlier in the year followed by an extensive public consultation.
- 3.9** The Council was pleased to note that since the commissioning of the study and the consultation process, a number of recommendations had already been implemented. In response to recommendations on the difficulty of accessing information on issues related to North/South mobility, the Council agreed to establish a website, providing comprehensive and easily accessible information. The Council decided that recommendations in the areas of Education and Working, Health, and Pensions should be considered by relevant Government Departments which would bring forward detailed implementation proposals, including costs. The Council also agreed that other recommendations required further examination by officials from the two administrations.

Irish Lights

- 3.10** The Council considered the provisions in the Agreement establishing the North/South Bodies for the transfer of the functions currently carried out by the Commissioners of Irish Lights to the Foyle, Carlingford and Irish Lights Commission. The Council recognised that complex issues surround such a transfer and asked the relevant Ministers and Departments, North and South, to examine the alternative possibilities as a matter of urgency and bring back proposals to Council.

NSMC Accommodation

- 3.11** The Council noted a recently completed Economic Appraisal of the options for accommodation for the Joint Secretariat of the NSMC in Armagh and agreed that these options should be considered by the two administrations in liaison with the joint project team and brought forward to a future Council meeting.

NSMC Website

- 3.12** The First Minister, Deputy First Minister and the Taoiseach launched the website for the North/South Ministerial Council. The website is intended to act as an initial point of contact for those interested in discovering more about the North/South Ministerial Council and its work. The website can be found at www.northsouthministerialcouncil.org
- 3.13** A list of the Ministers who attended the Plenary meeting is set out in Annex 1.



CHAPTER 4
NSMC SECTORAL MEETINGS

NSMC SECTORAL MEETINGS & ACTIVITIES

INTRODUCTION

4.1.1 This Chapter provides an outline of the work of the NSMC in Sectoral Format during 2002. A list of the Ministers who attended these meetings is at Annex 2.

TRADE AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT SECTOR



TRADE AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT BODY – INTERTRADEIRELAND

4.2.1 The Council meets in the Trade and Business Development Sector in order to take decisions on policies and action to be implemented by the Trade and Business Development Body – InterTradelreland. There were two meetings of the NSMC in its Trade and Business Development Sector in 2002. These meetings were held in Limerick on 23 January and in Belfast on 26 June.

4.2.2 The Board of InterTradelreland is chaired by Dr Martin Naughton and the Vice-Chair is Mr. Barry

Fitzsimons. The Board members are set out in Annex 5.

FUNCTIONS/OBJECTIVES

4.2.3 InterTradelreland's mission, as stated in its Corporate Plan 2002-2004, is "to lead the development of the island economy through distinctive knowledge based interventions, which will produce significant returns in the areas of cross-border trade and business development". Its overall objective is to promote North/South trade and business development. To achieve this InterTradelreland is working to develop the capability of businesses to trade on an all-island basis by increasing the

stock of knowledge and information required by business and policy makers, and by improving the flow of such knowledge to those who can use it to create value.

4.2.4 Under the overall policy direction of the NSMC, *InterTradelreland* works in close collaboration with the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment, Belfast, the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment, Dublin, and with the existing development agencies, North and South.

4.2.5 *InterTradelreland* also has the objective of enhancing enterprise competitiveness in a North/South context in areas such as skills availability, telecoms, information technology and electronic commerce.

Activities

4.2.6 At its meeting in this Sector on 23 January, the Council:

- approved *InterTradelreland's* Operating Plan for 2002;
- approved *InterTradelreland's* Financial Assistance scheme;
- noted an interim report by PriceWaterHouse Cooper on Public Procurement on the island of Ireland.

4.2.7 At its meeting in this Sector on 26 June, the Council:

- approved in principle the framework for developing the Digital Island concept;
- noted a paper on the potential for enhanced co-operation in the area of Science and Technology;
- noted *InterTradelreland's* framework Operating Plan for 2003;

- approved *InterTradeIreland's* proposed Staff Appraisal Scheme.
- noted *InterTradelreland's* Annual Review of Activities and Annual Accounts for 2001.

4.2.8 *InterTradelreland's* Operating Plan for 2002 described projects that would be undertaken during 2002 as the initial phase of the Body's Corporate Plan 2002-2004. The Operating Plan proposed major programmes of activity that were themed around the concept of knowledge, as relating to three Knowledge Domains - Knowledge Capital, Knowledge Channels and Knowledge Carriers. The Plan comprised projects which would promote the generation, the dissemination and the exploitation of the information and expertise required by businesses and policy makers to expand all-island trade, business development and economic co-operation. In noting *InterTradelreland's* Operating Plan the Council asked that it concentrate on key, tangible projects that would not overlap with the planned activities of other enterprise support agencies.

4.2.9 *InterTradelreland's* proposals for a Financial Assistance Scheme provide for a robust process for the appraisal, monitoring and evaluation of third-party proposals for financial assistance where the promoter has not the financial resources to advance a project. Projects must offer a credible contribution to the delivery of *InterTradelreland's* strategic objectives. Ministers also noted an interim report by PriceWaterhouseCoopers on Public Procurement on the island of Ireland.

4.2.10 During 2002 *InterTradelreland* delivered over 30 new all-island initiatives while at the same time growing its organisational capacity and capability, a process which involved both recruiting new staff and officially opening its new headquarters in Newry.

4.2.11 Foremost among *InterTradelreland*'s all-island initiatives in 2002 were:

- **Equity Network programme** – building awareness and exploitation of the use of private equity to fund company growth, especially in the SME sector islandwide;
- **FUSION** – an all-island technology transfer project linking companies in one jurisdiction to research institutes in the other jurisdiction through placing science and technology graduates within companies to develop new products and processes;
- **FOCUS** – an all-island structure and mechanism for increasing marketing and sales opportunities through the use of graduate placements to identify new market opportunities;
- **All Island Business Model** – a project which will see the engagement of the Economic and Social Research Institute, the Northern Ireland Economic Research Council, the Central Statistics Office, and the Department of Enterprise Trade and Investment Statistics Branch in the delivery of new statistical information on cross-border trade and related trends;
- **ACUMEN** – setting up a project to provide small and medium enterprises with consultancy and sales support staff, in order to

assist them to increase their level of cross border trade;

- **Science & Technology** – the building of networks and resources among the scientific, technological and financial communities to help entrepreneurs realise the competitive benefits of forging new relationships and ways of doing business;
- **Business Information Services** – the provision of added value business information services to businesses North and South;
- **Digital Island**– a policy framework designed to initiate the fullest exploitation of digital technologies in support of increased trade and business development on the island;

4.2.12 Other initiatives focused on public procurement with *GO-SOURCE.COM*, an all-island directory of public procurement opportunities; an all-island benchmarking forum which aims to assist SMEs to develop their capability and profitability; and the mapping of biotechnology capability on the island.

4.2.13 Increased knowledge capital has also been achieved through a comprehensive economic and business policy research agenda that includes the reconciliation of cross-border trade and related statistics, sectoral reports and case studies. The co-ordination, capture and dissemination of this overall increased stock of knowledge has been facilitated by the development of *InterTradelreland*'s Information Resource Centre and website.

4.2.14 A series of awards, conferences and seminars such as the all-island trade awards, an all-island conference on equity venture capital attended by over 300 representatives from the financial services industry, and four North/South Business fora have created networking opportunities on an all island basis and enhanced knowledge, information and awareness about trading in the other jurisdiction. InterTradeIreland also made an important contribution in the biotechnology sector at the US/Ireland Business Summit held in Washington in September 2002.

4.2.15 Further information on InterTradeIreland can be found on the Body's website www.intertradeireland.com

FOOD SAFETY



FOOD SAFETY PROMOTION BOARD

- 4.3.1** The Council meets in the Food Safety Sector in order to take decisions on policies and action to be implemented by the Food Safety Promotion Board (FSPB). The Council met twice in the Food Safety Sector in 2002. These meetings took place on 27 February and 28 June.
- 4.3.2** The FSPB is principally charged with the promotion of food safety and supporting North/South scientific co-operation and links between institutions working in the field of food safety. It has an Advisory Board of 12 members, appointed by the NSMC. The Board is chaired by Mr. Bertie Kerr and the Vice-Chair is Professor Charlie Daly. The Board members are set out in Annex 5.

FUNCTIONS/OBJECTIVES

- 4.3.3** The FSPB operates under the brand identifier 'SafeFood' or in the Irish language 'Bíaslán' and comprises three directorates; Scientific and Technical,

Marketing and Communications, and Planning and Resources. This structure ensures that the Body is adequately resourced and the necessary supports are in place to develop and implement the programmes that support its remit and the realisation of its mission.

- 4.3.4** The FSPB carries out its role through public campaigns, conferences, training and advising professionals and the general public. It is also involved in supporting North/South scientific co-operation, and links between institutions working in the field of food safety - laboratories, statutory food safety enforcement agencies, international and domestic research bodies. The development of cost effective specialised laboratory testing also falls within the Board's remit. The Board also has a role to provide independent scientific assessment of food safety matters. Cross-border co-operation in all of these areas, between organisations working in these fields, is central to the work of the Board.

Activities

4.3.5 At its meeting in this Sector on 27 February, the Council:

- noted the FSPB's Annual Report and Financial Statements covering the period December 1999 - December 2000;
- approved an increase in the membership of the FSPB's Scientific Advisory Committee to 18, by the appointment of nominees from the Food Safety Authority Ireland (FSAI) and the Food Standards Agency Northern Ireland (FSANI);
- approved remuneration arrangements for staff other than the CEO.

4.3.6 At its meeting in this Sector on 28 June 2002, the Council:

- approved the FSPB's draft Corporate Strategy for 2002-2004;
- approved the FSPB's draft New Targeting Social Need Action Plan;
- approved the FSPB's amended draft Equality Scheme for submission to the Equality Commission for approval.

4.3.7 At its meetings in this Sector, the Council also received oral reports from the Interim Chief Executive of the FSPB, which focused on the progress made by the Body. Items covered in these reports included staff recruitment, accommodation, the work of the Scientific Advisory Committee, research fellowships, laboratory linkages, liaison with other food safety agencies North and South, launch of the Body's website, communication issues, nutrition, surveillance and educational initiatives.

4.3.8 Activities engaged in by the FSPB during the course of the year included the following:

- FSPB commissioned a number of research projects to enable a better understanding of the factors that affect consumer behaviour and to develop the most effective ways of communicating food safety issues and information. This research involved collaboration with researchers in Great Britain as well as North/South co-operation;
- A Directory of Laboratory Services was produced, the purpose of which is to provide an overview of the current available food safety analytical services offered by official agencies, non-departmental public bodies/state agencies and authorised approved private laboratories on the island of Ireland;
- FSPB, in its responsibility to promote cross-border surveillance, facilitated an expert group to review the surveillance of foodborne diseases. A consultation paper, 'Towards the Enhancement of Foodborne Disease Surveillance' and a report 'Microbial Food Safety Surveillance on the Island of Ireland' were published and distributed to public health professionals and agencies across the island of Ireland. Comments arising from the consultation are currently being reviewed by the Scientific Advisory Committee;
- In March 2002, FSPB published a report "A Review of the Health Effects of Stimulant Drinks". The study was undertaken following a request by the Department of Health and Children in November 2000 to review the potential health effects on the population from the consumption of

- stimulant drinks, to assess knowledge gaps and consider any steps which would be needed to provide appropriate protection for public health;
- As part of the Food Safety Week in Northern Ireland, FSPB undertook the “Germ Warfare” summer campaign in conjunction with the Food Standards Agency, Northern Ireland. Supported by 26 district councils, the format delivered educational and hygiene messages in a way that actively engaged the public;
 - A major advertising campaign, co-funded in Northern Ireland by FSPB and the Food Standards Agency, to significantly increase awareness and reduce the risk of food poisoning in restaurants and other food outlets, was undertaken in Northern Ireland. Initially targeting the catering trade, the campaign ran on television, radio and newspapers and trade magazines.
- 4.3.9** Advertising campaigns have established a clear link to the FSPB as the source of authoritative food safety information and have publicised the Safefood Helpline numbers. As a measure of its impact, the Safefood Helpline currently receives 400 calls per month. Every opportunity is used to highlight the Helpline as a source of trusted information to the public through advertising, editorial and promotional materials.
- 4.3.10** Further information on FSPB can be found on the Body’s website www.safefoodonline.com

AQUACULTURE AND MARINE SECTOR



FOYLE, CARLINGFORD AND IRISH LIGHTS COMMISSION

4.4.1 The Council meets in the Aquaculture and Marine Sector in order to take decisions on policies and action to be implemented by the Foyle, Carlingford and Irish Lights Commission (FCILC). The Council met twice in this sector in 2002. The meetings took place on 1 February and on 15 April.

4.4.2 The FCILC exercises its functions through two agencies. The functions of the Commission in relation to the Foyle and Carlingford Areas are exercised through an agency known as the Loughs Agency. The Loughs Agency replaced the Foyle Fisheries Commission. It was also intended that the FCILC would be the General Lighthouse Authority for the island of Ireland. This function currently rests with the Commissioners of Irish Lights which has accountability to the UK Department of Transport, Local Government and the Regions, as Trustee of the General Lighthouse Fund. Under the

relevant provisions, British and Irish legislation would be brought forward to transfer the Commissioners of Irish Lights functions to the FCILC, these functions then being exercised through an agency of the FCILC known as the Lights Agency.

4.4.3 The transfer of the functions of the Commissioners of Irish Lights to the FCILC, which was mandated in the British-Irish Agreement establishing the FCILC, has not to date proved possible. There are complex issues involved which require amendments to be made, by way of UK legislation, to the Merchant Shipping Act, 1995.

4.4.4 This matter was discussed at the NSMC Plenary Meeting on 28 June. The Council recognised that complex issues surround such a transfer and asked the relevant Ministers and Departments, North and South, to examine the alternative possibilities as a matter of urgency and to bring back proposals to the Council.

4.4.5 Discussions are ongoing between the two Governments and the relevant Northern Ireland Departments to address the legislative, corporate and financial issues involved.

4.4.6 The FCILC has a Board of 12 members appointed by the NSMC. The Commission is chaired by Mr Peter Savage and the Vice-Chair is Lord Cooke of Islandreagh. The membership of the Commission is set out in Annex 5.

LOUGHS AGENCY FUNCTIONS/OBJECTIVES

4.4.7 The Loughs Agency was given responsibility for the functions of the Foyle Fisheries Commission on 2 December 1999. These functions, “the conservation, protection and improvement of the fisheries of the Foyle Area”, were extended to the Carlingford Area. In addition, the Agency is responsible for the promotion of the development of Lough Foyle and Carlingford Lough for commercial and recreational purposes in the area of marine fishery and aquaculture matters, the development of marine tourism and the development and licensing of aquaculture in the Foyle and Carlingford Areas.

4.4.8 Fundamental to the Agency undertaking this full range of responsibilities is the amendment of the primary legislation under which the Foyle Fisheries Commission operated. The necessary amendments to this legislation – the Foyle Fisheries Act 1952 and the Foyle Fisheries Act (Northern Ireland) 1952 – are in the course of preparation by the Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources and the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development.

Activities

4.4.9 At its meeting in this Sector on 1 February, the Council:

- approved the Loughs Agency’s Corporate Plan for 2002-04 and its Business Plan for 2002;
- noted developments in regard to the formation of an Advisory Forum to assist the Loughs Agency in its work in the Foyle and Carlingford areas;
- noted that the Loughs Agency Equality Scheme had been approved by the Equality Commission;
- approved the New Targeting Social Need Action Plan of the Agency;
- reviewed the position in regard to an Aquaculture Licence in an area of Carlingford Lough;
- noted the current position in regard to the bringing forward of fisheries legislation required under the agreement on Implementation Bodies between the UK and Irish governments;
- noted the current position on the transfer of functions of the Commissioners of Irish Lights to the Foyle, Carlingford and Irish Lights Commission.

4.4.10 At its meeting in this Sector on 15 April, the Council:

- noted the Loughs Agency proposal to convene a one day workshop to discuss the interaction of seals and Atlantic salmon;
- noted that the report on the Loughs Agency Staffing and Structure Review would be formally submitted to the

Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources and to the Department for Agriculture and Rural Development, and to the Finance Departments, North and South.

4.4.11 The Loughs Agency Corporate Plan sets out the Agency's proposed activities for the years 2002-2004, and its Business Plan set out a detailed work programme for 2002. New initiatives to help manage the fish stocks for which the Agency has responsibility are to be progressed. These include the collection, audit and extension of productivity information from Carlingford and Foyle Loughs and development of genetic monitoring techniques for the assessment of salmon stocks and their management. Key activities include continuing to minimise the incidence of illegal fishing for salmonids, delivery of fisheries development, assisting in development of recreational fishing and provision of technical fisheries advice towards the reduction in the incidences of environmental damage to the water courses of the Foyle and Carlingford catchments.

4.4.12 The Agency employed PriceWaterhouseCoopers to undertake a recruitment and selection procedure to establish an Advisory Forum, which had been mandated by the NSMC, to assist the Loughs Agency in the effective management of the Foyle and Carlingford Areas. It is intended that this Forum will give stakeholders an input into the Agency's policy decisions. The Forum held its first meeting on 23rd January 2002 with subsequent meetings during the year. The Forum has 49 members representing various interest groups throughout the

catchments i.e. shellfish, commercial netting, angling, fishery owners, tourism, water/sewage, business/industry councils/government, port/harbour, environment, forestry and agriculture. Focus Groups to research and consider salmon and seatrout, shellfisheries and marine tourism were also formed.

4.4.13 The Foyle Area experienced one of the best salmon runs in recent years with adult escapement targets significantly exceeded on all the tributaries with counters. These excellent returns triggered a one week extension to the commercial netting season for the first time since the introduction of the Foyle Area (Close Season) Regulations 1999. The Loughs Agency also reported to the Council that the figures available indicated that the shellfisheries of Lough Foyle and Carlingford Lough produced landing of mussels and European and Japanese oysters to a value of approximately £4m/€ 6.4m during 2001.

4.4.14 The Agency addressed one of the major concerns of its "salmon" stakeholders through holding a very successful workshop on the interaction between salmon and seals. The scientific workshop, which was held on 15 May, included experts from Britain and Canada and they reviewed past and current research in the areas of seal diet, behaviour and interactions with salmon and salmon fisheries. The workshop made recommendations for further research in regard to quantifying the interaction of seals on salmon stocks, particularly in the Foyle area. The recommendations included "a variety of modern seal control measures that should be tested within the Foyle estuary".

- 4.4.15 An audit of the Fisheries-based Recreation and Leisure Resource of both the Foyle and Carlingford Areas was completed towards the end of 2002 and this will form the basis for consultation with interest groups and the preparation of a development plan for the Foyle and Carlingford Areas.
- 4.4.16 The most significant development in the outreach strategy was the completion of the interpretive education and information facility "Riverwatch". This facility is targeted beyond the current stakeholders with the objectives of informing the communities of both catchments about the unique and valuable resources of the loughs, rivers and streams. It will highlight the opportunities they provide for economic, social and environmental benefit to individuals, businesses and communities.
- 4.4.17 Further information on the Loughs Agency can be found on the Body's website www.loughs-agency.org

SPECIAL EU PROGRAMMES SECTOR



4.5.1 The Council meets in the Special EU Programmes Sector in order to take decisions on policies and action to be implemented by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB). There were two meetings of the Council in this sector in 2002. These meetings took place on 20 February and 9 October.

FUNCTIONS/OBJECTIVES

4.5.2 In 1999, the SEUPB had assumed responsibility for the management of the 1994-1999 round of EU Structural Fund Programmes, which had been previously undertaken by the Department of Finance and Personnel in the North and the Department of Finance in the South. This responsibility includes the closure of these Programmes no later than 31 March 2003. The SEUPB is also the Managing Authority for the PEACE II and Ireland/Northern Ireland INTERREG IIIA Programmes, and monitors the performance of the North/South elements of the other Community Initiative Programmes (LEADER+, EQUAL and URBAN II). The SEUPB also has responsibility for monitoring and promoting the implementation of co-operation between Ireland and Northern Ireland through the terms of the Common Chapter,

which is an integral component of the both the National Development Plan for Ireland and the Northern Ireland Structural Funds Plan.

Activities

4.5.3 At its meeting in this Sector on 20 February, the Council:

- approved the SEUPB's Annual Report and Statement of Accounts for the period 2 December 1999-31 December 2000;
- approved the SEUPB's Corporate Plan for 2002-04 and its Business Plan for 2002;
- received a progress report on recruitment to approved posts and approved a number of issues relating to salary scales and remuneration;
- noted the progress made on implementing the PEACE II Programme and on operationalising the INTERREG III Programme;
- noted progress reports on the work of the Joint Steering Group on the Common Chapter and agreed terms of reference for the Joint Steering Group.

- 4.5.4** At its meeting in this Sector on 9 October, the Council:
- noted progress on the closure of the PEACE I and INTERREG II Programmes;
 - agreed to the structure and membership of the INTERREG IIIA Steering Committee and that the final nominations for membership of the Committee will be agreed by the INTERREG IIIA Monitoring Committee.
 - noted a report from the Joint Steering Group on the Common Chapter;
 - noted the SEUPB's New Targeting Social Need Action Plan.
- 4.5.5** Using the procedure whereby decisions may be made in other sectoral formats, the Council approved a paper on behalf of the Special EU Programmes Body which identified the Terms of Reference for the Common Chapter Joint Steering Group at its meeting in the Agriculture Sector on 15 April.

Corporate Issues

- 4.5.6** The Corporate Plan and Business Plan contain the key objectives and operational targets that the Council uses to monitor the SEUPB's performance and activity. These updated plans reflected both the expanding implementation of the responsibilities which the SEUPB is required to undertake as the PEACE II and INTERREG IIIA Programmes became more fully operational, and the commensurate staffing levels in line with the organisational structure, which the Council had approved previously. NSMC also noted the SEUPB's New TSN Action Plan.

PEACE II Programme

- 4.5.7** The Peace II Programme became fully operational in 2002. With calls for projects from over 50 Implementing Bodies, comprising contracted Intermediary Funding Bodies, Local Strategy Partnerships and County Council-led Task Forces, and Government Departments North and South, the SEUPB was busily engaged in developing and promulgating operational policy and guidance to ensure consistency and fairness and integrity with the requirements of the Programme and EC Regulations. A substantial publicity programme was also begun.
- 4.5.8** Throughout the 2002 calendar year, over 900 applications were approved by the various Implementing Bodies, offering grants with a total value of € 210m to projects. These projects were approved across the full range of Programme's activities including: community relations; support for victims; social inclusion; economic development; cross-border cooperation. All of the funded projects contribute to the overall objectives of the Programme by addressing the legacy of the conflict and/or taking opportunities arising from peace. To ensure that this special focus of the Programme is maintained, improved definitions for "distinctiveness" criteria were developed with the European Commission and introduced. In addition all projects approved were required to contribute to activities which pave the way to reconciliation.
- 4.5.9** As the projects started to expend resources, the SEUPB began to monitor the contribution towards the required financial spend profile of the EC Funds, which

has to be maintained to ensure that money is not decommitted from the Programme by the Commission's first expenditure target date of 31 December 2003. The Body chaired three meetings of the PEACE II Monitoring Committee which endorsed recommendations to ensure spend is achieved and implemented and approved corrective actions where necessary, including introduction of a new, simpler, application form, and a much-reduced form for small grants.

INTERREG IIIA Community Initiative Programme

4.5.10 The INTERREG IIIA Ireland/Northern Ireland Community Initiative also became fully operational in 2002. The European Commission approved the Operational Programme in March 2002 and the first meeting of the Monitoring Committee took place in Dundalk in June 2002, with the Programme being formally launched jointly by Ministers North and South in November. The Committee's role is to supervise and monitor the strategic implementation of the Programme, and its membership comprises representatives of Government Departments, elected regional representatives and social partners within the eligible areas of Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland. In agreeing to the proposed structure and membership of the INTERREG IIIA Steering Committee, the NSMC also agreed that the Committee would approve the final nominations for membership of the Steering Committee.

4.5.11 The Community Initiatives team, which is based in the SEUPB's

Monaghan office, worked closely with the three Border Corridor Groups to set up the INTERREG IIIA Partnerships to deliver three Measures of Priority 1 of the Programme. The SEUPB is both the Paying Authority and the Managing Authority for the Programme and to ensure accountability, the Community Initiatives team discharges the Managing Authority role, with the Corporate Services Department in Belfast undertaking the Paying Authority function.

Other Community Initiatives

4.5.12 In relation to the other Community Initiatives, the SEUPB continued to work closely with the relevant Managing Authorities and to develop North/South relationships. A very successful seminar was held in Carrick-on-Shannon in May when "Equal" Partnerships, North and South, met to discuss areas of mutual concern and develop areas for future co-operation. The Managing Authorities for Urban II (North Belfast and Ballyfermot, Dublin) identified implementation issues where co-operative action could assist in their Programmes. The Leader+ Monitoring Committees, North and South continued to work closely together, and the Steering Committee for Cross-Border Rural Development brought forward a number of projects where North/South co-operative action assists in implementing this Programme.

Common Chapter

4.5.13 The Council noted that a Common Chapter Joint Steering Group, comprising both

administrations and the NSMC Joint Secretariat had been set up to support the SEUPB in taking forward work on the Common Chapter with Departments, North and South. A methodology and associated work programme for recording Common Chapter Activity was developed and agreed by the Joint Steering Group. Initial work implementing the recording methodology and work programme, including developing inventories and recording Common Chapter inputs, was undertaken. A part of the SEUPB website was also dedicated to the Common Chapter and this will provide further promotion and information.

4.5.14 Further information on SEUPB can be found on the Body's website www.seupb.org

LANGUAGE SECTOR

THE NORTH/SOUTH LANGUAGE BODY AN FORAS TEANGA THA BOORD O LEID

4.6.1 The Council meets in the Language Sector in order to take decisions on policies and action to be implemented by the North/South Language Body. The Council met once in the Language Sector in 2002. The meeting took place in Dublin on 14 June.

FUNCTIONS/OBJECTIVES

4.6.2 The Language Body is a single Body reporting to the North/South Ministerial Council, but composed of two separate and largely autonomous agencies: the Irish Language Agency/Foras na Gaeilge; and the Ulster-Scots Agency/Tha Boord o Ulstèr-Scotch.

4.6.3 The Chairperson of Foras na Gaeilge, Maighrèad Uí Mháirtín, and the Chairperson of Tha Boord o Ulstèr-Scotch, Lord Laird of Artigarvan, are joint Chairpersons of the Language Body. The Body has a Board of 24 members appointed by the NSMC. A list of Board Members and their agencies is at Annex 5.

4.6.4 At its meeting in this Sector on 14 June, the Council:

- approved the draft Equality Scheme for the Language Body and agreed to its submission to the Equality Commission;
- approved the Amalgamated Codes of Conduct for the Language Body Board Members;

- approved the 2002 Business Plans for Foras na Gaeilge and Tha Boord o Ulstèr Scotch;
- noted an update on the preparation of the 2002-04 Corporate Plans for Foras na Gaeilge and Tha Boord o Ulstèr Scotch;
- approved the contents of the draft Activity Reports for the period 2 December 1999-31 December 2000 for Foras na Gaeilge and Tha Boord o Ulstèr Scotch;
- noted the draft unaudited Accounts for the period 2 December 1999-31 December 2000 for Foras na Gaeilge and Tha Boord o Ulstèr Scotch;
- agreed to the publishing of the approved Activity Reports of Foras na Gaeilge and Tha Boord o Ulstèr Scotch.

4.6.5 Using the procedure of decisions being made in other sectoral formats, the Council:

- confirmed the appointment of Mr. Seosamh Mac Donncha as Chief Executive of Foras na Gaeilge at the Agriculture Sector meeting on 25 January;
- approved a paper on staffing and remuneration in Foras Na Gaeilge, and approved the appointment of Mairéad Nic Sheagháin to the Board of the Language Body at the Agriculture Sector meeting on 15 April;
- endorsed a project for the improvement of teaching materials in Irish in Gaeltacht Primary schools and in Gaelscoileanna, and the recruitment process for the personnel required from Foras na Gaeilge, at the Special EU Programmes Body meeting on 9 October.

FORAS NA GAEILGE



FUNCTIONS/OBJECTIVES

- 4.6.6** Foras na Gaeilge has responsibility for the promotion of the Irish language on an all-island basis.
- 4.6.7** As well as taking over the functions of Bord na Gaeilge the Agency was given a wide range of functions to add to its effectiveness in promoting Irish. For example in the area of education, dictionaries and terminology, it assumed responsibility for the Terminology Committee and took over the functions of An Gúm.
- 4.6.8** Maighr ad U  Mh irt n is Chairperson of Foras na Gaeilge and there are 15 other members on the Board.

Activities

- 4.6.9** The Foras na Gaeilge Business Plan for 2002 described the activities to be undertaken to address the key challenges and objectives contained in its strategic plan, together with the resources it will employ.
- 4.6.10** Activities undertaken by Foras na Gaeilge during the year included:
- Funding for in excess of 20 organisations, North & South, as well as over 100 substantive projects and up to 400 minor ventures.

- The promotion of policy recommendations in relation to the Official Languages Bill, 2002 and in the field of Education, Broadcasting, An Ghaeltacht and the Arts.
- Launch of Dictionary of Parliamentary Terms by An Ceann Comhairle in Dublin in March and by the Speaker of the Northern Ireland Assembly in Stormont in May.
- Foras na Gaeilge provided sponsorship for many worthwhile projects including, The All-Ireland Camogie Final in Croke Park, F ile an Phobal in Belfast, Ros na R n on TG4, The Tidy Towns Competition, and Saint Patrick's Festival.
- In the area of publications, Foras na Gaeilge provided funding for Foinse, L , Comhar, Feasta, An tUltach, The Website www.beo.ie, and also published 11 editions of its own newspaper Saol.
- The Irish Language Development Officer scheme was continued in local authorities and in health boards, and an Irish language co-ordinator was appointed by the Broadcasting Commission of Ireland in partnership with an Foras.
- Commencement of tendering process for first phase of English/Irish dictionary project commenced.
- Production of over 60 publications including primary and post primary educational resources, textbooks, language reference material and reading material for young people.
- Beginning of Irish language resource project for Irish medium primary schools in conjunction with the Department of Education and Science in the South.

- A list of miscellaneous terms, comprising 16 years worth of enquiries discussed by An Coiste Stiúrtha (The Steering Committee) of An Coiste Téarmaíochta (The Terminology Committee) was edited, tagged and issued on the website www.acmhainn.ie.
 - The editorial work on a new dictionary of over 10,000 computing terms was completed.
 - Agreement between Foras na Gaeilge and the Department of Education and Science in relation to the production of resource material for the teaching of Irish in Gaeltacht and all-Irish primary schools.
 - Development of a scheme to facilitate Irish medium post primary schools to foster co-operation with primary schools in their catchment areas in the provision of Irish medium activities.
 - Research in partnership with Gael-Linn on public attitudes in Ireland North and South on the use of computer software and the Internet, on learning the Irish language.
 - Development in partnership with the private sector of computer software for learning of Irish.
 - Development of training courses for teachers, in partnership with the NCTE and Education Centres in the creation and use of content-free computer software.
 - Áis (the book wholesaling division of Foras na Gaeilge) had total sales of € 1,019,665 in 2002, an increase of 6.88% on the previous year. New Irish language publications added to the stock list in 2002 numbered 176.
 - In partnership with the Arts Council of Northern Ireland, the Ulster-Scots Agency and the Ultach Trust, Foras na Gaeilge commissioned research into Irish & Ulster Scots Arts in Northern Ireland, together with a needs and audit analysis, and a draft report was provided in December 2002.
 - Over 30 translation agencies and projects relating to terminology and machine-assisted translation were grant-aided and a website for translators, Acmhainn.ie, was established. To date this website has received over 60,000 hits.
 - Training workshops for creative writers and Irish language actors were conducted in Belfast, Connemara, Donegal, Dublin, Cork, Galway & Kerry.
- 4.6.11** Over 100 projects, relating to the arts, ranging from drama (children & adults), to arts festivals, to the visual arts, to sean-nós singing, to storytelling and to mime, throughout the island, were supported.
- 4.6.12** Further information on Foras na Gaeilge can be found on the Agency's website www.forasnagaeilge.ie

THA BOORD O ULSTER SCOTCH THE ULSTER-SCOTS AGENCY



Tha Boord o Ulstèr-Scotch
Ulster-Scots Agency

FUNCTIONS/OBJECTIVES

4.6.13 Tha Boord o Ulstèr-Scotch has responsibility for the promotion of greater awareness and use of Ullans and of Ulster-Scots cultural issues, both within Northern Ireland and throughout the island.

4.6.14 The Lord Laird of Artigarvan is the Chairman of Tha Boord o Ulstèr-Scotch and there are 7 other members on the Board.

Activities

4.6.15 The 2002 Business Plan for Tha Boord o Ulstèr-Scotch is aligned with the Boord's Corporate Plan for 2001 - 2003 in relation to four strategic themes: Linguistic Development, Culture, Education, and Public Understanding of Ulster-Scots Language and Culture. The plan identifies resources, objectives, key deliverables, targets and impacts associated with activities relating to the four themes.

4.6.16 An important development for the Agency during 2002 was the commissioning of Stranmillis University College to undertake a project to provide Ulster-Scots resource materials for Key Stages 1 & 2 in Primary Schools. Two teachers were seconded from their normal teaching duties to undertake the project under the supervision of a project manager

from the College. A significant amount of material has now been produced and seminars have been held to inform fellow teachers and others as to what is being proposed. This has received very positive feedback. It is hoped to roll out the material to selected schools on a pilot basis from September 2003 as a prelude to making it generally available.

4.6.17 The Agency continues to give financial support to a wide range of community groups who engage in Ulster-Scots activities including music, dance and drama. This support is creating renewed interest in the culture of the Ulster-Scots particularly among young people. The growth in the number of highland dance classes is particularly significant. Ulster-Scots pageants and festivals organised in Kilkeel and Newry, County Down and in Derry/Londonderry (Maiden City Festival) have also provided the foundation for a potential increase in cultural tourism.

4.6.18 The Chairman of the Agency welcomed Eamon O'Cuiv, Minister for Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs in the South, to Northern Ireland for a tour of important Ulster-Scots sites in September 2002. This included visits to the Jackson Homestead at Boneybefore near Carrickfergus, Templecorran, and Ballycarry.

4.6.19 The Agency launched its own newspaper "The Ulster-Scot" during 2002 which is issued as a free supplement in the Belfast Newsletter. This provides a wide range of information and news about Ulster-Scots issues and events.

4.6.20 Further information on the Ulster Scots Agency can be found on the Agency's website www.ulsterscotsagency.com

INLAND WATERWAYS SECTOR



WATERWAYS IRELAND

4.7.1 The Council meets in the Inland Waterways Sector in order to take decisions on policies and action to be implemented by Waterways Ireland. The Council met once in its Inland Waterways Sector in 2002. This meeting took place in Belfast on 26 June.

The Shannon-Erne Waterway, The Erne System, The Grand Canal, The Barrow Navigation, The Lower Bann Navigation, The Royal Canal, The Shannon Navigation.

4.7.3 Waterways Ireland is also charged with taking forward further studies and appraisals in relation to the possible restoration of the Ulster Canal.

FUNCTIONS/OBJECTIVES

4.7.2 Waterways Ireland's primary function is the management, maintenance, development and restoration of certain inland navigable waterway systems throughout the island, principally for recreational purposes. Waterways Ireland is responsible for the following navigation systems, which were previously under the respective control of the Department of Community, Rural, and Gaeltacht Affairs in the South and the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development in Northern Ireland:

4.7.4 The Body operates in three regions: Northern, Eastern and Western.

Activities

4.7.5 At its meeting in this sector on 26 June, the Council:

- approved Waterways Ireland's Corporate and Business Plan for the period 2002 - 2004;
- noted the position in relation to accommodation requirements, including the proposal for a permanent headquarters building in Enniskillen, and agreed to determine the accommodation issues bilaterally;

- approved Waterways Ireland's New Targeting Social Need Action Plan;
 - approved Waterways Ireland's Equality Scheme for formal submission to the Equality Commission;
 - noted the position in relation to Waterways Ireland's recruitment and staffing;
 - noted Waterways Ireland's Statement of Accounts for 2000;
 - noted a progress report on the consultation process on the Ulster Canal Feasibility Study.
- 4.7.6** Under the exchange of notes of 19 November 2002 Ministers approved pay awards due from 1 October 2002 for Waterways Ireland employees.
- 4.7.7** An extensive programme of recruitment to achieve the full staff complement of administrative, technical and professional staff got underway. Progress was made on a number of other issues related to the administration of the new Body, including the putting in place of necessary financial procedures and the development of an information technology system. An interim website for the organisation went live in July. A Press and Information Office was established, and development of a series of communication guidelines, including a Customer Care Strategy, was begun.
- 4.7.8** Waterways Ireland has developed a corporate identity and will be including it in its publications and signage in a rolling programme. The inspiration behind the creation of the figure representing Waterways Ireland has its source in Celtic mythology and folklore, which suggests that the Celts considered rivers, wells, springs and lakes to be sources of therapeutic power.
- 4.7.9** Work on a draft marketing and promotional strategy progressed in 2002 with an independent consultancy company undertaking initial field research on all the waterways on behalf of Waterways Ireland.
- 4.7.10** An eight page brochure entitled "A Glimpse of our Waterways" was produced in full colour and provides useful information and contact details for each of the waterways and for the Body.
- 4.7.11** A safety video was also produced in conjunction with the hire boat associations. The video provides a comprehensive guide to safety on and around the waterways.
- 4.7.12** Waterways Ireland's first annual staff conference was held in 2002. The Directors of Waterways Ireland addressed the conference and guest speakers included representatives from British Waterways, the parent departments and the NSMC Joint Secretariat.
- 4.7.13** Waterways Ireland has continued to interact with all the users of the waterways including the commercial hire boat users, the private boat users, and the communities and Councils along the waterways.
- 4.7.14** At an operational level, Waterways Ireland completed the extension of the Shannon Navigation from Lough Key to a point within walking distance of the town of Boyle, Co Roscommon. This allows boat traffic to come within easy reach of the town, terminating at a

harbour with accommodation for 27 vessels and complete with pump-out station, fully equipped service block, car park and refuse disposal facility. Major capital works started at Ballyleague, Shannonbridge and Scarriff will also increase the mooring facilities on the Shannon Navigation. Other projects included the provision of an access causeway and breakwater at Spencer Harbour, Co Leitrim.

- 4.7.15** A comprehensive programme of capital works for the continued restoration of the Royal Canal included the reconstruction of embankments and the construction of a new bridge adjacent to the existing Pake Bridge in Co Longford. Towpath enhancement and locks refurbishment have also been undertaken.
- 4.7.16** Proposals have also been agreed for developing the navigational infrastructure on the Erne System and the Lower Bann Navigation by developing new jetties, installing new markers and point moorings, upgrading pump-out facilities and improving signage.
- 4.7.17** An updated feasibility study into the re-opening of the Ulster Canal has been completed and submitted to Departments. As this is a potentially significant cross-border project, with major financial, economic, environmental and social implications, a comprehensive assessment process is underway.
- 4.7.18** Further information on Waterways Ireland can be found on the Body's website www.waterwaysireland.org

TOURISM SECTOR



- 4.8.1** The Council in this sector oversees the work of Tourism Ireland Limited, the publicly-owned limited company, which is responsible for marketing the island of Ireland overseas as a tourist destination. The Company has a Board of 12 members appointed by NSMC. The Chairperson of the Company is Mr. Andrew Coppel and the Vice Chairperson is Ms. Ann Riordan.
- 4.8.2** The Council met once in the Tourism Sector in 2002. This meeting took place on 22 February.
- 4.8.3** The Council considered a progress report by the Chairperson of Tourism Ireland Limited, which summarised progress made in relation to the launch of the company, its marketing programme, staffing and premises. The Council also considered Tourism Ireland's Operating Plan 2002, which set out Tourism Ireland's corporate and marketing programmes along with a summary of resource requirements for 2002. The Council agreed Tourism Ireland's Corporate Plan for 2002-2004, subject to budgets being determined and approved by the two administrations, and agreed its Marketing Programme and budget subject to approval of Finance Ministers. The Council noted that the Company will develop sophisticated performance measures for the tourism sector and the Company itself, and that these will form the basis of measuring the performance of the Company in achieving the mandate set out for it by the Council.
- 4.8.4** Under the exchange of notes of 19 November 2002 Ministers:
- approved Tourism Ireland's Marketing and Operating Plan for 2003;
 - noted Tourism Ireland's Annual Report and Accounts for 2001, prior to these being laid before the Northern Ireland Assembly and the Houses of the Oireachtas;
 - approved Tourism Ireland's overall budget of €47,853,000/£29,656,000 for 2002;

- 4.8.5** Tourism Ireland has two key goals - to increase tourism to the island of Ireland and to support Northern Ireland to realise its tourism potential. In its initial year of operations, Tourism Ireland successfully completed its first comprehensive all-island marketing and communications programme, marking a milestone in the history of tourism on the island. Prior to formulating its marketing strategy for 2002, Tourism Ireland led a comprehensive market intelligence review post - September 11 to assess the impact on international travel patterns, in conjunction with Bord Fáilte, the Northern Ireland Tourist Board and the industry. The company followed the launch of its Marketing Programme in Ireland in November 2001 with a series of launches in its major markets, namely, USA, Canada, Britain, Germany and France. This was the first integrated all-island marketing programme for tourism on the island of Ireland. The Marketing campaign is now well underway in over 20 countries across the globe. The campaign, which incorporates both television and print advertising had a year one media budget in excess of £6m/€ 10m.
- 4.8.6** An important objective of Tourism Ireland is to support the efforts of the industry in Northern Ireland to achieve its potential by gaining incremental growth for Northern Ireland above and beyond the level achieved for the island of Ireland as a whole. Tourism Ireland is delivering on this remit by selling Northern Ireland as an integral part of a single tourist destination to the island of Ireland and by increasing the Northern Ireland presence and prominence in marketing and promotional campaigns on the world stage.
- 4.8.7** In 2002 Tourism Ireland focussed its marketing programme on winning business by concentrating resources and effort on markets and niches which were identified as promotable even in the face of the barriers to travel which existed. Key to its strategy was to work in partnership with the industry and to provide maximum promotional support. Tourism Ireland consults regularly with the all island Tourism Marketing Partnerships it established both on an all-island basis and overseas to discuss strategy and plans on an ongoing basis.
- 4.8.8** Despite a difficult and challenging environment in 2002, official figures show that overall visitor numbers to the island of Ireland have increased by 2.4%. This sees the industry come very close to achieving the 'best case' scenario envisaged by Tourism Ireland at the end of 2001 and represents a considerable achievement by the entire sector. This overall figure does, however, mask a number of challenges including a change in the 'mix' of visitors to the island which Tourism Ireland and the industry will need to address in the coming year. The company has set itself the target of increasing tourist numbers to the island and supporting Northern Ireland to realise its potential as a tourist destination. Over the period 2002-2004, it aims to increase visitor numbers to the island by 15.4% i.e. to 7.9 million visitors per annum. The Council has endorsed this target and has assured the company of its support in ensuring that the potential of the industry is realised to the full.

- 4.8.9** Operationally, the organisation has achieved a seamless transition. The company has put in place its full management team and is in the process of completing the transfer of staff from Bord Fáilte Éireann and the Northern Ireland Tourist Board. New offices in Dublin and Coleraine were opened later in the year and Tourism Ireland now has over 150 people based in offices in Dublin, Coleraine and in 14 locations throughout the world. The NSMC also agreed to the establishment by the company of a new single office in London, subject to final clearance of location and costs by sponsor Departments.
- 4.8.10** Drawing on the best practice of both tourism boards and on new expertise, Tourism Ireland has expanded its research capabilities and developed systems which enable it to respond quickly as opportunities arise. The organisation is now well positioned at the cutting edge of international tourism marketing.
- 4.8.11** Further information on Tourism Ireland Ltd. can be found on the company's website www.tourismireland.com

EDUCATION SECTOR

- 4.9.1** The aspects of North/South co-operation in Education that were agreed for initial consideration by the North/South Ministerial Council were education for children with special needs; educational under-achievement; teacher qualifications; and school, youth and teacher exchanges.
- 4.9.2** The NSMC met once in the Education Sector in 2002. This meeting was held on 11 April.
- 4.9.3** The Council noted the progress being made by the Special Education Co-ordination Group that is focussing initially on Autism and Dyslexia. This includes:
- the endorsing of the agreement reached between the two Education Departments and representatives of the St Louis Order, for the purchase of the former St Joseph's Adolescent Training Centre, Middletown, Co Armagh, for the establishment of a Centre of Excellence in the education of children with Autistic Spectrum Disorders (ASD). The Centre is to be an all-island facility providing expert advice and guidance on best practice in the field of assessment of children and young people with ASDs, the training of teachers and other professionals, support for parents, and the development of education plans for individuals. The facility will also include a research and resource facility for ASD;
 - the publication of four in-depth reports from the Task Forces on Autism and Dyslexia which had been established separately by the Department of Education and the Department of Education and Science;
 - plans for the Centre for Cross-Border Studies, Armagh, to host a Special Education teacher on secondment to organise and facilitate a jointly-funded programme to promote professional dialogue and joint working at a strategic level;
 - The development of videos for parents of children with autism or dyslexia and CD-ROM/DVD-ROM material for teachers and other professionals in these areas of special education.
- 4.9.4** The Council noted progress by the Literacy/Numeracy Working Group on proposals to examine the feasibility and desirability of having an all-island facility for the training of reading recovery tutors and for the development of early literacy skills. The Council also noted the continued co-operation in the areas of joint training for teachers and sharing of teaching materials.
- 4.9.5** The Council also noted that work is continuing in relation to the issues around teachers' superannuation and qualifications, seeking to reduce barriers to North/South mobility in this profession.
- 4.9.6** The Council endorsed the intention of the Education Departments, North and South, to proceed to give effect to the proposals of a consortium of public sector bodies to improve the ways in which cross-border schools, youth and teacher exchanges are managed and facilitated. The proposals include creation of new all-island arrangements comprising a programme management committee, a standing advisory committee and a joint delivery agency. The Council noted the

progress and co-operation to date by the two Education Departments in their administration and management of Measure 5.5 of the PEACE II Programme. This Measure promotes school and youth co-operation in a cross-border context.

4.9.7 The Council was informed that legislation is to be introduced into the Northern Ireland Assembly by the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety to provide for the protection of children and vulnerable adults. Moves are also to be made by the Department of Education and Science to consult interested parties on the development of a register of people deemed unsuitable to work with children and young people.

4.9.8 The Council agreed that the EU proposal to designate the year 2004 as “The European Year of Education through Sport” presented opportunities for joint initiatives involving education, sport and health related matters.

AGRICULTURE SECTOR

- 4.10.1 The aspects of North/South co-operation in Agriculture that were agreed for initial consideration by the North/South Ministerial Council were Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) issues, animal and plant health policy and research, and rural development.
- 4.10.2 The NSMC met three times in the Agriculture Sector during 2002. These meetings took place on 25 January, on 15 April and on 27 September.
- 4.10.3 Ministers acknowledged the close co-operation between the two administrations, and the resultant minimisation of the impact of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) on the island of Ireland. It was agreed that representatives from each administration should be asked to participate in reviews into FMD being considered separately in the North and South. The Council also agreed that a co-ordinated and complementary approach to the issue of portal controls should be developed and maintained.
- 4.10.4 In relation to animal health, the Council noted a paper indicating the principal policy differences, the possibilities for convergence and the timetable for action to achieve convergence. The Council endorsed the paper as a further contribution to the development of an all-island Animal Health Strategy and acknowledged that further progress on aligning policies and measures was fundamental to the development of the strategy. The Council noted the indicative timetable for convergence and agreed that officials should seek to finalise discussions with GB authorities prior to final agreement of the strategy by NSMC.
- 4.10.5 In relation to phytosanitary issues of Plant Health and Pesticides the Council noted the current level of co-operation and encouraged the appropriate authorities, North and South, to pursue areas suggested for extended co-operation in Plant Health, including a consideration of opportunities for co-operation in relevant Research and Development. The Council considered a paper on "Plant Health - Pesticides, Diagnostics and Research Co-operation", and noted the continued and proposed level of cross-border activity in these areas. The Council also noted developments in relation to pesticides monitoring and registration review, and the proposal to organise reciprocal familiarisation visits, workshops, staff training and ring tests for diagnostic purposes as a means of improving cross border scientific and technical co-operation and harmonisation in plant health, including forestry.
- 4.10.6 The Council noted progress relating to the two Cross Border studies commissioned by the Steering Committee on Cross-Border Rural Development. The Council endorsed the principle of an area based approach to cross border rural development which will be advanced through the INTERREG III Programme. The Council noted that the Steering Committee will give further consideration on the appropriate responses to the recommendations of the Cross-Border Education, Training and Research study. Under PEACE II the Council noted that the Rural Community Network and Irish Rural Link have been successful in their

application to deliver Priority 5 Measure 6(a) Agriculture and Rural Development Co-operation: Cross- Border Community Development.

4.10.7 In relation to the Pig Industry the Council agreed that officials should continue the process of engaging with the Pig Industry and the development agencies for the purpose of promoting the recommendations of the joint study commissioned by the Council, and improving the competitive position of the pig sector on the island as a whole.

4.10.8 The Council received updates on WTO negotiations, EU enlargement and CAP reform.

ENVIRONMENT SECTOR

- 4.11.1** The aspects of North/South co-operation in Environment that were agreed for initial consideration by the North/South Ministerial Council include water quality management, waste management in a cross-border context, research into environmental protection, environmental databases, environmental impacts of agriculture, and information exchange and environmental awareness.
- 4.11.2** The Council met once in the Environment Sector in 2002. The meeting took place on 17 April.
- 4.11.3** On water quality management, Ministers agreed that the work undertaken on the management strategies for the Erne and Foyle catchments should be incorporated into the arrangements being developed for implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive (WFD) in relation to cross-border river basins generally. Work continued throughout the year on a wide range of activities for implementation of the WFD. As requested by the Council, proposals were developed for the delineation of International River Basin Districts (IRBD's) as required under the Directive, a joint Consultation Paper on the implementation of the WFD and in particular the delineation of IRBD's was drawn up and funding matters (including Interreg IIIA North/South) in relation to cross border WFD implementation activities and IRBD management projects were pursued.
- 4.11.4** On waste management the Council had previously agreed that a co-operative approach should be taken to encourage and support the expansion of waste recycling. The Council noted the progress report from the Steering Group set up to develop a structured co-operative approach to a joint Market Development Programme. The Steering Group identified recently commissioned research on all-island waste streams, which would provide valuable information to their work programme. The Council agreed that the Steering Group should submit proposals for developing an all-island strategic approach to market development for recyclable material, taking account of developments in Great Britain, and make recommendations on appropriate linkages between Market Development Programmes, North and South. Work continued during the year and good progress was made on drawing up these proposals.
- 4.11.5** The EU Regulation on Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS) came into effect on 1 January 2002 for domestic fridges and freezers. The Regulation requires the removal of all ODS from waste fridges and freezers on disposal. No facility currently exists in Ireland for the removal of ODS and neither jurisdiction individually would have sufficient numbers to make the establishment of a facility economically viable. In recognition of this and given the potential for benefits from economies of scale the two environment departments have been working closely to identify local authority support for an all-island solution to the problem. The Council noted the joint approach being developed in conjunction with local authorities North and South for the provision of an all-island service. Tenders were invited in September 2002 for the placing of a contract for an effective system of management, including collection, transportation storage and treatment of waste fridges and freezers, in both jurisdictions. Evaluation of tenders was on going at year-end.

- 4.11.6** The Council also noted progress on a proposal for the establishment of an all-island Community Recycling Network including the commissioning of consultants to prepare an economic appraisal on the proposal. This appraisal was undertaken in 2002. It is intended that a joint report on the proposal with recommendations for future action will be produced for consideration of Ministers in due course.
- 4.11.7** The Council noted that the work it had commissioned on setting up a joint register of current environmental research projects has been completed. In April 2002 Ministers formally launched the aNSwer (a North South Website of Environmental Research) website, which provides access to information on environmental research in the island of Ireland. People and organisations with an interest in environmental research will be able to find out what research is currently being undertaken and tell others about their own area of research. Sharing this information is expected to help researchers and sponsors avoid duplication of effort and cost, find partners for collaboration and identify potential sources of funding. Access to the aNSwer website is via its own website address (www.answer-online.org) and through the Environment and Heritage Service (EHS) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) websites.
- 4.11.8** The Council also noted the completion of the project to develop a joint EHS and EPA database for recording environmental information. Access to the shared database is via the aNSwer website. The shared register of Environmental Data Sources (EDS) provides a web-based search facility which delivers information about the existence and availability of environmental data within the island of Ireland. The database initially contained information on water quality. However the Council agreed that EHS and EPA would continue to co-operate in the collation of data and population of the database on other priority areas such as air quality, nature conservation and waste.
- 4.11.9** The Council previously approved a scoping study into the main environmental impacts of agriculture with a view to developing co-operation on nutrient management and spent mushroom compost. Researchers were selected to take forward the study under scientific supervision and to report back to a Steering Group of officials from environment and agriculture departments and agencies North and South. Ministers noted the work undertaken by the researchers and the joint report, setting out the baseline information identified by the scoping exercise as well as some recommendations for future co-operation, was nearing completion by year-end.
- 4.11.10** With regard to information exchange and environmental awareness raising, the Council approved a 12 month work programme containing a range of co-operative initiatives on shared information resources. The programme concentrated on the exchange/pooling of materials including joint exhibitions, factsheets, an information booklet on waste, website links and an environmental website directory; collaboration between Local Authority Environmental Education officers in the South and their equivalents in the North; and a draft staff exchange proposal to increase mutual understanding and enhance prospects for greater co-operation.

HEALTH SECTOR

- 4.12.1** The aspects of North/South co-operation in Health that were agreed for initial consideration by the North/South Ministerial Council were Accident and Emergency Services, Planning for Major Emergencies, High Technology Equipment, Cancer Research and Health Promotion.
- 4.12.2** The Council met twice in the Health Sector in 2002. These meetings took place on 27 February and on 28 June.
- 4.12.3** The Council heard progress on the development of co-operation in Accident and Emergency Services. It endorsed the continuing cross-border co-operation in hospital services overseen by the North/South Regional Hospital Services Group (NSRHSG), which was established in 2000. Progress was also reported on local cross-border initiatives being developed by CAWT (Co-operation and Working Together), which has been exploring opportunities for building greater cross-border collaboration between hospitals. The Council noted co-operation on assessing the potential for the development of organ transplantation services on an all-island basis, and on the regular exchange of information during the then current reviews of Renal Services, North and South. Progress was also reported on a number of existing and new cross-border initiatives including the provision of neo-natal intensive care, the provision of tertiary cancer care and the development of a cross-border consultant-led breast surgery team in the North West.
- 4.12.4** The Council endorsed progress to date by Working Groups in the area of Emergency Planning. The NSMC was informed that a programme of cross-border emergency planning training courses, covering the medical response to a major incident, was already in place. Ministers heard that tenders had been invited for the undertaking of a feasibility study and report on the costs and benefits associated with the introduction of an all-island Helicopter Emergency Medical Service, as endorsed by the NSMC at its meeting on 16 November 2001. Ministers were subsequently advised that consultants had been appointed to undertake the study.
- 4.12.5** Detailed recommendations have been developed in relation to the practical issues surrounding joint responses to Road Traffic Accidents (RTAs) in Border areas. The Council noted that, as a first step to resolving a variety of issues with regard to communications, compatibility of equipment and coordinated responses, a phased programme of familiarisation and joint training among Fire Brigades located along the Border was being developed. The Council also noted that further work was planned in the area of fire prevention awareness campaigns, joint training for RTA responses and the further development of an RTA response strategy. Shared media campaigns on fire prevention and fire safety were being developed for schools in the border areas.
- 4.12.6** The Council reviewed progress on co-operation on High Technology Equipment. The Council approved a proposal to establish a North/South radiotherapy physics audit scheme. The Council also noted that a framework for assessing the operation of Positron Emission Tomography

(PET) technology on an all-island basis was being developed, and that a major seminar on emerging high technology developments would take place in September 2002. The Council noted that the potential for all-island co-operation in procurement and operational training in essential support services in the acute sector was being researched.

developing a collaborative health promotion work programme, including the plans for a major cross-border conference on physical activity to take place in Newry in November 2002, consideration of the potential for developing an all-island workplace health initiative, and the proposed appointment of Programme Managers, North and South, to take this work forward.

4.12.7 In relation to Cancer Research, the Council reviewed on-going co-operation within the Tripartite Agreement (which had resulted in a Memorandum of Understanding establishing a Cancer Consortium between the National Cancer Institute of the USA and the Health Departments, North and South). The Council was informed that regular meetings had been held to standardise data collection between registries to facilitate projects throughout the island. Stimulated by the Cancer Consortium, consideration had been given to the most appropriate model for the development of a clinical trials infrastructure throughout the island. The Council noted the on-going co-operation within the Memorandum of Understanding and in particular the work being carried out by the joint research registries group in setting out priorities for collaborative research. The Council also noted the announcement of significant funding for cancer therapy research and the developments to date in co-ordinating all-island clinical trial activity.

4.12.8 The Council noted progress to date in a range of Health Promotion initiatives, including an evaluation of the folic acid campaign, anti-smoking initiatives, and nutrition. The Council also noted progress in

TRANSPORT SECTOR

4.13.1 The aspects for co-operation in Transport that were agreed for initial consideration by the North/South Ministerial Council are strategic planning and road and rail safety. While co-operation would primarily arise in respect of road and rail planning, it would take account of issues arising in the port and airport sectors.

4.13.2 The NSMC met once in the Transport Sector in 2002. This meeting took place on 17 April.

4.13.3 The meeting dealt with Road Safety issues. It was not possible to arrange a meeting in respect of other areas agreed for co-operation in the Transport Sector, as the relevant Northern Ireland Minister was not available.

4.13.4 In relation to Road Safety Education Initiatives, the Council noted and endorsed the existing levels of activity, North and South, and confirmed its continued commitment to co-operation in the area of road safety education. The Council also approved a proposal to hold a North/South Joint Road Safety Conference and to consider holding an annual conference of this nature to allow for the development of a network of road safety professionals.

4.13.5 On Joint Road Safety Campaigns the Council noted progress on the proposal for a new joint campaign on the subject of pedestrian safety and approved the proposed further development of this campaign.

4.13.6 The Council noted the current Road Safety Reporting arrangements, North and South, and the limitations in terms of

developing a common basis for such reporting methods. The Council encouraged relevant agencies to investigate the similarities and differences in the characteristics of collisions occurring in certain border areas. The Council was also briefed on the arrangements for the exchange of road safety information.

4.13.7 On Penalty Points/Enforcement Issues, the Council noted the position with regard to penalty points in the South and the existing penalty points system in Northern Ireland. The Council noted the position with regard to the European Convention on Driving Disqualifications. The Council also noted the potential that exists to provide for the pursuit of the payment of traffic fines on a cross border basis in the context of the potential adoption of the Agreement on Co-Operation between Member States of the European Union in Proceedings for Road Traffic Offences.

The background is a solid dark blue. Overlaid on this are several large, light blue geometric shapes. There are two overlapping circles in the center, one slightly to the left and one slightly to the right. There are also several large, irregular polygons and curved lines that create a sense of depth and movement across the page.

CHAPTER 5
THE JOINT SECRETARIAT

BACKGROUND

5.1 Strand Two of the Agreement specified that the North/South Ministerial Council was to be supported by a standing Joint Secretariat, staffed by members of the Northern Ireland Civil Service and the Irish Civil Service. The Southern side of the Joint Secretariat operates under the aegis of the Department of Foreign Affairs, while the Northern side operates under the aegis of the Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister.

STAFFING

5.2 The Memorandum of Understanding on Procedure agreed by the Council at the Inaugural Plenary meeting in Armagh on 13 December, 1999 set out the arrangements for, and the functions of, the Joint Secretariat of the Council. Under the terms of the Memorandum, it was agreed that the Joint Secretariat would be located in Armagh headed by Joint Secretaries, one appointed by each Administration. Each side was also required to nominate a Deputy Joint Secretary and other administrative and clerical support staff. Officials from both sides of the Secretariat work alongside one another in shared office accommodation in Armagh. Dick Mackenzie served as the Northern Joint Secretary until April and was succeeded in June by Dr Peter Smyth. Tim O'Connor is the Southern Joint Secretary, and he has been in the post since December 1999. The Deputy Joint Secretaries during 2002 were Helen Browne (South) who was replaced by Paddy Fay from April 2002, and Pat Donaghy (North).

FUNCTIONS

5.3 Under the terms of the Memorandum, the functions of the Joint Secretariat include:

- arranging the schedule of Council meetings in different formats;
- securing prior political/Ministerial agreement to agendas for meetings of the Council;
- preparing or commissioning papers for meetings of the Council, including in relation to its work programme;
- drafting joint communiqués and records of decisions of the Council;
- communicating decisions of the Council and monitoring their implementation;
- drafting an annual report on the proceedings of the Council;
- acting as a channel of communication with Implementation Bodies and facilitating their development;
- liaising, where appropriate through the designated Department or Office in either jurisdiction with the Secretariat of the British-Irish Intergovernmental Conference, with the Secretariat of the British-Irish Council and with the North/South joint parliamentary forum and independent consultative forum when established;
- carrying out such other tasks as the Council may direct.

FUNDING

5.4 The costs of meetings of the North/South Ministerial Council are borne by the host administration, with travel and subsistence costs for Ministers and officials being borne by their administrations - see Annex 3.

5.5 Staff costs associated with the Joint Secretariat are met by their parent administrations. All other costs associated with the Joint Secretariat or the Council are divided equally between the two administrations (See Annex 3).



ANNEX 1
ATTENDANCE AT PLENARY MEETING

NORTH/SOUTH MINISTERIAL COUNCIL MEETING IN PLENARY FORMAT

Friday 28 June 2002, Armagh City Hotel

List of Northern Ireland Ministers	List of Southern Ministers
Rt Hon David Trimble MP MLA (First Minister)	Mr. Bertie Ahern TD (Taoiseach)
Mr. Mark Durkan MLA (Deputy First Minister)	Mr. Joe Walsh TD (Minister for Agriculture & Food)
Ms. Bairbre de Brún MLA (Minister of Health, Social Services & Public Safety)	Mr. Charlie McCreevy TD (Minister for Finance)
Dr. Seán Farren MLA (Minister of Finance & Personnel)	Mr. Brian Cowen TD (Minister for Foreign Affairs)
Mrs. Carmel Hanna MLA (Minister of Employment & Learning)	Mr. Noel Dempsey TD (Minister for Education & Science)
Mr. Martin McGuinness MP MLA (Minister of Education)	Mr. Dermot Ahern TD (Minister for Communications, Marine & Natural Resources)
Mr. Dermot Nesbitt MLA (Minister of Environment)	Mr. John O'Donoghue TD (Minister for Arts, Sport & Tourism)
Mrs. Bríd Rodgers MLA (Minister of Agriculture & Rural Development)	Mr. Micheál Martin TD (Minister for Health & Children)
	Mr. Seamus Brennan TD (Minister for Transport)
	Mr. Michael McDowell TD (Minister for Justice, Equality & Law Reform)
	Mr. Martin Cullen TD (Minister for the Environment & Local Government)
	Mr. Éamon Ó Cuív TD (Minister for Community, Rural & Gaeltacht Affairs)
	Ms. Mary Coughlan TD (Minister for Social & Family Affairs)

The background is a solid dark blue. Overlaid on this are several large, light blue geometric shapes. There are two overlapping circles in the center, one slightly larger than the other. There are also several irregular polygons and curved lines that create a sense of movement and depth. The overall aesthetic is clean and modern.

ANNEX 2
ATTENDANCE AT SECTORAL MEETINGS

ATTENDANCE AT NORTH SOUTH MINISTERIAL COUNCIL SECTORAL MEETINGS 2002

Date	Sector	Venue	Northern Ireland Administration	Irish Government
Wednesday 23 January	Trade and Business Development	Limerick	Sir Reg Empey, MLA, Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment Mrs Carmel Hanna, MLA, Minister of Employment and Learning	Ms Mary Harney, TD, Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment (Chair)
Friday 25 January	Agriculture	Killadeas, Co Fermanagh	Mrs Brid Rodgers, MLA, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development (Chair) Mr Sam Foster, MLA, Minister of Environment	Mr Joe Walsh, TD, Minister for Agriculture, Food and Rural Development
Friday 1 February	FCILC	Killeavy, Co Armagh	Mrs Brid Rodgers, MLA, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development (Chair) Mr Dermot Nesbitt, MLA, Minister in OFMDFM	Mr Frank Fahey, TD, Minister for the Marine and Natural Resources
Wednesday 20 February	Special EU Programmes	Ballymena	Dr Seán Farren, MLA, Minister of Finance and Personnel (Chair) Mr Dermot Nesbitt, MLA, Minister of Environment	Mr Charlie McCreevy, TD, Minister for Finance
Friday 22 February	Tourism	Killadeas, Co Fermanagh	Sir Reg Empey, MLA, Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment (Chair) Ms Bairbre de Brún, MLA, Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety	Dr James McDaid, TD, Minister for Tourism, Sport and Recreation

Date	Sector	Venue	Northern Ireland Administration	Irish Government
Wednesday 27 February	Food Safety/Health	Dublin	Ms Bairbre de Brún, MLA, Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety Mr James Leslie, MLA, Minister in OFMDFM	Mr Micheál Martin, TD, Minister for Health and Children (Chair) Dr Tom Moffatt, TD, Minister of State, Department of Health and Children
Thursday 11 April	Education	Armagh	Mr Martin McGuinness, MP, MLA, Minister of Education (Chair) Mr Dermot Nesbitt, MLA, Minister of Environment	Dr Michael Woods, TD, Minister for Education and Science
Monday 15 April	FCILC	Dublin	Mrs Brid Rodgers, MLA, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development Mr James Leslie, MLA, Minister in OFMDFM	Mr Frank Fahey, TD, Minister for the Marine and Natural Resources (Chair)
Monday 15 April	Agriculture	Dublin	Mrs Brid Rodgers, MLA, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development Mr James Leslie, MLA, Minister in OFMDFM	Mr Joe Walsh, TD, Minister for Agriculture, Food and Rural Development (Chair)
Wednesday 17 April	Environment	Dublin	Mr Dermot Nesbitt, MLA, Minister of the Environment Mr Denis Haughey, MLA, Minister in OFMDFM	Mr Noel Dempsey, TD, Minister for the Environment and Local Government (Chair)
Wednesday 17 April	Transport	Dublin	Mr Dermot Nesbitt, MLA, Minister of the Environment Mr Denis Haughey, MLA, Minister in OFMDFM	Mr Noel Dempsey, TD, Minister for the Environment and Local Government (Chair)

ATTENDANCE AT NORTH SOUTH MINISTERIAL COUNCIL SECTORAL MEETINGS 2002

Date	Sector	Venue	Northern Ireland Administration	Irish Government
Friday 14 June	Language	Dublin	Mr Michael McGimpsey, MLA, Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure Ms Bairbre de Brún, MLA, Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety	Mr Eamon Ó Cuív, TD, Minister for Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs (Chair)
Wednesday 26 June	Waterways	Belfast	Mr Michael McGimpsey, MLA, Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure Mrs Carmel Hanna, MLA, Minister of Employment and Learning	Mr Eamon Ó Cuív, TD, Minister for Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs
Wednesday 26 June	Trade and Business Development	Belfast	Sir Reg Empey, MLA, Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment (Chair) Mrs Carmel Hanna, MLA, Minister of Employment and Learning	Ms Mary Harney, TD, Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment
Friday 28 June	Health/ Food Safety	Armagh	Ms Bairbre de Brún, MLA, Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety (Chair) Mr James Leslie, MLA, Minister in OFMDFM	Mr Micheál Martin, TD, Minister for Health and Children
Friday 27 September	Agriculture	Downpatrick	Mrs Brid Rodgers, MLA, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development (Chair) Mr James Leslie, MLA, Minister in OFMDFM	Mr Joe Walsh, TD, Minister for Agriculture and Food Mr Eamon Ó Cuív, TD, Minister for Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs
Wednesday 9 October	Special EU Programmes	Ballycastle	Dr Seán Farren, MLA, Minister of Finance and Personnel (Chair) Sir Reg Empey, MLA, Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment	Mr Tom Parlon, TD, Minister of State, Department of Finance



ANNEX 3
FINANCIAL INFORMATION

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

1 JANUARY 2002 - 31 DECEMBER 2002

Payments and Budget (North & South)

Total payments for the financial period 1 January 2002 to 31 December 2002 amounted to £1,525,790/ € 2,426,900 and a breakdown of the main expenditure areas is set out below.

NSMC Expenditure - 1 January 2002 - 31 December 2002

Item	Stg£	Euro
Salaries	926,317	1,473,380
Administration	462,133	735,065
NSMC Meetings	79,091	125,800
Consultancy	38,189	60,745
Capital Expenditure	20,060	31,910
TOTAL	£1,525,790	€ 2,426,900



ANNEX 4
NORTH/SOUTH BODIES CONTACT DETAILS

NORTH/SOUTH BODIES CONTACT DETAILS

WATERWAYS IRELAND

Headquarters:

20 Darling Street
Enniskillen
Co Fermanagh
BT74 7EW
Tel: (028) 6632 3004
Fax: (028) 66346237
Email: info@waterwaysireland.org
Website: www.waterwaysireland.org

Northern Region:

Somerview House
Old Dublin Road
Carrick on Shannon
Co Leitrim
Tel: (078) 50787
Fax: (078) 22866

Western Region:

Market Square
Scarriff
Co Clare
Tel: (061) 922033
Fax: (061) 922036

Eastern Region:

Floor 2, Block C
Ashtowngate
Navan Road
Dublin 15
Tel: (01) 8680148
Fax: (01) 8383647

FOOD SAFETY PROMOTION BOARD

7 Eastgate Avenue
Eastgate
Little Island
Cork
Tel: (021) 230 4100
Fax: (021) 230 4111
E-mail: info@safefoodonline.com
Website: www.safefoodonline.com

Block B, 4th Floor
Abbey Court
Lower Abbey Street
Dublin 1

Tel: (01) 817 1317
Fax: (01) 4480699

INTERTRADEIRELAND The Trade and Business Development Body

InterTradeIreland

The Old Gasworks Business Park
Kilmorey Street
Newry Co Down
BT34 2DE
Tel: (028) 3083 4100
Fax: (028) 3083 4155
E-mail: info@intertradeireland.com
Website: www.intertradeireland.com

SPECIAL EU PROGRAMMES BODY

EU House
6 Cromac Place
Belfast
BT7 2JB
Tel: (028) 9026 6660
Fax: (028) 9026 6692
E-mail: info@seupb.org
Website: www.seupb.org

EU House
13 Kevlin Road
Omagh
Co Tyrone
BT78 1LB
Tel: (028) 8225 5750
Fax: (028) 8224 8427
E-mail: omagh@seupb.org

EU House
Castle Meadow Court
Monaghan
Tel: (047) 77003
Fax: (047) 71258
E-mail: interreg@seupb.ie

THE NORTH/SOUTH
LANGUAGE BODY
FORAS NA GAELIGE

Foras na Gaeilge
7 Cearnóg Mhuirfean
Baile Átha Cliath 2
Tel: (01) 639 8400
Fax: (01) 639 8401
E-mail: eolas@forasnagaeilge.ie
Website: www.forasnagaeilge.ie

THA BOORD O
ULSTÉR-SCOTCH

Tha Boord o Ulstér-Scotch
Franklin House
10-12 Brunswick Street
Belfast
BT2 7GE
Tel: (028) 9023 1113
Fax: (028) 9023 1898
E-mail: info@ulsterscotsagency.org.uk
Website: www.ulsterscotsagency.com

FOYLE, CARLINGFORD AND
IRISH LIGHTS COMMISSION

Loughs Agency:
22 Victoria Road
Waterside
Derry/Londonderry
BT47 2AB
Tel: (028) 7134 2100
Fax: (028) 7134 2720
E-mail: general@loughs-agency.org
Website: www.loughs-agency.org

Teach Eolais,
Old Quay Lane
Carlingford
Co Louth
Tel: (042) 9383888
Fax: (042) 9383888
E-mail: carlingford@loughs-agency.org

TOURISM IRELAND LTD

Tourism Ireland Ltd
5th Floor
Bishop's Square
Redmond's Hill
Dublin 2
Tel: (01) 476 3400
Fax: (01) 476 3666
E-mail: info@tourismireland.com
Website: www.tourismireland.com



ANNEX 5
NORTH/SOUTH BODIES
BOARD MEMBERS

FOOD AND SAFETY PROMOTION BOARD ADVISORY BOARD

To 12 December 2002

Councillor Bertie Kerr
(Chairperson)
Professor Mike Gibney
(Vice Chairperson)
Mr Don Anderson
Mr Leslie Craig
Ms Carmel Foley
Mr Ronan Garvey
Professor Cecily Kelleher
Mr Damien O'Dwyer
Dr Danny O'Hare
Ms Anne Speed
Professor Seán Strain
Mr Michael John Walker

From 13 December 2002

Councillor Bertie Kerr
(Chairperson)
Professor Charlie Daly
(Vice Chairperson)
Mr Don Anderson
Mr Leslie Craig
Ms Carmel Foley
Professor Patrick Fottrell
Mr Odran Flynn
Mr Patrick McColgan
Ms Catherine Murphy
Mr Damien O'Dwyer
Ms Anne Speed
Professor Seán Strain

THE TRADE AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT BODY BOARD MEMBERS

To 12 December 2002

Dr Martin Naughton
(Chairperson)
Dr Harold Ennis
(Vice Chairperson)
The Duke of Abercorn
Ms Mary Ainscough
Ms Mary Breslin
Mr Barry Fitzsimons
Ms Jackie Harrison
Mr Carl McCann
Mr Fergal McCormack
Dr Inez McCormack
Mr Kieran McGowan
Mr Robbie Smyth

From 13 December 2002

Dr Martin Naughton
(Chairperson)
Mr Barry Fitzsimons
(Vice Chairperson)
Ms Mary Ainscough
Ms Mary Breslin
Mr Trefor Campbell
Mr John Fitzgerald
Mr Jack Gilmour
Ms Jackie Harrison
Mr Carl McCann
Mr Fergal McCormack
Dr Inez McCormack
Mr Robbie Smyth

NORTH/SOUTH LANGUAGE BODY FORAS NA GAEILGE BOARD MEMBERS

To 12 December 2002

Mrs Maighr ad U  Mh irt n
(Chairperson of Foras na Gaeilge/
Joint Chairperson of An Foras Teanga)

Mr Liam Corey

Ms Anne Craig

Mr Gordon McCoy

Mr Aod n Mac P il n

Mr Gear id Mac Siacais

Mr Patrick McGlone

Ms Treasa N  Ailp n

Ms Jacqueline N  Fhearghusa

Ms M ir ad Nic Sheaghain
(appointed 15 April 2002)

Mr Maolsheachlain O  Caoll i

Mr Leachlainn O  Cath in

Mr Liam O  Cuinneag in

Mr P draig O  Duibhir

Mr Gear id O  hEara

Ms Br id U  N ill

From 13 December 2002

Mrs Maighr ad U  Mh irt n
(Chairperson of Foras na Gaeilge/
Joint Chairperson of An Foras Teanga)

Mr Liam Corey

Ms Anne Craig

Mr Gordon McCoy

Mr Aod n Mac P il n

Mr Gear id Mac Siacais

Mr Patrick McGlone

Ms Treasa N  Ailp n

Ms Caitr ona N  Cheallaigh

Ms M ir ad Nic Sheaghain

Mr Maolsheachlain O  Caoll i

Mr Leachlainn O  Cath in

Mr P draig O  Duibhir

Mr Gear id O  hEara

Mr Diarmuid O  Murch 

Ms Br id U  N ill

THA BOORD O ULST R-SCOTCH BOARD MEMBERS

To 12 December 2002

Lord Laird of Artigarvan
(Chairperson of Tha Boord o
Ulst r-Scotch/Joint Chairperson
of North/South Language Body)

Dr P draig de Bh l

Mr James Devenney

Mr John Erskine

Dr Linde Lunney

Mr John McIntyre

Mr  amon O Domhnaill

Dr Philip Robinson
(resigned 22 July 2002)

From 13 December 2002

Lord Laird of Artigarvan
(Chairperson of Tha Boord o
Ulst r-Scotch/Joint Chairperson
of North/South Language Body)

Dr P draig de Bh l

Mr James Devenney

Dr Linde Lunney

Mr  amon O Domhnaill

Mr Alistair Simpson

Mr Robert Stoker

Vacancy

THE FOYLE, CARLINGFORD AND IRISH LIGHTS COMMISSION BOARD MEMBERS

To 12 December 2002

Mr Peter Savage
(Chairperson)

Lord Cooke of Islandreagh
(Vice Chairperson)

Mr Jack Allen

Mr Keith Anderson

Mr Dick Blakiston-Houston

Mr Francis Feely

Dr Patrick J Griffin

Ms Siobhan Logue

Mr Joseph Martin

Mr Arthur Morgan

Ms Sheila Tyrrell
(resigned 20 Feb 2002)

Mr Andrew Ward

From 13 December 2002

Mr Peter Savage
(Chairperson)

Lord Cooke of Islandreagh
(Vice Chairperson)

Mr Jack Allen

Mr Keith Anderson

Mr Dick Blakiston-Houston

Mr Francis Feely

Dr Patrick J Griffin

Ms Siobhan Logue

Ms Jacqui McConville

Mr Joseph Martin

Mr Tarlach O Crosain

Mr Andrew Ward

TOURISM IRELAND LIMITED BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mr Andrew Coppel
(Chairperson)

Ms Ann Riordan
(Vice-Chairperson)

Mr Roy Bailie

Mr Alan Clarke

Mr Dennis Galway

Mr Howard Hastings

Mr Tony Kelly

Mr Noel McGinley

Mr Felix Mooney

Mr John Power

Mr Niall Reddy

Mr Charles Sinnott

The background is a solid dark blue. Overlaid on this are several large, light blue geometric shapes. There are two overlapping circles in the center, one slightly larger and to the right of the other. There are also several angular, polygonal shapes that appear to be outlines of larger shapes, some of which are partially cut off by the edges of the page. The overall aesthetic is clean and modern.

ANNEX 6
DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION

DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION

CENTRAL DEPARTMENTS

**Office of the First Minister
and Deputy First Minister**
Parliament Buildings
Stormont Estate
Belfast
BT4 3XX
Tel: (028) 9052 1639
Fax: (028) 9052 1283
Website: www.northernireland.gov.uk

Executive Secretariat*
**Office of The First Minister
and Deputy First Minister**
Stormont Castle
Belfast
BT43TT
Tel: (028) 9037 8033
Fax: (028) 9037 8035
Website: www.northernireland.gov.uk

**Northern Ireland Division
Department of the Taoiseach**
Government Buildings
Upper Merrion Street
Dublin 2
Tel: (01) 662 4888
Fax: (01) 662 1972
Website: www.irlgov.ie/taoiseach

**North/South Section
Anglo/Irish Division
Department of Foreign Affairs****
80 St Stephen's Green
Dublin 2
Tel: (01) 478 0822
Fax: (01) 478 5949
Website: www.irlgov.ie/iveagh

* Co-ordinating role in Northern Ireland

** Co-ordinating role on Southern side

INLAND WATERWAYS SECTOR

Department of Culture, Arts & Leisure
3rd Floor Interpoint
20-24 York Street
Belfast
BT15 1AQ
Tel: (028) 9025 8825
Fax: (028) 9025 8906
E-Mail: dcal@dcalni.gov.uk
Website: www.dcalni.gov.uk

**Department of Community, Rural
and Gaeltacht Affairs**
Dún Aimhirgin
43-49 Mespil Road
Dublin 4
Tel: (01) 647 3000
Fax: (01) 647 3051
E-Mail: eolas@pobail.ie
Website: www.pobail.ie

HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY SECTORS

**Department of Health, Social
Services and Public Safety**
Castle Buildings
Stormont
Belfast
BT4 3SJ
Tel: (028) 9052 0500
Fax: (028) 9052 3136
E-Mail: webmaster@dhsspsni.gov.uk
Website: www.dhsspsni.gov.uk

Department of Health and Children
Hawkins House
Poolbeg Street
Dublin 2
Tel: (01) 635 4000
Fax: (01) 635 4001
E-Mail: webmaster@health.irlgov.ie
Website: www.doh.ie

TRADE AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT SECTOR

**Department of Enterprise,
Trade and Investment**
Netherleigh
Massey Avenue
Belfast
BT4 2JP
Tel: (028) 9052 9900
Fax: (028) 9052 9273
E-Mail: information@detini.gov.uk
Website: www.detini.gov.uk

**Department for Employment
and Learning**
Adelaide House
39-49 Adelaide Street
Belfast
BT2 8FD
Tel: (028) 9025 7777
Fax: (028) 9025 7778
E-Mail: del@nics.gov.uk
Website: www.delni.gov.uk

**Department of Enterprise,
Trade and Employment**
Kildare Street
Dublin 2
Tel: (01) 631 2121
Fax: (01) 631 2827
E-Mail: webmaster@entemp.ie
Website: www.entemp.ie

SPECIAL EU PROGRAMMES SECTOR

**Department of Finance
and Personnel**
Rathgael House
Balloo Road
Bangor
BT19 7NA
Tel: (028) 9127 9279
Fax: (028) 9185 8109
E-mail: dfpni@nics.gov.uk
Website: www.dfpni.gov.uk

Department of Finance
Government Buildings
Upper Merrion Street
Dublin 2
Tel: (01) 676 7571
Fax: (01) 678 9936
E-mail: webmaster@finance.irlgov.ie
Website: www.finance.gov.ie

LANGUAGE SECTOR

**Department of Culture,
Arts & Leisure**
3rd Floor Interpoint
20-24 York Street
Belfast
BT15 1AQ
Tel: (028) 9025 8825
Fax: (028) 9025 8906
E-Mail: dcal@dcalni.gov.uk
Website: www.dcalni.gov.uk

**An Roinn Gnóthaí Pobail,
Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta
Dún Aimhirgin**
43-49 Bóthar Mespil
Baile Atha Cliath 4
Tel: (01) 647 3000
Fax: (01) 647 3051
E-Mail: eolas@pobail.ie
Website: www.pobail.ie

FOYLE, CARLINGFORD AND IRISH LIGHTS COMMISSION SECTOR

**Department of Agriculture
and Rural Development**
Dundonald House
Upper Newtownards Road
Belfast
BT4 3SB

Tel: (028) 9052 4999
Fax: (028) 9052 5015
E-Mail: library@dardni.gov.uk
Website: www.dardni.gov.uk

**Department of Communications,
Marine and Natural Resources**
Leeson Lane
Dublin 2
Tel: (01) 678 2000
Fax: (01) 661 8214
E-Mail: webmaster@dcmnr.gov.ie
Website: www.marine.gov.ie

TRANSPORT SECTOR

Department of the Environment
Clarence Court
10 - 18 Adelaide Street
Belfast
BT2 8GB
Tel: (028) 9054 0540
Fax: (028) 9054 1169
E-mail: cmb@doeni.gov.uk
Website: www.doeni.gov.uk

Department for Regional Development
Clarence Court
10-18 Adelaide Street
Belfast
BT2 8GB
Tel: (028) 9054 0540
Fax: (028) 9052 0064
E-Mail: cmb@drdni.gov.uk
Website: www.drdni.gov.uk

Department of Transport
Transport House
44 Kildare Street
Dublin 2
Tel: (01) 670 7444
Fax: (01) 670 9633
E-Mail: info@transport.ie
Website: www.transport.ie

AGRICULTURE SECTOR

**Department of Agriculture
and Rural Development**
Dundonald House
Upper Newtownards Road
Belfast
BT4 3SB
Tel: (028) 9052 4999
Fax: (028) 9052 5003
E-Mail: library@dardni.gov.uk
Website: www.dardni.gov.uk

**Department of Agriculture and Food
Agriculture House**
Kildare Street
Dublin 2
Tel: (01) 607 2000
Fax: (01) 661 6263
E-Mail: maryp.doyle@daff.irlgov.ie
Website: www.irlgov.ie/daff

EDUCATION SECTOR

Department of Education
Rathgael House
Balloo Road
Bangor
BT19 7PR
Tel: (028) 9127 9279
Fax: (028) 9127 9100
E-Mail: deni@nics.gov.uk
Website: www.deni.gov.uk

**Department of Education
and Science**
Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
Tel: (01) 873 4700
Fax: (01) 878 7932
E-Mail: info@education.gov.ie
Website: www.education.ie

ENVIRONMENT SECTOR

Department of the Environment

Clarence Court
10-18 Adelaide Street
Belfast
BT2 8GB

Tel: (028) 9054 0540
Fax: (028) 9054 1169
E.mail: cmb@doeni.gov.uk
Website: www.doeni.gov.uk

Department of the Environment and Local Government

Custom House
Dublin 1

Tel: (01) 888 2000
Fax: (01) 888 2888
E.mail: press-office@environ.irlgov.ie
Website: www.environ.ie

TOURISM SECTOR

Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment

Netherleigh
Massey Avenue
Belfast
BT4 2JP

Tel: (028) 9052 9900
Fax: (028) 9052 9550
E-Mail: information@detini.gov.uk
Website: www.detini.gov.uk

Department of Arts, Sport and Tourism

Kildare Street
Dublin 2

Tel: (01) 631 3800
Fax: (01) 661 1201
E-Mail: webmaster@tourism-sport.irlgov.ie
Website: www.irlgov.ie/tourism-sport

North/South Ministerial Council



An Chomhairle Aireachta
Thuaidh/Theas

North/South Ministerial Council
Joint Secretariat
39 Abbey Street
Armagh
BT61 7EB

Tel: North 028 3751 8068
South 048 3751 1470

Fax: North 028 3751 1406
South 048 3751 1874

E-mail: North kevin.lyons@ofmdfmi.gov.uk
South frank.dillon@iveagh.irlgov.ie

Website: www.northsouthministerialcouncil.org