



TREATY SERIES 2000

No. 14

**Exchange of Letters
between the Government of Ireland and the
North Atlantic Treaty Organisation constituting an Agreement in relation
to Ireland's Financial Responsibilities for participation in the
United Nations authorised international security presence in Kosovo (KFOR)**

ENTERED INTO FORCE FOR IRELAND ON 27 AUGUST 1999

**L Aid before Dáil Éireann
by the Minister for Foreign Affairs**

Pn. No. 8717

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ORGANISATION DU TRAITÉ
DE L'ATLANTIQUE NORD

LE SECRÉTAIRE GÉNÉRAL
SECRETARY GENERAL



NORTH ATLANTIC
TREATY ORGANIZATION

BOULEVARD LÉOPOLD III
B-1110 BRUXELLES

SG(99)1178.irelfa

25 August 1999

Dear Ambassador,

I have the honour to refer to your acceptance that your country participates in the KFOR.

The financial responsibilities for the participation of your country in the KFOR will lie as follows.

The Government of Ireland shall be responsible for the transportation of the personnel of the Irish contingent, their weapons and equipment, without cost to NATO, from the designated point of departure to their station in the theatre area of operations and return, in accordance with the mutually established rotation schedule.

The Government of Ireland shall be responsible for the provision of food, lodging, utilities (gas, electricity, water), petroleum, oil, lubricants and medical care to the Irish personnel in the theatre area of operations as well as basic support, without cost to NATO. Similarly, NATO shall neither provide nor maintain the equipment to be utilized by the Irish contingent in the performance of its mission.

The Government of Ireland shall remain responsible for the payment to the personnel of the Irish contingent, without cost to NATO, of the salaries, special pay, benefits, per diem reimbursements, allowances, and other payments which would normally be paid such personnel when stationed in the theatre area of operations.

The Government of Ireland shall provide the personnel of the Irish contingent, without cost to NATO, the weapons and other equipment required to perform their mission.

NATO shall provide no payments or reimbursements to the Government of Ireland for the provision of forces to KFOR.

National representation at any NATO Headquarters will be at the expense of the Government of Ireland.

NATO nations and other troop contributing nations have agreed among themselves to waive all claims against each other and other non-NATO contributing nations for damage to property owned or used by, and injury to personnel belonging to, their contingents in the KFOR. Troop contributing nations and other constituent elements of the KFOR shall be responsible for claims for damages arising out of their acts and omissions and made by third parties from the nation in which the damage in question occurred. All third party claims shall be processed in accordance with the procedures to be promulgated by COMKFOR and submitted for settlement by the nation responsible for the damage. By accepting this financial agreement, the Government of Ireland obligates itself to accept the similar commitment.

Any financial issues not covered in the present letter remain the responsibility of the Government of Ireland and will not entail any responsibility of NATO.

I have the honour to propose that this letter and your reply confirming the agreement of your Government to the terms thereof, shall constitute an Agreement which shall enter into force on the date of your reply.

Yours sincerely,



Javier Solana

His Excellency
Mr Eamonn Ryan
Ambassador
Embassy of the Republic of Ireland
Rue Froissart 89-93
1040 Brussels



AMBASSADE D'IRLANDE

89/93, rue Froissart
B-1040 Bruxelles

AMBASSADE VAN IERLAND

Froissartstraat 89/93
B-1040 Brussel

Tel : 230.53.37 Fax : 230.53.12

27 August 1999

His Excellency Mr. Javier Solana
Secretary General,
North Atlantic Treaty Organisation
1110 Brussels

Dear Secretary General,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 25 August 1999, which reads as follows :

"I have the honour to refer to your acceptance that your country participates in the KFOR.

The financial responsibilities for the participation of your country in the KFOR will lie as follows.

The Government of Ireland shall be responsible for the transportation of the personnel of the Irish contingent, their weapons and equipment, without cost to NATO, from the designated point of departure to their station in the theatre area of operations and return, in accordance with the mutually established rotation schedule.

The Government of Ireland shall be responsible for the provision of food, lodging, utilities (gas, electricity, water), petroleum, oil, lubricants and medical care to the Irish personnel in the theatre area of operations as well as basic support, without cost to NATO. Similarly, NATO shall neither provide nor maintain the equipment to be utilized by the Irish contingent in the performance of its mission.

The Government of Ireland shall remain responsible for the payment to the personnel of the Irish contingent, without cost to NATO, of the salaries, special pay, benefits, per diem reimbursements, allowances, and other payments which would normally be paid such personnel when stationed in the theatre area of operations.

The Government of Ireland shall provide the personnel of the Irish contingent, without cost to NATO, the weapons and other equipment required to perform their mission.

NATO shall provide no payments or reimbursements to the Government of Ireland for the provision of forces to KFOR.

National representation at any NATO Headquarters will be at the expense of the Government of Ireland.

NATO nations and other troop contributing nations have agreed among themselves to waive all claims against each other and other non-NATO contributing nations for damage to property owned or used by, and injury to personnel belonging to, their contingents in the KFOR. Troop contributing nations and other constituent elements of the KFOR shall be responsible for claims for damages arising out of their acts and omissions and made by third parties from the nation in which the damage in question occurred. All third party claims shall be processed in accordance with the procedures to be promulgated by COMKFOR and submitted for settlement by the nation responsible for the damage. By accepting this financial agreement, the Government of Ireland obligates itself to accept the similar commitment.

Any financial issues not covered in the present letter remain the responsibility of the Government of Ireland and will not entail any responsibility of NATO.

I have the honour to propose that this letter and your reply confirming the agreement of your Government to the terms thereof, shall constitute an Agreement which shall enter into force on the date of your reply."

I am pleased to inform you of my Government's acceptance of said letter which, together with this reply, constitute an agreement which enters into force on the date of this reply.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eamonn Ryan', written in a cursive style.

Eamonn Ryan
Ambassador of Ireland