

IMF Statement to the Press  
July 21, 2013

The following statement was issued to the press by the IMF in response to media queries regarding the statement made by Mr. Mody to RTE's program "This Week" on July 21, 2013.

"Ireland's program, supported by the EU-IMF, has steadily reduced the fiscal deficit from unsustainably high levels through a consolidation effort that is phased over five years. There has been an unavoidable drag on Ireland's growth, but other factors have also weighed on growth, including the notably worse external environment and the efforts of the private sector to reduce its high debts. There is no evidence that Ireland's fiscal consolidation is self defeating. Indeed, Ireland's return to market financing and a 10 year bond yield now below 4 percent are clear indicators of the credibility of Ireland's phased approach to fiscal consolidation.

Mr. Mody has retired from the IMF and his views do not represent the Fund's position."