

## **Joint Committee On Agriculture, Food And The Marine**

### **Opening Statement Of John Powell**

Chairman and Committee members

My name is John Powell. I was nominated to the Board of H.R.I. by the joint regulatory bodies of racing and received my letter of appointment from the Minister on 30<sup>th</sup> May 2016.

Thank you for this opportunity to address you.

As one of those who voted against the re-appointment of the C.E.O. for a third term may I explain that this was because of a concern shared by others that it was in breach of Government guidelines and had failed the test of good corporate governance.

I expressed my concerns at what was effectively my first Board meeting in July.

It was not about the individual.

This should never have been dealt with as an 11<sup>th</sup> hour issue.

It was based on my belief that this was a collective failure and that this should have been dealt with in the context of an open competition several months previously.

The Board voted by majority to accept the reappointment and I then accepted the majority decision.