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- Articles establishing, within the framework of the Anglo-Irish Intergovernmental Council, a new Intergovernmental Conference concerned both with Northern Ireland and with relations between the two parts of Ireland. The Irish Republic will be able to put forward views and proposals in the Conference on stated aspects of Northern Ireland affairs; and determined efforts will be made to resolve any differences. The Conference will also deal with cross-border co-operation on security, economic, social and cultural matters, including the enhancement of cross-border co-operation in combating terrorism. Full responsibility for the decisions and administration of government will remain with the United Kingdom north of the border and with the Republic south of the border.

3. We have also issued today a communiqué on our meeting, which says that the new Intergovernmental Conference will concentrate in its initial meetings on relations between the security forces and the minority community in Northern Ireland, on ways of improving security co-operation between the two

Governments, and on seeking measures which would underline the importance of public confidence in the administration of justice.

4. I shall be making a statement to Parliament about the Agreement on Monday. A full debate will take place shortly afterwards. The Agreement will enter into force only after both Parliaments have approved it.

5. By promoting peace and stability and by enhancing our co-operation against terrorism, the Agreement will bring benefits to all the people of Northern Ireland. I hope that it will also open the way for moves towards devolution in Northern Ireland.

6. I believe that this Agreement represents a positive contribution to progress on this long-standing and difficult problem. The two Governments are committed to implementing it fully and effectively. We call on all people of goodwill to join us in promoting peace.