Fostering Mutual Benefits in Cross-Border Areas: The Challenges and Opportunities in Connecting Irish Border Towns and Villages

Friday, 21 November 2008

Blacklion Golf Club, Blacklion, County Cavan

Final Programme

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Introduction

10a.m.   Registration - Tea/Coffee

10.15a.m. Welcome
John Driscoll, Director, ICLRD

Cross-Border Collaboration: The Mutual Benefits

10.30a.m. Fostering Mutual Benefits in Cross-Border Areas: The challenges & opportunities in connecting Irish Border towns and villages
Caroline Creamer, Neale Blair, Brendan O’Keeffe, Chris Van Egeraat & John Driscoll

10.50a.m. Respondents

(1) Border People and Cross-Border Mobility
Dr. Patricia Clarke, Research Manager, Centre for Cross Border Studies

(2) Cross-Border Cooperation: A Role for Local Government
Ciarán Tracey, Senior Planner, Leitrim County Council

(3) Building Competitiveness Through Partnership: A Role for the Private Sector
Niall Birthisle, Chairman, North West Chambers of Commerce Initiative

(4) Competitive Advantage and Local Potential: A Role for the Community
Carol Follis, Programme Manager for Strategic Development, Irish Central Border Area Network (ICBAN)
11.30 a.m. Refreshments

11.50 a.m. Open Forum

12.30 p.m. Moving towards a new era of peace and cooperation
Ms. Deirdre Ryan, Board Member, International Fund for Ireland

Launch of Report

12.45 p.m. Opening Address
Jim Wells MLA, South Down
Eamon Scanlon T.D., Sligo-North Leitrim

1.00 p.m. North-South Cooperation: Real Partnerships meeting Real Needs
Dr. Niall Holohan, Deputy Joint-Secretary, North-South Ministerial Council

1.10 p.m. Launch of Report: Fostering mutual benefits in cross-border areas: the challenges & opportunities in connecting Irish border towns & villages
Colm Tóibín, Novelist & Journalist; author of ‘Walking Along the Border’

1.30 p.m. Buffet lunch

Please RSVP by Tuesday, 18th November 2008