



AN COINBHINSIÚN AR AN mBUNREACHT
THE CONVENTION ON THE CONSTITUTION

Recommendations to the Houses of the Oireachtas on the reform of Dáil Éireann

1st & 2nd February, 2014

Saturday

- 9.00 a.m. Registration
9.30 a.m. Welcome by Chair

Presentations

- 9.45 a.m. Functions of Dáil Éireann and the recent history of Dáil Reform – *Dr. Muiris MacCarthaigh (QUB)*
10.05 a.m. Q&A
10.20 a.m. Constitutional position (and legal limitations) – *Lia O’Hegarty*
10.35 am Q&A
10.45 a.m. *Roundtable discussions*
11.30 am Break
11.45 am Reform in the House of Commons – *Dr. Meg Russell (UCL)*
12 noon Comparison with other countries – *Dr. Jane Suiter (DCU)*
12.15 pm Q&A
12.25 p.m. Summary of the challenges – *Prof. David Farrell (UCD)*
12.30 p.m. *Roundtable discussions*
1.15 p.m. Lunch
2.15 p.m. Plenary session - participants to hear the emerging themes from the discussion at other tables

- 3 p.m. Options for reform – *Dr. Mary C. Murphy (UCC)*
- 3.15 p.m.** *Panel discussion* – John Bruton (*former Taoiseach*), Noel Dempsey (*former Minister and Govt. Chief Whip*), Kieran Coughlan (*former Clerk of the Dáil*), Dr. Mary C. Murphy (*UCC*), Jerry Buttimer (*Chairman, Oireachtas Health Committee*), Meg Russell (*UCL*)
- 4.15 p.m. Break**
- 4.30 p.m. *Roundtable Discussion*
- 5.30 p.m. Chair concludes proceedings for evening
- Sunday**
- 10a.m. Summary and emerging themes from previous sessions
- 10.30 a.m. Agree ballot paper
- 11 a.m. Discussion with visiting politicians from Egypt, Tunisia, Libya and Yemen (organised by the Irish delegation of AWEPA, the Assoc. of European Parliamentarians with Africa)
- 11.30 am Coffee and voting on the matters for decision**
- 12 noon *Convention business:* Discussion about what to do with the remaining issues on the “Any other Amendments” list.
- 12.50 p.m. Announcement of Results
- 13.00 p.m. Conclusion & Lunch**