EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM TO

THE G8 SUMMIT (IMMUNITIES AND PRIVILEGES) ORDER 2013

2013 No. 1116

1. This Explanatory Memorandum has been prepared by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and is laid before Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

2. Purpose of the instrument

This Order confers immunities and privileges upon the representatives of the sovereign Powers (other than the United Kingdom) at the G8 Summit, which is to be held in Northern Ireland beginning on 17th June 2013.

3. Matters of Special interest to the Joint Committee on Statutory Instrument

None.

4. Legislative Context

This Order is made under section 6 of the International Organisations Act 1968 ("the 1968 Act"), which allows certain immunities and privileges to be conferred on representatives of sovereign Powers attending conferences held in the United Kingdom.

Section 10(2) of the 1968 Act provides that the Order shall be subject to annulment in pursuance of a resolution of either House of Parliament.

5. Territorial Extent and Application

This Order extends to England and Wales and Northern Ireland. The G8 Summit is to be held in Northern Ireland and representatives are scheduled to travel through England and Wales. No official travel is planned through Scotland.

6. European Convention on Human Rights

As this Order is subject to negative resolution procedure and does not amend primary legislation, no statement is required.

7. Policy Background

This Order is designed to confer certain immunities and privileges, for the duration of the G8 Summit only (including travel to and from the Summit), on those members of the delegations of the represented sovereign Powers (other than the United Kingdom) who have been notified to the Secretary of State and accepted by him as Ministers or other high rank officials. Such Ministers and high rank officials are to be afforded the like immunity from suit and legal process, including immunity from personal arrest or detention, and the like inviolability of all papers and documents are as accorded to the head of a diplomatic mission.

This Order is without prejudice to any privilege or immunity to which they are otherwise entitled.

8. Consultation outcome

The Scottish Government and Northern Ireland Executive were consulted about this Order.

9. Guidance

Guidance may be sought from the contact below.

10. Impact

10.1 There is no impact on business, charities or the voluntary sector in the United Kingdom.

10.2 There is no impact on the public sector in the United Kingdom.

10.3 An Impact Assessment has therefore not been prepared for this Order.

11. Regulating small business

The legislation does not apply to small business in the United Kingdom.

12. Monitoring & review

This Order is designed to confer certain immunities and privileges upon the representatives of the sovereign Powers (other than the United Kingdom) at the G8 Summit for the duration of the G8 Summit only. The Order will therefore cease to have effect once all representatives have left the United Kingdom at the end of the Summit.

13. Contact

Philip Dixon, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Tel: 020 7008 3055 or E-mail: Philip.dixon@fco.gov.uk.

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