

GENEVA CONFERENCE ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Report Mr Michael Lynch, National President

To

The National Council Members of Muintir na Tire

LOCATION: ILO CENTRE GENEVA

DATE: 4/5 June 1982

THEME: The Role of Rural Development in the Economic Progress of ACP Countries.

PARTICIPANTS: Economic and Social Interest Groups EEG and ACP

As outlined to you in a previous Memorandum, this Conference is now being held on an annual basis in conjunction with the ILO Congress. I would say that it was quite a big Conference by any standards, it was impossible to say how many were present, but I did hear at one stage that there were between 60 and 70 countries represented there. There were two main working documents presented, one from either side obviously, and I think the best thing I can do for you is to summarize as briefly as possible the main points which emerge from these working documents and combine them where necessary with some of the contributions from the floor thereafter I will add some comments of my own. I should say at the outset that the concentration of the debate was really on agriculture and rural development in general in African countries, much to the displeasure of some of the Caribbean representative '