

Consular Association of Northern Ireland Hosts Co-operation Ireland

21 June 2010

Belfast, NORTHERN IRELAND: Co-operation Ireland's Chief Executive Peter Sheridan OBE and Development Manager Paula Madigan briefed the Consular Association of Northern Ireland (CA-NI) on their cross border work and projects, having an open discussion with Members on potential areas of engagement and mutual concern for the communities served by the various Consuls in Northern Ireland.

The event was organised by Dr Christopher Stange, Secretariat of the Consular Association and took place at the Ramada Inn - Shaw's Bridge.



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Gerry McClure – Hon. Consul for Spain, Jerome Mullen – Hon. Consul for Poland, Bill Sinnerton – Hon. Consul for Lithuania, Paula Madigan – Co-operation Ireland, Nick Lestas – Hon. Consul for Cyprus, Regine McCullough – Hon. Consul for France, Declan O'Loan – Hon. Consul for Romania, Carson McMullan - Hon. Consul for the Netherlands, Peter Sheridan – Co-operation Ireland, Christopher Stange, Secretariat and Hon. Consul for St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Tom Sullivan – Hon. Consul for Slovakia, Donald Price – Treasurer and Hon. Consul for Denmark, Franciska Hewitt – Hon. Consul for Switzerland

Co-operation Ireland is the leading peace-building charity on the island of Ireland. Our mission is to '*advance mutual understanding and respect by promoting practical co-operation between the people of Northern Ireland and of the Republic of Ireland*'. Our programmes involve linking groups in the following areas and sectors:

- Schools and universities
- Youth and community groups
- Local authorities
- Media
- Local and central government
- Businesses and business networking/training organisations

Since it was established in 1979, Co-operation Ireland has created opportunities for groups from the two main religious communities in Northern Ireland and from both sides of the border to come together so they can learn about each other's traditions and cultural backgrounds in order to help build a society which is based on tolerance and acceptance of cultural difference. Co-operation Ireland is experienced in:

- Breaking down sectarianism and racism
- Encouraging integration of communities
- Delivering funding programmes, which encourage the creation of vibrant societies
- Developing bespoke peace and reconciliation programmes for groups and organisations based in other conflict zones around the world
- Organisation and management of events, conferences and fundraising challenges, which promote community engagement

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