



NORTHERN
IRELAND
HUMAN
RIGHTS
COMMISSION

15 September 2015

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY
HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

30TH SESSION

Agenda Item 3
SR on truth, justice, reparation and non-recurrence

Oral Statement submitted by the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission, (A Status NHRI of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland).

Title: Report of the Special Rapporteur on truth, justice, reparation and non-recurrence

Mr President,

On behalf of Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission we welcome the report of the Special Rapporteur on truth and justice.

In December 2014, the Stormont House Agreement was achieved by the Governments of the UK and Ireland and the political parties represented in the Northern Ireland Executive.

This Agreement served to further support the peace process. It includes a commitment to create mechanisms aimed at dealing with the past and other reforms.

Since then the political situation has unfortunately deteriorated. The commitments of the Agreement have yet to be implemented.

In August 2015 Kevin McGuigan, was shot dead in Belfast. The Police Service has indicated that in its assessment those involved in this murder included members of the Provisional IRA and that there is "no information at this stage" to say whether the murder "was sanctioned at a command level".

Prior to its dissolution in 2011 an official body monitoring paramilitary activity, said it believed the Provisional Irish Republican Army had "maintained its political course" and the Chief Constable has indicated this remains the situation.

On the 1 September 2015, in response to the murder the First Minister of Northern Ireland urged the convening of talks. The United Kingdom Government has from 8 September confirmed that urgent, intensive and focused cross party talks will commence.

Both Governments agree that the current situation is serious and without urgent progress there is a real threat to the stability of the devolved institutions.

The institutions created by the Northern Ireland peace process are at significant risk. We ask the Council to note these developments and to encourage all those involved to take decisive action to promote political stability and the peace process.

Thank You
End

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Les Allamby', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Les Allamby
Chair, NIHRC