



**TREATY SERIES 2000
N° 33**

**Exchange of Letters
amending
the Agreement between the Government of Ireland and
the Government of the United Kingdom concerning the
International Fund for Ireland**

Exchange of Letters dated 27 September 2000 and 10 October 2000

Entered into force on 10 October 2000

Presented to Dáil Éireann by the Minister for Foreign Affairs

Office of the Minister for Foreign Affairs
Dublin

27 September 2000

Mr. Peter Mandelson M.P.
Secretary of State for Northern Ireland
Parliament Buildings
Stormont
Belfast BT4 3ST

Dear Peter

I have the honour to refer to the Agreement between our two Governments concerning the International Fund for Ireland done at Dublin and London on 18 September 1986 (“the Fund Agreement”)* and to the Agreement between our two Governments done at Belfast on 10 April 1998 (“the British-Irish Agreement”).†

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

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

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

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

* Irish Treaty Series N° 1 of 1987

† Irish Treaty Series N° 18 of 2000

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Yours sincerely,

Brian Cowen T.D..
Minister for Foreign Affairs

Northern Ireland Office
London

10 October 2000

Brian Cowen T.D.
Minister for Foreign Affairs
Department of Foreign Affairs
79 St. Stephen's Green
DUBLIN 2

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

I have the honour to refer to the Agreement between our two Governments concerning the International Fund for Ireland done at Dublin and London on 18 September 1986 ("the Fund Agreement") and to the Agreement between our two Governments done at Belfast on 10 April 1998 ("the British-Irish Agreement").

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

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

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

"Desiring to promote the economic and social development of those areas of both parts of Ireland which have suffered most severely from the

consequences of instability and to secure international support for this work;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Peter Mandelson