



HM Treasury, 1 Horse Guards Road, London, SW1A 2HQ

It gives me great pleasure to welcome the delegates to the IEEE International Conference on Communications being held in Glasgow. I am delighted that international experts, representative all parts of the communications sector, have come to Glasgow to discuss the latest developments in communications technology and share their expertise.

More than ever, communications technologies are critical to the development of industry and commerce. They are also becoming essential to business, leisure and social interaction. The UK Government is committed to creating the best possible environment for high-tech, innovative sectors such as communications technologies to flourish. The UK currently ranks second only to the US in global scientific excellence, and we are investing further in our science base to support world-class research and effective knowledge transfer between researchers and business.

It is vital to the UK's continued economic success and scientific strength that we invest in our skills base and enthuse young people. I am therefore very please that school children from all over Scotland will also be taking part in the conference and I hope that the conference inspire them to become the next generation of scientists, engineers and technologists.

My best wishes for a very successful Conference and an enjoyable time in Scotland.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gordon Brown'.

GORDON BROWN