Follow-Up to Ryan Report Publication of Panel Report and Offers of Contributions from Religious Congregations

Following the publication of the Report of the Commission to Inquire into Child Abuse (the Ryan Report), the Taoiseach's statement on 26th May, 2009 referred to the Government's decision to call on the relevant Congregations to provide a substantial additional contribution in view of the moral responsibility they continue to hold in these matters. – the statement is available at Department of Taoiseach - Statement by An Taoiseach, Mr. Brian Cowen, TD, 26th May 2009.

Dáil Éireann subsequently passed a unanimous motion on 28th May, 2009 which called on the Congregations to commit to making further substantial contributions by way of reparation, in the context of discussions with the State, including to a Trust to be set up and managed by the State for the support of victims and to other education and welfare purposes.

The Taoiseach and relevant Ministers met with representatives of the eighteen religious Congregations who were party to the 2002 Indemnity Agreement on 4th June 2009. The Taoiseach conveyed the views of the Government and the Dáil, that further substantial contributions are required by way of reparation and that these contributions need to be capable of being assessed by the public for their significance by reference to the full resources available to the Congregations and in the context of the costs of well over a billion euro incurred by the State. At the meeting and subsequently in a press release, the Congregations indicated their willingness to make further contributions.

The Government appointed a Panel of three independent persons to assess the material submitted by the Congregations and report to Government as to the adequacy of these statements as a basis for assessing the resources of the Congregations. The Report of the Panel was submitted to the Minister for Education and Science in late November 2009.

Separately the Congregations responded to the Government in relation to a further contribution. While an overall offer of a contribution on behalf of the Congregations collectively was sought, the Congregations' responses have been on an individual basis, with a full set of responses being received by early December last.

A copy of the Panel's Report is available to download here

Religious Congregation	Offer Letter
Brothers of Charity	30 October, 2009
Christian Brothers	23 November, 2009
Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul	9 November, 2009
Daughters of the Heart of Mary	16 November, 2009
De LaSalle Brothers	29 October, 2009
Dominican Order	6 November, 2009
Sisters of the Good Shepherd	20 October, 2009
Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate	30 October, 2009
Hospitaller Order of St John of God	27 November, 2009
Presentation Brothers	5 November, 2009
Presentation Sisters – Union of Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	6 November, 2009
Rosminians (Institute of Charity)	30 October, 2009
Religious Sisters of Charity	13 November, 2009
Sisters of Mercy	2 December, 2009
Sisters of Nazareth	30 October, 2009
Sisters of Our Lady of Charity	6 November, 2009
Sisters of St. Clare	17 November, 2009
Sisters of St. Louis	21 November, 2009

The Taoiseach and members of the Government met with the Religious Congregations and the representatives of the Survivors on 15th April 2010. A copy of the Government's Press Statement following the meetings is available at the website of the <u>Department of the Taoiseach</u>