



**TREATY SERIES 2011**  
**N° 10**

**Amendment to the Agreement between the Government of  
Ireland and the Government of the United Kingdom of  
Great Britain and Northern Ireland on Police Cooperation**

Done at Belfast on 29 April 2002

Notifications on the establishment of this Amendment exchanged on 8 April 2010  
and 19 April 2010

Entered into force on 19 April 2010

Presented to Dáil Éireann by the Minister for Foreign Affairs

**AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF  
IRELAND AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF  
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ON POLICE  
COOPERATION**

Dermot Ahern TD  
Department for Justice, Equality and Law Reform  
94 St Stephen's Green  
Dublin 2

8 April 2010

Dear Dermot

**INTERTOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT ON POLICE CO-OPERATION**

I have the honour to refer to the Agreement between our two Governments on Police Co-operation, signed in 2002, following talks at Weston Park.

I further have the honour to refer to recent discussions between our two Governments confirming that the continued operation of the Agreement is an important expression of co-operation between our two Governments, who have introduced the necessary legislation to allow for lateral entry and secondments of police officers between the forces. The Agreement takes account of the framework within which the PSNI and An Garda Síochána might agree operational protocols on subjects specified in the Agreement, *viz* secondments, exchanges, liaison officers, training, disaster planning, joint investigations, and communications.

Having regard to the above discussions, I have the honour to propose that the Agreement shall be amended as follows:

**Article 3 Police Protocols:**

(2) Such Protocols shall be signed by the Commissioner of the Garda Síochána and the Chief Constable of the Police Service of Northern Ireland or persons authorised to do so on their behalf. Copies of all such Protocols shall be forwarded to the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform, the Department of Justice in Northern Ireland, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland and the Northern Ireland Policing Board.

If the foregoing proposals are acceptable to your Government, I have the honour to propose that this letter 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

The RT Hon Paul Goggins MP  
Minister of State for Northern Ireland

RT Hon Paul Goggins MP  
Minister of State for Northern Ireland  
Castle Buildings  
Belfast BT4 3SG  
Northern Ireland

Dear Paul

I have the honour to acknowledge your letter of 8 April 2010 which reads as follows:

*“I have the honour to refer to the Agreement between our two Governments on Police Co-operation, signed in 2002, following talks at Weston Park.*

*I further have the honour to refer to recent discussions between our two Governments confirming that the continued operation of the Agreement is an important expression of co-operation between our two Governments, who have introduced the necessary legislation to allow for lateral entry and secondments of police officers between the forces. The Agreement takes account of the framework within which the PSNI and An Garda Síochána might agree operational protocols on subjects specified in the Agreement, viz secondments, exchanges, liaison officers, training, disaster planning, joint investigations, and communications.*

*Having regard to the above discussions, I have the honour to propose that the Agreement shall be amended as follows:*

**Article 3 Police Protocols:**

*(2) Such Protocols shall be signed by the Commissioner of the Garda Síochána and the Chief Constable of the Police Service of Northern Ireland or persons authorised to do so on their behalf. Copies of all such Protocols shall be forwarded to the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform, the Department of Justice in Northern Ireland, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland and the Northern Ireland Policing Board.*

*If the foregoing proposals are acceptable to your Government, I have the honour to propose that this letter 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 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.

Dermot Ahern TD  
Minister For Justice Equality & Law Reform  
19 April 2010