

Scottish Low Carbon Investment Conference

Summary and Key Messages

The second Scottish Low Carbon Investment Conference was held in Edinburgh on 27th and 28th September 2011. The key aims of the conference was to:

- Bring projects, technologies and investors together;
- Identify and debate the risks and rewards within the renewables and low carbon arena;
- look at major capital requirement, infrastructure and technology development;
- look at the lessons learned from Oil and Gas and how cost savings can be made in the supply chain to increase investor return and confidence;
- Promote Scotland's skills, resources and technical expertise and development of the supply chain and more importantly the will and support of Government to engage and encourage the growth of this industry; and
- Look at investment in energy consumption, resource efficiency and clean technologies and probe the investment proposition within the energy efficiency agenda.

This annual event is an important opportunity for the Scottish Government to:

- Reaffirm Ministers' commitment to a low carbon economy in Scotland;
- Demonstrate evidence of that commitment through public support for low carbon industries and technologies;
- Highlight the potential in Scotland for the low carbon sector to flourish and contribute to sustainable economic growth through jobs creation, energy security, a strong skills base and carbon emissions reduction;
- Highlight evidence of existing and current growth in the sector to enhance Scotland's reputation internationally as a preferred location for investment;
- Reaffirm Ministers' willingness to work with partners across all aspects of the low carbon sector to develop the market for low carbon energy, goods and services; and
- To encourage cooperation amongst key players within finance and industry at a time when investor confidence is critical to making progress.

The conference will be held again in 2012 with a renewed focus to develop the low carbon investment agenda and progress the growth of the sector in Scotland and its global appeal.

BRIEFING NOTE FOR FIRST MINISTER

MEETING WITH ICELANDIC AMBASSADOR BENEDIKT JÓNSSON

18th November 2010

Key Messages	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scotland values links with Iceland.• Hope trade mission from Scotland can be finalised soon.• Wish to secure 4 party deal on mackerel through negotiation.
Who	1. HE Ambassador Benedikt Jónsson 2. Honorary Consul Cameron R.M. Buchanan 3. Vice-Consul Kristin Hannesdóttir
What	Courtesy meeting, although there is a number of current issues that would be expected to be discussed.
Why	At request of Ambassador.
Where	First Minister's office, Parliament
When	Thursday 18 th November: 1500-1545
Supporting Official	[REDACTED]
Attached documents	Annex A: Biography of Ambassador Benedikt Jónsson Annex B: Iceland – Key facts Annex C: Economy Annex D: Trade and Investment Annex E: Mackerel Annex F: Links between Scotland and Iceland Annex G: Aviation (including volcanic ash)

BIOGRAPHY OF AMBASSADOR BENEDIKT JÓNSSON



Born	Reykjavík, Iceland, November 25, 1954
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Education

1982	M.A. hons. (Pol. Science)
1979	B.A. hons. (History, Pol. Science, Philosophy)

Professional Background

2009	Ambassador of Iceland to the Court of St James's
2008	Permanent Secretary of State, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Reykjavik
2006	Ambassador and Chief Negotiator, Directorate of External Trade, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Reykjavík
2001	Ambassador to the Russian Federation, Moscow. Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan
1997	Ambassador, Permanent Representative to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva, including WTO and EFTA. Chief negotiator for EFTA in free trade negotiations with Mexico and Chile. Chairman of WTO Committee on Least Developed Countries
1995	Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Secretary of State, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Reykjavík
1991	Minister-Counsellor and Head of Department, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Reykjavík
1988	Counsellor, Embassy of Iceland, Paris
1988	Deputy Permanent Representative, Council of Europe
1987	First Secretary, Embassy of Iceland, Paris and Deputy Permanent Representative to OECD and UNESCO
1984	First Secretary, Embassy of Iceland, Moscow
1983	First Secretary, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Reykjavík

ICELAND - KEY FACTS

- **Area:** 103,000 sq km (39,769 sq miles)
- **Population:** 323,000 (UN 2009)
- **Major political parties:** **Social Democratic Alliance** (SDA) led by PM Jóhanna Sigurðardóttir; **Left-Green Movement** led by Finance Minister Steingrímur Sigfússon; **Independence Party** (conservatives) led by Bjarni Benediktsson; **Progressive Party** (centrist liberals) led by Sigmundur D. Gunnlaugsson.
- **Government:** Centre Left coalition of the Social Democratic Alliance and the Left-Green Movement – since May 2009 (last election 25 April 2009)
- **Head of State:** President Olafur Ragnar Grimsson (1996, 2000, 2004, 2008)
- **Prime Minister:** Jóhanna Sigurðardóttir (SDA)
- **Foreign Minister:** Össur Skarphéðinsson (SDA)

Politics

- Following the fall of the previous coalition of the conservative Independence Party and the SDA in the “Saucepan revolution” in January 2009, a minority government consisting of the SDA and the Left-Green Movement took power as an interim government.
- The two government parties got a majority of the seats in the early elections for the Althing on 25 April 2009.
- The party leaders then formed a new government that entered into office on 10 May 2009 as the Second Government of Jóhanna Sigurðardóttir. It has 12 ministers, five from the Social Democratic Alliance (SDA), five from the Left-Green Movement (LGM) and two ministers without party affiliation:

Elections

- A parliamentary election was held in Iceland on 25 April 2009 following strong pressure from the public as a result of the Icelandic financial crisis.
- The Social Democratic Alliance and the Left-Green Movement both made gains and now together have an overall majority of seats in the Althing (Iceland's parliament).
- The Progressive Party also made slight gains, and the new Citizens' Movement, formed after the January 2009 protests, gained four seats.
- The big loser was the Independence Party, which had been in power for 18 years until January 2009: it lost a third of its support and nine seats in the Althing. The new coalition has 34 out of the 63 seat Althing.

Application for EU membership

- The Icelandic government has made clear its continued support for the EEA agreement between EFTA and the European Union, which came into force in January 1994 and was extended to cover 10 new EU members in May 2004, but opted for a two-year delay in allowing the free movement of labour provision, which has now been implemented.
- As part of the European Economic Area, Iceland is already a member of the EU's single market.
- It is also a member of the Schengen Area.

- Iceland formally applied for EU membership on 16 July 2009.
- On 24 February 2010, the European Commission published their Opinion in which they recommended opening accession negotiations.
- The accession process is based on strict criteria that Iceland, like all candidate states, will have to meet.

International Relations

- Iceland is active in Nordic and Arctic regional co-operation.
- Iceland shares the main ideals and objectives of its NATO allies in world affairs.
- It has no armed forces but in 2001 established an Icelandic Crisis Response Unit (ICRU) with a roster of over 100 experts (police, medical, legal, engineers etc) specially trained to be deployed to trouble spots at short notice.

- Despite the hiatus of the Cod Wars in the mid 1970s, until recently, bilateral relations with the UK have been excellent, reflecting historical ties and many common interests including free trade, defence, environmental protection and international peace and good order.
- The banking crisis and financial collapse in Iceland at the end of 2008, and the recent developments on the repayments of the loan to the UK under the Financial Guarantee Directive has however put a strain on relations.

ECONOMY

- GDP per capita (2008) (US\$, PPP): \$36,964 [*Scotland (US\$, PPP): \$34,870*]
- Structure of economy (2005) (Real Value Added by Industry): Agriculture: 5.8%, Industry: 23.7% and Services: 70.5% [*Scotland: Agriculture: 1.7%; Production & Construction: 24.7% and Services: 73.7%*]

Recent Performance of Iceland

	Q1-2009	Q2-2009	Q3-2009	Q4-2009	Q1-2010	Q2-2010	Q3-2010
GDP (%)	-2.4	-0.8	-4.2	-0.3	-1.2	-3.1	:
Unemployment Rate (%)	7.1	9.1	6.0	6.7	7.6	8.7	6.4

- To date, Iceland has seen a 16.3 percent fall in GDP over the course of the recession, with the economy yet to return to growth.
- Unemployment peaked at 9.1 percent in Q2 2009 but has since come down to 6.4 percent. This compares to a pre-recession trough of 1.9 percent.
- Inflation has come down from around 19 percent during the height of the crisis in December 2008 to less than 4 percent in October 2010.
- The value of the Icelandic krona has stabilised and appreciated over the last year. This is of particular importance as many companies have exposure to foreign exchange-linked debt.

Public Finances

- The budget deficit was 13.5 percent and 9.1 percent of GDP in 2008 and 2009 respectively.
- The government has undertaken a significant amount of fiscal consolidation since the crisis, with the 2010 budget including further tightening of the fiscal position with revenue and expenditure measures worth 5.5 percent of GDP.
- The 2011 budget includes further consolidation measures worth a further 3.25 percent of GDP and, if approved, will bring the overall government position back into a primary surplus by 2014.

Economic Outlook

- The IMF expect the economy to contract by 3.0 percent in 2010, but an investment led recovery is predicted to take hold towards the end of the year, and the economy is forecast to expand by 3.0 percent in 2011.
- Despite a recent improvement in the labour market position, unemployment is projected to remain over 8 percent in 2010 and 2011 according to the IMF.

Key Uncertainties and Challenges

- Financial sector restructuring remains imperative. The IMF estimates that 63 percent of loans to households and businesses are non-performing.
- The process of corporate sector debt restructuring has progressed slowly but the debt overhang in the sector is limiting the scope for new investment, holding back the recovery.
- In addition, the household debt overhang remains significant, with 39 percent of households technically insolvent according to the IMF. The country's Prime Minister, Johanna Sigurdardottir, is looking at some form of debt forgiveness to protect households and has presented a foreign-lending bill that will reduce each household's debt burden by \$13,500 (€9,870), leaving lenders liable.
- There is also a need to build up financial reserves and resolve international creditor issues. Negotiations over Icesave are still continuing. An initial settlement was voted down in a referendum in Iceland and negotiations with the Netherlands and Britain are continuing to try and resolve the situation. Some bilateral programme financing from Nordic countries is dependent on an acceptable position being reached on the Icesave issue, and a resolution would ease Iceland's reintegration into global markets.

TRADE AND INVESTMENT

Proposed Trade Mission to Iceland

SDI was due to meet Cameron Buchanan, Iceland's Honorary Consul for Scotland, recently but he was unable to make the meeting. It is hoped that a meeting can be scheduled in the near future.

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss a possible fact-finding visit by SDI officials to Iceland to explore any potential trade and investment opportunities in advance of planning a possible trade mission. It is hoped that a visit can take place either late this financial year or early next.

Iceland's Ranking Amongst Scottish Export Territories

Rank	Year	Export Value (£m)
60	2008	35
61	2007	30
58	2006	30
65	2005	15
78	2004	10
67	2003	20
70	2002	15

Inward Investment from Iceland

Baakavor Group, a leading provider of fresh prepared foods, through its acquisition of Geest, owns Caledonian Produce in Bo'ness where it employs around 500 people. Baakavor operates in 10 countries and employs 19,000 people globally.

- It is a leading international producer of fresh prepared foods and produce
- It trades with seven of the top 10 global grocery retailers
- Has 57 operations in 10 countries
- Manufactures 6,000 fresh prepared food products in 18 different product categories
- Turnover was £1.7 billion in 2009

SDI Representation in the Nordics

SDI has a regional manager, Angela Davey, operating in the Nordics and recently appointed a new Senior International Executive for the Nordic Region who is based in Copenhagen and works SDI's Northern European Team, focusing on the life sciences and energy sectors as well as supporting on other areas as required.

MACKEREL

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Background

- This year Iceland declared a unilateral mackerel quota of 130,000 tonnes, approximately 22% of the global stock. This follows a similar action last year, and a free for all fishery in 2008.
- The Faroe Islands have also declared a unilateral quota of 85,000 tonnes (approx 15% of the global total). Previously they have been part of the existing management arrangements.
- The management of the North East Atlantic mackerel stock is undertaken through a Coastal States agreement which determines the Total Allowable Catch (TAC) and the allocation of shares. This has been in place for 10 years between the EU, Norway and Faroe Island
- Iceland have now been recognised as a Coastal State and we accept that there is mackerel in their waters giving them a right to a share of the stock. But despite 2 rounds of negotiations this autumn there has been no agreement with either them or the Faroes on sharing of the stock.
- A deal is vital to protect the long-term sustainability of the stock and the future of the Scottish pelagic industry. Mackerel was Scotland's most valuable stock in 2009, worth £135 million.
- ICES (the scientific advisory body) has estimated that actual catches for 2010 will be 66% greater than the recommended TAC (930,000 tonnes instead of 572,000 tonnes).

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Key facts and figures

- **Recent Scottish mackerel quotas (tonnes):**

2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
77,490	95,150	96,196	138,353	114,073

- **Other key stats on TACs and quotas:**

- Number of pelagic vessels in Scotland - 26
- Recommended TAC for 2010: 572,000 tonnes
- EU TAC for 2010: 317748 tonnes (plus 33,875 Southern component shared between Spain, France and Portugal)
- UK quota: 173, 663 tonnes
- Scottish quota: 119,483
- Scottish share of the global total – approx 20%
- Next nearest EU MS share holder: Ireland with 62,641 tonnes
- Norwegian quota 2010 : 180,000 (including unilateral Northern Component – both this and the Southern component will be phased out over the next 3 years).
- Icelandic Unilateral TAC 2010: 130,000 tonnes – 22% of the global total
- Faroese unilateral TAC 2010: 85,000 tonnes – 15% of the global total
- Faroese quota in 2009 (when in agreement): c28,000 tonnes – c5% of global total
- Value of Faroese mackerel and herring landed into Scotland in 2009 – c£400,000

- **Key recent and future dates:**

- October-December 2009: Breakdown of tripartite Coastal State negotiations;
- January 2010: Bilateral agreement between EU and Norway on 10 year deal for mackerel management;
- April 2010: Coastal States discussions (including Iceland) end without agreement.
- Sept 21st EU/Iceland bilateral discussions. SG represented as part of UK delegation
- Sept 27th EU Fisheries Council: Richard Lochhead, Fisheries Cabinet Secretary speaks on behalf of the UK – the first time a Scottish Minister has made a planned intervention on behalf of the UK
- October 1st: Scientific advice on mackerel released;
- October 12th: Coastal States mackerel negotiations resume. SG will be represented as part of UK delegation.
- October 26th: EU Fisheries Council: Scottish delegation take the opportunity to emphasise importance of mackerel to Scotland.
- October 27-29th: Coastal States negotiations resumed. SG represented as part of UK delegation.
- November 25-26th; possible dates for further mackerel negotiations.

LINKS BETWEEN SCOTLAND AND ICELAND

- Iceland is represented in Scotland by an Honorary Consul (Cameron Buchanan) in Glasgow and an Honorary Vice-Consul (Kristin Hannesdóttir) in Edinburgh.
- Icelandair operates a return service from Glasgow to Reykjavik several times a week (see Annex G).

Sport

- Scotland and Iceland met on the football field most recently in October 2010 for the Under-21 UEFA European Championship play-off. Scotland suffered 2-1 defeats in Iceland and at Easter Road, the second leg being notable for a spectacular goal scored from the re-start by Chris Maguire after Iceland had gone ahead.
- The senior football team has been drawn with Iceland three times in qualification to the World Cup or European Championship, winning all six encounters.
- Scotland won 2-1 both home and away during qualification for the 2010 World Cup. They won 2-0 in Iceland and 2-1 at Hampden during qualification for Euro 2004. In qualification for the 1996 World Cup, Scotland won 3-0 at Hampden and 1-0 in Iceland.

Meetings since May 2007

- The First Minister met the outgoing Ambassador of Iceland to the UK, Mr Sverrir Gunnlaugsson, on 10 December 2008.
- On 14 September 2007, Þorgerður Katrín Gunnarsdóttir, Icelandic Minister for Education, Science and Culture met Fiona Hyslop, Cabinet Secretary for Education, to discuss the education systems in each country.

AVIATION

- Icelandair currently operates 4 or 5 times per week from Glasgow to Reykjavik (Keflavik) during the winter, depending on the month. The inbound flight routes via Manchester and the departing flights go direct to Iceland.
- The main onward connections from Keflavik are to New York, Boston and Seattle. Icelandair also operates to Halifax (Nova Scotia) during the summer and Orlando during the winter, with Washington DC added as a seasonal route for Summer 2011.
- The disruption to air travel during the **Eyjafjallajökull volcano** eruption in April/May proved extremely challenging for all those involved, particularly for individual travellers, businesses and airports/airlines.
- However Scottish airports, throughout the period of disruption, were ready to allow airlines to maximise any windows of opportunity as the airspace over Scotland became available.
- The Scottish Government worked closely with the UK Government to monitor the volcanic ash crisis and to mitigate the impact on travellers.
- Earlier this month, the Met Office said that **Grimsvötn volcano** (not related to Eyjafjallajökull or Katla) was showing early signs of potential eruption. The Icelandic Met Office (IMO) has indicated that the likelihood continues to reduce.
- The IMO does however expect that there will be an eruption in the **Vatnajökul area** (includes Grimsvötn) within the next 12 months and is keeping a close watch. Eruptions in this area have tended to be short lived – days rather than weeks – but this cannot be accurately predicted.
- Much has happened since Eyjafjallajökull first erupted earlier this year. As a result of work done by the Civil Aviation Authority and industry, significant improvements have been made on acceptable ash tolerance levels. In aggregate this means that the maximum concentration of ash for safe operation has risen by a factor of 20 since Eyjafjallajökull erupted.

BRIEFING NOTE FOR FIRST MINISTER

COURTESY MEETING WITH THE AMBASSADOR FOR DENMARK TO THE UK

12 JANUARY 2012

Key Messages	<p>The Danish have a continuing interest in the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Understanding Scotland's agenda for constitutional change• Sharing their priorities for the Presidency• Mackerel quotas (likely to be covered over lunch with Richard Lochhead)
Who	<p>Her Excellency Anne (pronounced 'Anna') Steffensen, Ambassador for Denmark to the Court of St James.</p> <p>Christian Thorning, European Policy Attache at the Royal Danish Embassy.</p> <p>Stuart MacPherson, Consul at the Royal Danish Consulate, Edinburgh</p> <p>Norman Irons, Consular Assistant at the Royal Danish Consulate, Edinburgh (and former Consul)</p>
What	<p>Courtesy meeting with the recently appointed Ambassador on her first official visit to Scotland. The Ambassador and her party will meet Richard Lochhead for lunch immediately after the meeting with FM.</p>
Where	<p>First Minister's Office, The Scottish Parliament</p>
When	<p>Time: 12:50-13:20h</p>
Supporting Official	<p>[REDACTED]</p>
Attached documents	<p>ANNEX A: Key Briefing for First Minister</p> <p><u>BACKGROUND INFORMATION IF REQUIRED</u></p> <p>ANNEX B: Biographies</p> <p>ANNEX C: SitRep on Intergovernmental Treaty and Eurozone</p> <p>ANNEX D: Common Fisheries Policy (CFP)</p> <p>ANNEX E: Danish Priorities during Presidency of Council of EU</p> <p>ANNEX F: Economic information relating to Denmark</p> <p>ANNEX G: Energy in Denmark</p>

MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR OF DENMARK TO THE COURT OF ST JAMES

KEY FACTS

1. **Danish EU Presidency** main priorities are:

- ECOFIN agenda (stability in European economies, progress on the EU Budget);
- Growth and Competitiveness (particularly through progress towards completion of the Single Market via implementation of Barnier's 12 proposals);
- JHA and Counter terrorism;
- Climate and energy (The coalition government has pledged to reduce domestic emissions by 40% by 2020), the environment, the CAP and the CFP.

2. **Energy.**

- Our shared high ambition on GHG reduction (both want 40% by 2020 = EU 30%)
- Our shared 100% renewable electricity targets (and what role can enhanced EU cooperation play in achieving this). The Government's target is a Danish energy supply 100 % based on renewable energy in 2050.
- The need for investor certainty post-2020 for low carbon energy. SSE have called publicly for 2030 targets for low carbon energy to give certainty. This will help Marine Energy and CCS in particular. What will DK do to progress this through the EU Energy Roadmap 2050?

[REDACTED]

- **The low carbon economy** - how can we work with DK to get the evidence across of the real investment taking place in this sector in spite of the recession? Scotland is keen to support efforts of DK presidency in this - and Stewart Stevenson has worked hard to influence CEE countries (Poland, Romania, Slovenia, Baltics, Hungary, Czech, Bulgaria) at Environment Councils to see benefits of investment. What progress can the Danes make on this in the EU; and what progress can EU make on the Green Economy in the UN Rio+20 Earth Summit in June? (Especially on global targets for sustainable energy)

3. **Intergovernmental Treaty.** The Danish are intending to take a back seat in negotiations despite their presidency of the Council. Danish Minister for European Affairs has been quoted as saying: "We expect the president of the European Council to play the leading role in drafting the new agreement." Foreign Minister Søvndal has voiced concerns about austerity measures in the intergovernmental deal. His main issue is reported as being the obligation on national governments to cut deficits to 0.5% cent of GDP.

4. **Scottish-Danish relations** Denmark is an EU Member State with which Scotland aims to raise its profile and strengthen relations. First Minister and the Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Climate Change represented Scotland in Copenhagen during the UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change) conference in December 2009 to promote Scotland's world-leading targets set out in the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009.

- 5. Mackerel** The species is an important traditional fishery for the Danes. After the UK and Ireland, Denmark along with Netherlands and Spain are the next largest quota holders. They hold the biggest share in the North Sea.

[REDACTED]

BIOGRAPHIES

Ambassador Anne Hedensted Steffensen**Biography**

Born 1963. Married with three children.

Positions:

Ambassador of Denmark to the Court of St. James's 2011 –

State Secretary for Trade and Corporate Affairs, Ambassador, Ministry of Foreign Affairs 2009 - 2011

State Secretary, Head of the Trade Council, Ambassador, Ministry of Foreign Affairs 2006 - 2009

Under-Secretary for Foreign Trade and Investment, Ambassador, Ministry of Foreign Affairs 2004 - 2006

Head of Department, Secretariat, Danish Trade Council, Ministry of Foreign Affairs 2003-2004

Head of Department, Bilateral Relations and Project Export, Danish Trade Council, Ministry of Foreign Affairs 2001-2003

Chief Consultant, Financial Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs 2000-2001

Deputy Consul General at Danish Consulate General, New York, 1998-2000

Head of Section, Secretariat for Foreign Trade, Ministry of Foreign Affairs 1996-1998

Head of Section, Secretariat for Foreign Trade, Ministry of Foreign Affairs 1995-1996

Deputy Head of Commercial Section, Danish Embassy, London, 1992-1995

Head of Section, Ministry of Foreign Affairs 1990-1992

Education:

Master of Politics, University of Aarhus 1990

Master of Science, London School of Economics 1988

EU FISCAL COMPACT / INTERGOVERNMENTAL TREATY

The proposed Intergovernmental Treaty aims to ensure greater budgetary discipline through limits to debt and penalties for breaking these and to expand the European Stability Mechanism (ESM).

6 January – EU member working group discussed revised draft of the Intergovernmental Treaty. European Parliament and the Commission urged changes to require the accord to be embedded into the EU treaties “within five years” of its entry into force and for the accord to lapse “automatically” after seven years. The proposal would require an EU treaty change so could face another UK veto.

9 January - French President Sarkozy and German Chancellor Merkel met in Berlin:

- At the same meeting they warned Greece that it may not receive its next aid tranche unless the terms of the haircut agreed by its lenders are met soon. The rescue, worth 130bn euros (£107bn), would include a voluntary restructuring of Greek debt - meaning bondholders would have to write off 50% of the Greek bonds' value.
- Both also want a proposal for an EU-wide Financial Transaction Tax (FTT) drawn up ready for EU finance ministers' meeting in March. Under Commission's FTT proposal stock and bond trades would be taxed at the rate of 0.1%, with derivatives taxed at 0.01%. EU-wide tax measures are subject to unanimity; financial regulation subject to QMV. David Cameron said on 8 January that he would veto a European-wide financial transaction tax unless it was adopted globally.

23 January – Eurozone Finance Ministers meet to discuss strategy to deal with debt crisis.

30 January – extraordinary European Council.

1-2 March – European Council where adoption of new intergovernmental treaty to bring the ‘fiscal compact’ into force scheduled. 15 Eurozone states have to sign.

Implications for Scotland:

- short-term, unlikely to be any significant impacts of the draft treaty though there may be a fall in demand for Scottish goods & services as governments impose fiscal discipline in their economies resulting in reduced incomes.
- long-term, the promotion of fiscal discipline in the Eurozone will be good for the Scottish economy if it avoids a future sovereign debt crisis.

EUROZONE

There are concerns that the proposed intergovernmental treaty fails to address the immediate sovereign debt problems facing some eurozone countries. The euro has fallen to 15 month lows against the dollar and the pound and a ten year low against the Yen.

The OECD's November Economic Forecast predicts just 0.2% GDP growth for the eurozone as a whole in 2012 (and a mild recession at end of 2011 and start of 2012), whereas the European Commission predict 0.5% GDP growth for the eurozone in 2012.

Germany (current Chancellor: Angela Merkel, Christian Democratic Union)

- Germany remains the strongest member of the eurozone with record low yields on its bunds (1.88%) and the lowest unemployment rate for 20 years in December (6.8%). However, growth has suffered – it grew 0.5% in Q3 2011 and the OECD forecast it to grow by 0.6% in 2012.
- German exports increased by 2.5% in November, reaching 94.9bn euros (\$121bn; £78.4bn).

Denmark (current PM: Helle Thorning-Schmidt, Social Democrats)

- 10 year bond yields on Danish debt reached record lows of 1.68% in December 2011. Denmark is seen as a safe haven for investors, as the country opted out of the euro and has a relatively low government debt to GDP ratio of 44%.
- However, Denmark experienced a 0.5% GDP contraction in Q3 2011, as it struggles with falling consumer spending. The OECD forecast the economy will grow by 0.7% in 2012.
- 11 January saw the official inauguration of the Danish EU Presidency. Their main priorities are: the ECOFIN agenda (stability in European economies, progress on the EU Budget); Growth and Competitiveness (particularly through progress towards completion of the Single Market via implementation of Barnier's 12 proposals); JHA and Counter terrorism; and green issues: climate and energy (The coalition government has pledged to reduce domestic emissions by 40% by 2020), the environment, the CAP and the CFP. [REDACTED]

Iceland (current PM: Jóhanna Sigurðardóttir, Social Democratic Alliance)

- On 5 January Iceland's Finance Minister, Oddny G. Hardardottir, said that she is committed to the process of joining the euro. Iceland opened talks on joining the EU in 2010, and is pushing ahead with membership talks despite the debt crisis. Iceland is expected to hold a referendum on EU accession at some point next year.
- Iceland grew by 4.7% in Q3 2011 (although this followed a 3.6% contraction in Q2 2011), and is forecast by the OECD to grow by 2.4% in 2012.

Belgium (current PM: Elio Di Rupo, Socialist Party)

- Belgium swore in a new government in December 2011 following the resignation of the previous Cabinet in April 2010.
- Over the past few months, Belgium has seen its cost of borrowing increase (yields on 10 year bonds reached a high of 5.86% in November 2011) as a result of political uncertainty and its high level of public debt (96.2% of GDP in 2010). Yields on 10 year bonds have since fallen to 4.5%.
- Belgian GDP contracted by 0.1% in Q3 2011 and the OECD predict growth of 0.5% in 2012.

Poland (current PM: Donald Tusk, Civic Platform Party)

- Poland is still committed to joining the eurozone. The FT reports that it is profiting from the downturn as western European businesses move to Polish cities to reduce costs. The zloty's depreciation has also helped exporters, but wild swings in its value have made business planning difficult.
- Poland grew by 1.0% in Q3 2011 and the OECD forecasts it will grow by 2.5% in 2012.

COMMON FISHERIES POLICY (CFP) REFORM

TOP LINE:

Reform of the CFP can't come soon enough. A radical overhaul of the CFP is necessary to contribute to sustainability for our fishing industry and our marine environment.

KEY POINTS:**Context:**

- The third reform of the CFP is now well advanced, with agreement expected during the first half of 2013.
- This is the first time that CFP reform will be decided by co decision (whereby the European Parliament and Council both have to approve draft legislation before it becomes law) This adds increased complexity.

Main points of the CFP Commission proposal are:

- Fish stocks to be brought to Maximum Sustainable Yield by 2015;
- establish long term multi annual plans, commit to greater regionalisation;
- phase out all discarding by 2016 with fishermen obliged to land all they catch;
- introduce Transferable Fishing Concessions, an EU wide, rights based management scheme;
- greater role for the EU in aquaculture and retention of Relative Stability and the 6 and 12 mile limits.

[REDACTED]

DANISH PRIORITIES FOR EU PRESIDENCY
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TOP LINES:

[REDACTED]

KEY POINTS:

Danish EU Presidency main priorities are:

A responsible Europe

- A responsible European economy.
- Strengthened financial regulation and supervision.
- The EU Multiannual Financial Framework.

A dynamic Europe

- A revitalised single market.
- A competitive single market for knowledge
- Sustainable growth and development throughout the EU
- Securing a future labour market, health, and a labour market in need of everyone.
- Common trade policy with clout.

A green Europe

- Green development and growth are interconnected.
- Higher energy efficiency and future energy and climate policy. (The coalition government has pledged to reduce domestic emissions by 40% by 2020)
- A single energy market.
- Sustainable future agricultural and fisheries policies.
- A well-connected transport system and reduced air pollution.
- Better regulation of chemicals.

A safe Europe

- Cooperation to enhance the security of citizens.
- A well-managed migration policy in the EU
- Food safety and the fight against cross-border health threats.
- Reinforcing the Union's disaster response capacity.
- Continued enlargement of the EU and strengthened relations to neighbouring regions.
- Strong common EU action.

ECONOMIC INFORMATION

GDP: 311 billion dollars (2010)

Annual Growth: -1.1% (2007), -5.2 (2010), 2.1% (2010)

Inflation: 2.3% (2010)

Unemployment: 6.0% (2010)

Government finances: The general government surplus was -2.9% of GDP in 2010

Major Industries: Agricultural products, grains, meat and dairy, fish, beer, oil and gas, home electronics, furniture and fashion.

Natural resources: North Sea - oil and gas, fish. Greenland - fish, zinc, lead, molybdenum, uranium, gold, platinum. The Faroe Islands - fish, petroleum, natural gas, salt, limestone, stone, gravel and sand.

Estimated exports (£millions) from Scotland to Denmark 2005-2009

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Business Services ⁵ & Finance	35	40	55	60	70
Chemicals and Mineral Products, Rubber and Plastics	35	20	30	30	35
Electrical and Instrument Engineering	25	20	10	10	10
Manufacture of Food & Drink	30	30	25	20	25
Metals, Metal Goods, Mechanical Engineer	120	140	240	155	205
Other Manufacturing	10	40	40	35	30
Other Services ⁶	5	5	10	20	30
Primary Industries ¹ & Construction	25	20	20	10	20
Wholesale ⁴ & Retail, Hotels & Restaurants	15	35	25	25	20
	305	350	455	365	445

Ranking amongst Scottish export territories

Rank	Year	Export Value (£m)
11	2009	445
13	2008	365
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12	2005	305
12	2004	320
12	2003	360
12	2002	410

Inward investment

The most notable inward investor from Denmark with which SDI was involved was Welcon/Skykon (wind turbines), which went into administration in January 2011.

As well as account managed companies, there are several companies from Denmark which have entered the Scottish market without the assistance of SDI. Some examples are Maersk Drilling and Velux.

ENERGY IN DENMARK

Optimising **energy efficiency** at every step of the value chain from production and distribution to consumption by the end-user is central to the Danish policy.

The government has established stringent building and appliance codes, public service campaigns on energy use, a public sector that sets an efficiency example, high taxes on energy use and voluntary agreements on energy savings with industry based on energy audits. The low energy intensity has come from a concerted effort by the government, not from any inherent characteristic of Denmark itself.

A main feature of the Danish energy sector is its extensive usage of **combined heat and power** production. Through a targeted long-term policy, Denmark has obtained a record-breaking level of co-generation that reduces the loss of energy in power production. More than 50% of the produced power (excluding that from wind-turbines) utilises surplus heat for district heating or industrial purposes. Just over 80% of the district heating is co-generated with power. Source: Invest in Denmark www.denmark.dk

The governments published its targets regarding **renewable energy** in 'Our future energy' (November 2011). Along with security of supply, energy savings and green growth, expanding the use of renewable energy in Denmark is at the core of the Danish energy policy. As a step towards the long-term goal for a green-growth economy independent of fossil fuels, the government is taking pains to deliver the ambitious goal of a share of 50% wind power in electricity consumption in 2020.

At least 30% will be renewable energy in final energy consumption by 2020, as stipulated in the EU climate and energy package. In addition, there is a binding target of 10% renewable energy in the transport sector by 2020.

Renewable Energy - Overview

Denmark has demonstrated that through a persistent and active energy policy, sustainable growth is possible. Promotion of energy efficiency and renewable energy is fuelling sustainable economic growth.

Not only does Denmark have a very efficient and clean energy sector, but the technological development sparked by the active policy is contributing to a steadily increasing share of the Danish economy through investments and export. Exports of energy technologies have trebled in just 10 years. Today Denmark is a global wind power hub, housing the R&D departments of not only Vestas – the major Danish company in this field – but also foreign producers of wind turbines.

Denmark is playing a pioneering role in developing renewable energy resources and technologies. Despite the lack of hydroelectric resources or strong biomass traditions, Denmark has implemented policies to build one of the biggest renewable energy sectors in the world. Today, renewable energy sources like wind and biomass account for more than 25% of Denmark's gross electricity consumption and 15% of overall energy consumption. The aim is to increase the latter figure to at least 30% by 2025.

Wind

In 2009, wind-power production accounted for 19.3% of domestic electricity supply. In 2009 wind turbines produced 6721 GWh electricity. As of May 2010, there were 5052 wind turbines in Denmark with an installed wind capacity of 3545 MW, offshore wind power accounting for 505 MW.

Subsidies for Wind

In the summer of 2008, the level of support for electricity produced from wind turbines was increased. The subsidy varies depending on a number of factors such as the size of the turbine and time of connection to the grid.

New wind turbines - onshore as well as offshore - receive a price premium of 25 øre/kWh for 22.000 full load hours. Additional 2.3 øre/kWh is provided in the entire lifetime of the turbine to compensate for the cost of balancing etc. Most recently, DONG Energy won the tender for Anholt Offshore wind farm with a feed-in-tariff of 105,1 øre/kWh in 20 TWh.

Wave

Denmark is hosting seven demonstration plants at sea based on five different concepts and is thereby positioned in the top five development countries in the world. The development work in Denmark is currently focusing on development of technology concepts and conducting sea tests of large scale models. Another promising development perspective is synergy effects with offshore wind farms.

Biomass

In Denmark, biomass currently accounts for approximately 70% of renewable energy consumption, mostly in the form of straw, wood and renewable wastes, while biogas accounts for less. Consumption of biomass for energy production in Denmark more than quadrupled between 1980 and 2005.

The consumption of biomass continues to rise as a source of energy for the supply of heat in district-heating plants and in smaller installations for households, enterprises and institutions. Source: Danish Energy Authority (www.ens.dk)

Oil and Gas

Since the first oil crisis in 1973, energy policy has occupied a relatively significant position in the political debate in Denmark. The Danish Energy Authority was established in 1976, primarily as a reaction to the problem of security of supply, but gradually the focus also was brought to bear on domestic energy production (North Sea oil and gas, renewable energy etc.), on energy supply and distribution (the natural gas grid, CHP), and on energy savings (insulation, labelling schemes).

In addition, international sustainability targets - not least reduction of CO₂ emissions - and economic considerations have had a significant role to play in recent years, during which the Danish Energy Authority has administered, for example, subsidies for energy savings and green energy taxes, liberalisation of the electricity and gas markets, and the introduction of CO₂ quotas.

According to the 2011 BP Statistical Energy Survey, Denmark had proved oil reserves of .9 billion barrels at the end of 2010 or 0.1% of the world's reserves. Denmark produced an average of 249,000 barrels of crude oil per day in 2010, 0.3% of the world total. Denmark consumed an average of 180 thousand barrels a day of oil in 2010, 0.2% of the world total. In 2010 Denmark had proved natural gas reserves of 0.1 trillion cubic metres, less than .05% of the world total. Denmark had 2010 natural gas production of 8.2 billion cubic metres, 0.3% of the world total. Source: [www. www. bp.com](http://www.bp.com)

BRIEFING NOTE FOR RICHARD LOCHHEAD

LUNCH WITH THE AMBASSADOR FOR DENMARK

12 JANUARY 2012

Key Messages	<p>The Danish have a continuing interest in the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding Scotland's agenda for constitutional change • Sharing their priorities for the Presidency • Mackerel quotas (likely to be covered over lunch with Richard Lochhead)
Who	<p>Her Excellency Anne (pronounced 'Anna') Steffensen, Ambassador for Denmark to the Court of St James.</p> <p>Christian Thorning, European Policy Attache at the Royal Danish Embassy.</p> <p>Stuart MacPherson, Consul at the Royal Danish Consulate, Edinburgh</p> <p>Norman Irons, Consular Assistant at the Royal Danish Consulate, Edinburgh (and former Consul)</p>
What	Lunch with the recently appointed Ambassador on her first official visit to Scotland. The Ambassador and her party will meet First Minister immediately before this meeting.
Where	TG.22, The Scottish Parliament
When	Time: 13:20-14:00h
Supporting Official	[REDACTED]
Attached documents	<p>ANNEX A: Key Briefing</p> <p><u>BACKGROUND INFORMATION IF REQUIRED</u></p> <p>ANNEX B: Biographies</p> <p>ANNEX C: Ambassador's Programme</p> <p>ANNEX D: SitRep on Intergovernmental Treaty and Eurozone</p> <p>ANNEX E: Economic information relating to Denmark</p> <p>ANNEX F: Mackerel</p> <p>ANNEX G: Common Fisheries Policy (CFP)</p>

MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR OF DENMARK

KEY FACTS

Danish EU Presidency main priorities are:

A responsible Europe

- A responsible European economy.
- Strengthened financial regulation and supervision.
- The EU Multiannual Financial Framework.

A dynamic Europe

- A revitalised single market.
- A competitive single market for knowledge
- Sustainable growth and development throughout the EU
- Securing a future labour market, health, and a labour market in need of everyone.
- Common trade policy with clout.

A green Europe

- Green development and growth are interconnected.
- Higher energy efficiency and future energy and climate policy. (The coalition government has pledged to reduce domestic emissions by 40% by 2020)
- A single energy market.
- Sustainable future agricultural and fisheries policies.
- A well-connected transport system and reduced air pollution.
- Better regulation of chemicals.

A safe Europe

- Cooperation to enhance the security of citizens.
- A well-managed migration policy in the EU
- Food safety and the fight against cross-border health threats.
- Reinforcing the Union's disaster response capacity.
- Continued enlargement of the EU and strengthened relations to neighbouring regions.
- Strong common EU action.

[REDACTED]

Intergovernmental Treaty. The Danish are intending to take a back seat in negotiations despite their presidency of the Council. Danish Minister for European Affairs has been quoted as saying: "We expect the president of the European Council to play the leading role in drafting the new agreement." Foreign Minister Søvndal has voiced concerns about austerity measures in the intergovernmental deal. His main issue is reported as being the obligation on national governments to cut deficits to 0.5% cent of GDP.

Scottish-Danish relations Although Denmark is not one of the priority countries identified in the Scottish Government's Action Plan on European Engagement, it is important as the current Presidency of the EU and as an EU Member State with which Scotland aims to raise its profile and strengthen relations.

The First Minister and the Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Climate Change represented Scotland in Copenhagen during the UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change) conference in December 2009 to promote Scotland's world-leading targets set out in the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009.

SHORT BIOGRAPHIES

Ambassador Anne Hedensted Steffensen**Biography**

Born 1963. Married with three children.

Education:

Master of Politics, University of Aarhus 1990

Master of Science, London School of Economics 1988

Career:

Ambassador of Denmark to the Court of St. James's 2011 –

State Secretary for Trade and Corporate Affairs, Ambassador, Ministry of Foreign Affairs 2009 - 2011

State Secretary, Head of the Trade Council, Ambassador, Ministry of Foreign Affairs 2006 - 2009

Under-Secretary for Foreign Trade and Investment, Ambassador, Ministry of Foreign Affairs 2004 - 2006

Head of Department, Secretariat, Danish Trade Council, Ministry of Foreign Affairs 2003-2004

Head of Department, Bilateral Relations and Project Export, Danish Trade Council, Ministry of Foreign Affairs 2001-2003

Chief Consultant, Financial Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs 2000-2001

Deputy Consul General at Danish Consulate General, New York, 1998-2000

Head of Section, Secretariat for Foreign Trade, Ministry of Foreign Affairs 1996-1998

Head of Section, Secretariat for Foreign Trade, Ministry of Foreign Affairs 1995-1996

Deputy Head of Commercial Section, Danish Embassy, London, 1992-1995

Head of Section, Ministry of Foreign Affairs 1990-1992

Christian Thorning, Counsellor (European Policy and Financial Affairs), Royal Danish Embassy

Date of birth :2nd August 1969

Marital status: Unmarried partner

Honours: Knight of Dannebrog

EDUCATION

1994 Master of Law, Copenhagen University

CAREER

2008- Counsellor, Royal Danish Embassy, London

2007-2008 Coordinator (EU Policy Department) incl. participation in the 2007 IGC on the Lisbon Treaty, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA)

2006-2007 Deputy Head of the EU Law Department, MFA

2003-2005 Head of Section (EU Coordination), MFA

2002-2003 1st Secretary (Political and Legal) and President of the Council

Working Group on drafting the Accession Treaty, Danish Perm. Representation the EU, Brussels

1998-2002 1st Secretary (Political), Royal Danish Embassy, New Delhi

1999 (Nov.- Dec.) 1st Secretary (Political), Danish Mission to the UN, New York

1996-1998 Head of Section, EU Enlargement, MFA

1995-1996 Head of Section, Policy and Planning Department (Development Cooperation), MFA

1994-1995 Head of Section, Ministry of the Interior

1994 (Jan.- June) Internship at UNHCR, Geneva

Professor Stuart MacPherson, Honorary Consul for Denmark

Date of birth – 14 September 1963

Married. One son, one daughter.

Professional Work

Principal, Irons Foulner Consulting Engineers, 48 Melville Street, Edinburgh

Honorary Professor, Mechanical and Electrical Engineering, School of the Built Environment, Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh

Chairman, Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers, Scotland

Other Professional Activities

Adviser to the Scottish Government on Energy Performance of Buildings

Adviser to Historic Scotland and the National Trust for Scotland on Building Services and Energy Performance in Historic Buildings.

Member, referee board of Building Services Engineering, Research and Technology Journal and Construction Management and Economics Journal

Norman Irons, Consular Assistant

Born: Glasgow - 4 January 1941

Married. One son, one daughter

Education: George Heriot's School, Edinburgh, 1946 - 1959

Career

Royal Danish Consul: Appointed January 2000 – Retired December 2011

Consultant: Irons Foulner Consulting Engineers

Lord Provost and Lord Lieutenant of the City of Edinburgh, May 1992 – March 1996

Principal Official SNP Councillor City of Edinburgh District Council (1976-1996)

External Activities:

Chairman - Edinburgh Festival Society (1992-1996)

Chairman - Edinburgh Military Tattoo (1992-1996)

Chairman - Justices of the Peace Advisory Committee (1992-1996)

Chairman - Secretary of State for Scotland's Advisory Committee on Health Services Appointments - 1994 - 2001

AMBASSADOR'S PROGRAMME

Wednesday 11 January

Scottish Parliament

- 15.00 Meeting with Convener and Members of the European and External Relations Committee
- 16.00 Courtesy call with Presiding Officer
- 16.30 Private Tour of the Scottish Parliament
- 18.00 Reception hosted by Convener of the European and External Relations Committee, Christine McKelvie MSP

Thursday 12 January

- 09.30 Call at Danish Cultural Institute, 3 Doune Terrace
- 10.30 Meeting with Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce, Capital House
- 11.45 Arrive at Scottish Parliament
- 12.00 Observe First Minister's Questions from Presiding Officer's Gallery
- 12.50 Courtesy meeting with First Minister
- 13.20 Lunch with Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and the Environment
- 14.15 Meeting with Editor of 'The Scotsman', Barclay House, Holyrood Road
- 15.30 Call on Danish Consulate, 48 Melville Street
- 16.30 Meeting with Principal of Heriot Watt University, Steve Chapman

EU FISCAL COMPACT / INTERGOVERNMENTAL TREATY

The proposed Intergovernmental Treaty aims to ensure greater budgetary discipline through limits to debt and penalties for breaking these and to expand the European Stability Mechanism (ESM).

6 January – EU member working group discussed revised draft of the Intergovernmental Treaty. European Parliament and the Commission urged changes to require the accord to be embedded into the EU treaties “within five years” of its entry into force and for the accord to lapse “automatically” after seven years. The proposal would require an EU treaty change so could face another UK veto.

9 January - French President Sarkozy and German Chancellor Merkel met in Berlin:

- At the same meeting they warned Greece that it may not receive its next aid tranche unless the terms of the haircut agreed by its lenders are met soon. The rescue, worth 130bn euros (£107bn), would include a voluntary restructuring of Greek debt - meaning bondholders would have to write off 50% of the Greek bonds' value.
- Both also want a proposal for an EU-wide Financial Transaction Tax (FTT) drawn up ready for EU finance ministers' meeting in March. Under Commission's FTT proposal stock and bond trades would be taxed at the rate of 0.1%, with derivatives taxed at 0.01%. EU-wide tax measures are subject to unanimity; financial regulation subject to QMV. David Cameron said on 8 January that he would veto a European-wide financial transaction tax unless it was adopted globally.

23 January – Eurozone Finance Ministers meet to discuss strategy to deal with debt crisis.

30 January – extraordinary European Council.

1-2 March – European Council where adoption of new intergovernmental treaty to bring the ‘fiscal compact’ into force scheduled. 15 Eurozone states have to sign.

Implications for Scotland:

- short-term, unlikely to be any significant impacts of the draft treaty though there may be a fall in demand for Scottish goods & services as governments impose fiscal discipline in their economies resulting in reduced incomes.
- long-term, the promotion of fiscal discipline in the Eurozone will be good for the Scottish economy if it avoids a future sovereign debt crisis.

EUROZONE

There are concerns that the proposed intergovernmental treaty fails to address the immediate sovereign debt problems facing some eurozone countries. The euro has fallen to 15 month lows against the dollar and the pound and a ten year low against the Yen.

The OECD's November Economic Forecast predicts just 0.2% GDP growth for the eurozone as a whole in 2012 (and a mild recession at end of 2011 and start of 2012), whereas the European Commission predict 0.5% GDP growth for the eurozone in 2012.

Germany (current Chancellor: Angela Merkel, Christian Democratic Union)

- Germany remains the strongest member of the eurozone with record low yields on its bunds (1.88%) and the lowest unemployment rate for 20 years in December (6.8%). However, growth has suffered – it grew 0.5% in Q3 2011 and the OECD forecast it to grow by 0.6% in 2012.
- German exports increased by 2.5% in November, reaching 94.9bn euros (\$121bn; £78.4bn).

Denmark (current PM: Helle Thorning-Schmidt, Social Democrats)

- 10 year bond yields on Danish debt reached record lows of 1.68% in December 2011. Denmark is seen as a safe haven for investors, as the country opted out of the euro and has a relatively low government debt to GDP ratio of 44%.
- However, Denmark experienced a 0.5% GDP contraction in Q3 2011, as it struggles with falling consumer spending. The OECD forecast the economy will grow by 0.7% in 2012.
- 11 January saw the official inauguration of the Danish EU Presidency. Their main priorities are: the ECOFIN agenda (stability in European economies, progress on the EU Budget); Growth and Competitiveness (particularly through progress towards completion of the Single Market via implementation of Barnier's 12 proposals); JHA and Counter terrorism; and green issues: climate and energy (The coalition government has pledged to reduce domestic emissions by 40% by 2020), the environment, the CAP and the CFP.

[REDACTED]

Iceland (current PM: Jóhanna Sigurðardóttir, Social Democratic Alliance)

- On 5 January Iceland's Finance Minister, Oddny G. Hardardottir, said that she is committed to the process of joining the euro. Iceland opened talks on joining the EU in 2010, and is pushing ahead with membership talks despite the debt crisis. Iceland is expected to hold a referendum on EU accession at some point next year.
- Iceland grew by 4.7% in Q3 2011 (although this followed a 3.6% contraction in Q2 2011), and is forecast by the OECD to grow by 2.4% in 2012.

Belgium (current PM: Elio Di Rupo, Socialist Party)

- Belgium swore in a new government in December 2011 following the resignation of the previous Cabinet in April 2010.
- Over the past few months, Belgium has seen its cost of borrowing increase (yields on 10 year bonds reached a high of 5.86% in November 2011) as a result of political uncertainty and its high level of public debt (96.2% of GDP in 2010). Yields on 10 year bonds have since fallen to 4.5%.
- Belgian GDP contracted by 0.1% in Q3 2011 and the OECD predict growth of 0.5% in 2012.

Poland (current PM: Donald Tusk, Civic Platform Party)

- Poland is still committed to joining the eurozone. The FT reports that it is profiting from the downturn as western European businesses move to Polish cities to reduce costs. The zloty's depreciation has also helped exporters, but wild swings in its value have made business planning difficult.
- Poland grew by 1.0% in Q3 2011 and the OECD forecasts it will grow by 2.5% in 2012.

ECONOMIC INFORMATION

GDP: 311 billion dollars (2010)

Annual Growth: -1.1% (2007), -5.2 (2010), 2.1% (2010)

Inflation: 2.3% (2010)

Unemployment: 6.0% (2010)

Government finances: The general government surplus was -2.9% of GDP in 2010

Major Industries: Agricultural products, grains, meat and dairy, fish, beer, oil and gas, home electronics, furniture and fashion.

Natural resources: North Sea - oil and gas, fish. Greenland - fish, zinc, lead, molybdenum, uranium, gold, platinum. The Faroe Islands - fish, petroleum, natural gas, salt, limestone, stone, gravel and sand.

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As well as account managed companies, there are several companies from Denmark which have entered the Scottish market without the assistance of SDI. Some examples are Maersk Drilling and Velux.

MACKEREL

Points to make

- I know you agree that resolving the ongoing mackerel crisis is a top priority in order to protect this valuable stock for both Scotland and Denmark
- I hope the talks in January will enable us to make progress, although I remain somewhat pessimistic following the December talks – what is your view?
[REDACTED]
- My officials and I will do all we can to support you as Presidency for these important talks
[REDACTED]

I appreciate your Minister saying at December Council that she would act as a neutral Presidency in this matter and again we will provide any support we can.

Danish position

- Mackerel is an important traditional fishery for the Danes. After the UK and Ireland, Denmark along with Netherlands and Spain are the next largest quota holders. They hold the biggest share in the North Sea
[REDACTED]
- However, their Minister did say that they would take a neutral stance as Presidency and follow the direction of Member States.
- The Danish mackerel landings for 2011 is expected to amount for 210 million DKK, that is around 23,4 million GBP

COMMON FISHERIES POLICY (CFP) REFORM

Key Points to make

- **We will do what we can to support you on CFP reform during your Presidency**
- **I am keen to explore further opportunities where Scotland and Denmark can work together on CFP reform.**
- **Reform of the CFP can't come soon enough. A radical overhaul of the CFP is necessary to contribute to sustainability for our fishing industry and our marine environment.**
- **My top priorities for CFP reform are:**
 - **Genuine decentralisation and simplification of decision making;**
 - **Tackle the wasteful practice of discarding;**
 - **Protect our historic fishing rights;**
 - **Integrate the CFP with other marine environment policies;**
 - **Develop long term management plans, supported by robust science;**
 - and
 - **Support development of the aquaculture sector**

[REDACTED]

- **As the issues of discards, integration of environmental aspects and the development aspect of the external dimension policy are key to the Danish position, it would be good to reiterate our support for those three issues**

[REDACTED]

Context:

- One of the most controversial of EU policies, the CFP has failed to protect fish stocks, fishing communities, and the wider marine environment. The third reform of the CFP is now well advanced, with agreement expected during the first half of 2013.
- This is the first time that CFP reform will be decided by co decision (whereby the European Parliament and Council both have to approve draft legislation before it becomes law) This adds increased complexity.

CFP reform proposals:

There are different regulations being reformed: a main or "basic" regulation on the CFP, a regulation on the Common organisations of the markets, a proposal on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF), a communication on the external dimension of the CFP, a communication on the whole CFP package and a report on reporting obligations

Main points of the CFP Commission proposal are:

- Fish stocks to be brought to Maximum Sustainable Yield by 2015;

- establish long term multi annual plans, commit to greater regionalisation;
- phase out all discarding by 2016 with fishermen obliged to land all they catch;
- introduce Transferable Fishing Concessions, an EU wide, rights based management scheme;
- greater role for the EU in aquaculture and retention of Relative Stability and the 6 and 12 mile limits.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 13 January 2012 12:10

To: [REDACTED] First Minister <FirstMinister@scotland.gsi.gov.uk>
Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Culture and External Affairs <cabseccea@scotland.gsi.gov.uk>;
Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and the Environment
<CabinetSecretaryforRuralAffairsandtheEnvironment@scotland.gsi.gov.uk>; Cabinet
Secretary for Parliamentary Business and Govt Strategy
<CabinetSecretaryforParliamentaryBusinessandGovtStrategy@scotland.gsi.gov.uk>;
Permanent Secretary <PermSec@scotland.gsi.gov.uk>; DG Strategy and External Affairs
<DGSEA@scotland.gsi.gov.uk>; [REDACTED] SDI Government Affairs
<sdi.governmentaffairs@scotland.gsi.gov.uk>; Communications First Minister
<CommunicationsFirstMinister@scotland.gsi.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: URGENT - Briefing Pack for FM meeting Danish Ambassador

The meeting between Mr Lochhead and the ambassador was short but I believe set up the beginnings of a good relationship between us and Ms Steffensen. There was some general conversation and a clear interest in the role small countries can play in influencing the EU. The Ambassador said that she would be more than willing to help facilitate a visit by RL to Copenhagen to meet with the new Agri and Fish Minister. A suggestion for which Rory may not thank us given RL's very full travel schedule over the next few months but probably worth trying to follow up given our common interests on fisheries matters in particular.

Key policy issues:

Mackerel - once again the ambassador assured us that she would take back our concerns on this issue to Copenhagen and we again noted our offer of working closely with DK both as presidency and as another key mackerel fishing country to try and resolve the dispute. [REDACTED]

CFP reform - RL outlined our views on regionalisation and questioned why DK seem less keen on moving towards a more regionalised CFP. AS outlined concerns that a move towards more national control would open up the potential for countries to fish in a less sustainable fashion and that we needed EU level control to ensure conservation of the resource. We highlighted that we strongly agree with the need to ensure sustainability and hence our view that we need high level objectives, but then we need more regionalised management in order to recognise the different nature of fisheries throughout the EU. [REDACTED]

RL and AS agreed that we should pursue opportunities for joined up working on discard reduction as we both have very similar goals and we want to ensure we don't duplicate efforts. I noted that we had already worked well together on developing the catch quota scheme and we wondered if the World Fisheries Congress might provide an opportunity to explore further co-operation (there is already a plan for Scotland to host this year's meeting on catch quotas before/after the WFC).

On agriculture RL welcomed the flexibility in the Draft CAP proposals to transfer funds between Pillar 1 and Pillar 2. He highlighted that Scotland currently receives the 4th lowest Pillar 1 rate and the lowest Pillar 2 rate in Europe. He also explained that Pillar 1 payments were vital for Scotland's farmers given the nature of farming in Scotland, hill farming, etc. AS and RL noted that we had quite different views on this issue, but AS recognised our interests and thanked RL for explaining our concerns.

Finally AS asked about our views on structural and cohesion funds (not realising that this responsibility didn't lie with RL). We may want to follow up with her team to give them more info.

A friendly and productive meeting, I will certainly follow-up next time I'm in London.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Marine Scotland – Fisheries Policy

Scottish Government

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 12 January 2012 15:55

To: First Minister

Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Culture and External Affairs; Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and the Environment; Cabinet Secretary for Parliamentary Business and Govt Strategy; Permanent Secretary; DG Strategy and External Affairs; [REDACTED] SDI Government Affairs; Communications First Minister; [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: URGENT - Briefing Pack for FM meeting Danish Ambassador

[REDACTED]

The First Minister met with the Danish Ambassador to the UK this afternoon, immediately after FMQs. For the benefit of policy leads FM and the Ambassador discussed renewables at some length; covering aspects of both countries progress towards wind power, tidal/wave and the Saltire Prize applicants (to date). The Ambassador also re-emphasised the Danish priorities for the Presidency period and asked the FM about independence and the referendum. FM and Ms Steffensen appear to hold similar views or supportive perspectives on much of what came up in the extensive discussion of such topical issues. No action points to note. The discussion closed with FM raising the issue of mackerel and relations with Faroes and Iceland. In the context of the current Presidency, the Ambassador clearly understood the message and undertook to take Scottish concerns back with her.

Finally, the opportunity to arrange an FM visit to Denmark came up and this will need to be followed up in due course in collaboration with [REDACTED], who has been doing some ground work on this. More to follow when possible.

The delegation left to meet Mr Lochhead for a working lunch and [REDACTED] will feed back as appropriate.

[REDACTED]

From [REDACTED]

Sent: 12 January 2012 10:59

To: First Minister

Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Culture and External Affairs; Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and the Environment; Cabinet Secretary for Parliamentary Business and Govt Strategy; Permanent Secretary; DG Strategy and External Affairs; [REDACTED] SDI Government Affairs; Communications First Minister; [REDACTED]

Subject: URGENT - Briefing Pack for FM meeting Danish Ambassador

Importance: High

[REDACTED]

Please find attached replacement front page for FM briefing and an additional Annex G on Energy for FM pack. This will save you printing out the entire pack again.

Thanks to [REDACTED] for rapid response time.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [Scottish Government | 3-D South Victoria Quay | Edinburgh | EH6 6QQ](#)

[REDACTED]

BRIEFING NOTE FOR FIRST MINISTER

2012 ANNUAL CONSULAR CORPS RECEPTION

THURSDAY 22 MARCH 2012

Key Message	<p>Looking back at the highlights of 2011 and looking ahead to 2012 for a key strategic international audience.</p> <p>The theme for the evening is the Scottish Government's Year of Creative, as part of the Homecoming Legacy.</p>
Who	<p>Audience will be made up from the Consular Corps (professional and honorary) and key members of the Creative Industries sector. Full guest list will be included in the final ops note which will be provided by Visits & Events.</p> <p>VIPs</p> <p>Dana Linnet, dean of the Consular Corps</p> <p>His Excellency Abdulrahman Ghanem Almutaiwee, UAE Ambassador</p>
What	<p>First Minister is hosting the annual reception for members of the Consular Corps in Scotland.</p> <p>First Minister will be giving a key note address before mingling with guests. Speech will be provided separately by [Redacted]</p> <p>Entertainment will be provided by Breabach and students of the Royal Conservatoire Scotland.</p>
Why	<p>Opportunity for the First Minister to thank the Consular Corps for their work with the Scottish Government.</p> <p>To show that Scotland has achieved in the past year and the Government's vision for 2012.</p> <p>This is part of a wider programme of more strategic engagement with the Consular Corps. The Cabinet Secretary for Culture and External Affairs has hosted 2 recent events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• All Consular Corp invited to an event to listen to the First Minister make his announcement of the Referendum – January 2012• Professional Group of the Consular Corps attended a dinner. Discussions included independence and the referendum – March 2012

Where	The Great Hall, Edinburgh Castle
When	<p>Thursday 22 March 2012</p> <p>1830 – reception begins. First Minister arrives and will be escorted to the green room.</p> <p>1840 – VIPS to join Ministers in the green room</p> <p>1845 – Speeches, First Minister and Dean of the Consular Corps, Dana Linnet, Consul General for USA</p> <p>2030 – reception ends</p> <p>Full ops note including running order will be provided by Visits & Events Team</p>
Supporting Official	[Redacted]
Attached documents	<p>Annex A: Key Messages</p> <p>Annex B: Background on the Consular Corps</p> <p>Annex C: List of meetings with Ambassadors and Ministerial overseas visits</p> <p>Annex D: Scottish Government’s Year of Creative Scotland</p> <p>Annex E: Biography - Dana Linnet, Dean of the Consular Corp</p> <p>Annex F : Background on Breabach</p> <p>Annex G : Background on Royal Conservatoire of Scotland</p>

KEY MESSAGES

Incoming and Outgoing Consuls and Key Messages on international engagement.

- Welcome new Honorary Consuls for Switzerland, Denmark and Israel.
- We've said goodbye to really dear friends the Consul General of India and Norman Irons, previously Honorary Consul for Switzerland and Dean of the Consular Corp.
- It has been a turbulent year since the last reception and countries across the world have had to deal with natural disasters, economic instability and threats new and old. However, we must move forward, build alliances and help each other.
- The First Minister and other Scottish Government Ministers have visited a number of countries over the last year to promote Scotland as a place to live, work and do business. These have included India, China, USA, Canada, the Gulf as well as a range of European countries and EU institutions.
- These visits help Scotland take advantage of opportunities as they arise in both established and new markets to grow our economy in sectors such as renewable energy, tourism and food and drink.
- The First Minister and others Ministers have met with a range of overseas VIP visitors, Ambassadors and High Commissioners over the last year including those from These visits are welcomed by the Scottish Government as it gives us the opportunity to discuss a range of issues as well as key Scottish Government policies.
- Having a thriving Consular Corps here in Scotland helps contribute to our raising profile overseas. The Scottish Government welcomes the help from consulates not only in the planning of Ministerial visits overseas but advice regarding their particular countries.
- The importance of cultural diplomacy in our international affairs cannot be underestimated. It can open doors and can strengthen and support Scotland's international ambitions.
- The announcement of the timetable for the Referendum and the fact that the world's eyes will be on Scotland in 2014 when we host a number of world-class events, means that we are now seeing a step-change in the level of international attention and engagement with Scotland.

- In this context it is vital that we continue to strengthen our relationship with our friends across the world, both to share knowledge and experiences but also to forge links which can bring tangible economic benefits to Scotland.
- Over the last year the Scottish Government's engagement with the European Union has been focused on tracking key EU legislation and developments that will impact Scotland. The four areas in which Scotland has a strategic interest are Energy and Climate Change, Marine Environment, Research and Creativity and Freedom, Security and Justice and raising Scotland's profile in Europe.
- In the Year of Creative Scotland will inspire our people and our visitors to celebrate Scotland's world renowned culture and creativity as we progress towards Homecoming 2014 and beyond.
- Scotland is on track to become one of the world's first Fair Trade Nations in 2012. The Scottish Government and the Scottish Fair Trade Forum encourage consumers to buy local produce whenever possible and where local produce is not available, they should buy Fairtrade products. Buying Fairtrade products provides an opportunity for producers and their families to work their way out of poverty and have a better quality of life.

BACKGROUND ON THE CONSULAR CORPS IN SCOTLAND

- 51 countries are represented in the Scottish Consular Corps; however, the European Commission, the European Parliament and the NASCO (North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organisation) are also members.
- There are 13 full diplomatic and 38 honorary consulates.
- 23 countries from the EU have representations and these are a mix of full diplomatic and honorary consulates.
- 6 countries from Africa have representations (Malawi, Ghana, Namibia, Rwanda, South Africa and Tunisia).
- 4 countries represent the Americas (Brazil, Canada, Chile and the USA).
- The Scottish Government works closely with consulates not only on visits by government Ministers and Ambassadors but on events and policy issues.
- Scottish Government officials also work closely with consulates when Scottish Government Ministers visit overseas. They give advice on travel but also help regarding the Minister's programme and possible political meetings within the country being visited.
- Career Consul Generals carry out a range of functions, including promoting contacts between their countries and Scotland, reporting back on developments in Scotland, supporting their national communities in Scotland and issuing visas.
- Honorary Consuls have more restricted duties. Often they are Scots with some connection with the country they are representing, often a business one. Their duties are restricted to looking after foreign nationals who find themselves in difficulty, issuing visas and at times representing their country at important events.

ANNEX C

LIST OF MEETINGS WITH AMBASSADORS AND MINISTERIAL OVERSEAS VISITS

SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT'S YEAR OF CREATIVE SCOTLAND

TOP LINE: In 2012 the Year of Creative Scotland will inspire our people and our visitors to celebrate Scotland's world renowned culture and creativity as we progress towards Homecoming 2014 and beyond.

KEY POINTS:

1. Year of Creative Scotland is a chance to spotlight, celebrate and promote Scotland's cultural and creative strengths on a world stage.

- Year of Creative Scotland is one of a series of focus years that will showcase Scotland's great tourism assets as we journey towards 2014, a year in which we welcome the world to join the celebrations around our second year of Homecoming and as we take centre stage in global terms as host of the Ryder Cup and Commonwealth Games.
- Partners are working hard to ensure that the benefits of the Year of Creative Scotland are felt by businesses and communities the length and breadth of Scotland. We are using the emphasis on creativity to highlight and promote Scotland's rich and diverse cultural life for the benefit of our communities and visitors alike. The celebrations around the Year of Creative Scotland will reach across Scotland engaging our more remote and rural communities and boosting local businesses.

2. Creative Scotland is investing around £6.5m National Lottery funds into a programme to support the year with SG/VS/ES supporting through extensive promotional activity (an additional £1.5m is now being provided by Creative Scotland- bringing the total to £8m- but this is not yet in the public domain).

- Early highlights from the Creative Scotland programme (Culture and Tourism) were announced by the Cabinet Secretary for Culture and External Affairs on 13 December; supported projects under the "First in a Lifetime" funding stream were announced by Creative Scotland on 9 January 2012; the winners of the Creative Places Awards were announced on 24 January and the 16 festivals which will benefit from funding from the "One Step Further" funding stream were announced on 2 February.
- One of the international highlights of the Year of Creative Scotland is the National Theatre for Scotland's "Macbeth" starring Alan Cumming, running at the Tramway, Glasgow from 14-30 June and at the Lincoln Centre, New York from 5-14 July. This show is one of a season of events showcasing Scotland's creative talent in the USA and including theatre performances like David Harrower's "A slow air", Federer Vs Murray, The Strange Undoing of Prudentia Hart and Black Watch.

- Events and activities in April/May include:

Tourist

1. Edinburgh UNESCO City of Literature Trust's enlighten project- 1-18 March (CS funding- Culture and Tourism)

<http://www.cityofliterature.com/ecol.aspx?sec=5&pid=817>

The project brings the streets of Edinburgh to life with spectacular projections of literature and a feast of dynamic images from the Scottish Enlightenment

2. Arches Behaviour Festival- 3 March- 29 April (CS funding- One Step Further) <http://www.thearches.co.uk/events/arts/behaviour-2012>

Multi-artform festival Behaviour, based at the Arches, will develop a body of off-site work connecting Glasgow's public spaces and history to the performances allowing the audience to see the city in new and interesting ways.

3. Aberdeen Jazz Festival- 14-16 March (CS funding- One Step Further) <http://www.aberdeenjazzfestival.com/>

Will use funding from the YoCS to expand the scale and reach of the five day event of Scottish, European and international jazz musicians, by developing their digital profile and a marketing programme to increase visitor numbers.

Community Engagement

4. ON at Fife – The Band –activity throughout March/April -(CS funding- First in a Lifetime)- <http://onfife.com/creation/band>

A year-long project working with communities in central Fife to participate, play and ultimately perform. High quality creative musicians will work to create sustainable community music groups. The project will be delivered and managed through a partnership of ON at Fife and Jazz Scotland, working closely with Fife Council.

5. Lansdowne Productions – Northern Lights - (CS funding- First in a Lifetime)- launches on March 20th -

<http://www.facebook.com/WeAreNorthernLights>

A nation-wide documentary film project that provides members of the general public with an opportunity to make films about their Scotland. Through a series of short film commissions, community workshops and online tutorials, participants will be encouraged and supported to make original contributions towards the overall project. The final constellation of films will be combined to form a unique immersive installation that will tour Scotland in autumn 2012.

6. Mission: Possible (CS funding- First in a Lifetime)- March/April

Gives children and young people living in the West and North West of Dundee an opportunity to try dancing, through tasters, weekly groups, a boys only group, a week long intensive experience, the development of a new youth dance piece, the opportunity to go and see quality dance performance and the opportunity to perform both locally and nationally.

Signature

7. Celtic Connections- Big Top- 23-24 March (£66k from ES)

<http://www.celticconnections.com/bigtop/>

Celtic Connections – Glasgow’s internationally renowned folk, roots and world music festival unveils plans to stage a first-of-its-kind, two-night music event on the Isle of Skye in Spring 2012 as a finale to the Year of Scotland’s Islands.

8. Edinburgh International Science Festival- 30 March- 15 April

<http://www.sciencefestival.co.uk/>

The City Art Centre will once again play host to Edinburgh’s world renowned International Science Festival which includes a unique programme framed around science and technological innovation and creativity.

9. Glasgow International Festival of Visual Art- 20 April- 7 May

(£100,000 from ES) <http://www.glasgowinternational.org/>

Packed with events, talks and tours as well as major world class exhibitions, by both artists living in the city and leading international figures, the Festival showcases Glasgow’s art scene at its liveliest and best.

- The Year of Creative Scotland TV advert was launched by VisitScotland on 11 January. We expect the TV advert to reach around 20m people. The advert sits alongside a suite of significant promotional and marketing activity in support of the Year of Creative Scotland- boosted by a £0.5m investment from the Scottish Government- and spearheaded by VisitScotland’s highly successful £4m “Surprise Yourself” campaign.
- VisitScotland’s website already showcases over 4000 arts/cultural events and activities happening across Scotland during 2012. More events and activities are being added all the time.

3. Partners are working to ensure that our celebrations around the Year of Creative Scotland act as a catalyst to boost the London 2012 celebrations, Torch relay and the wider Cultural Olympiad.

- The high-quality cultural events and projects in Scotland in 2012 will complement the sporting activity taking place in London for the Olympic and Paralympic Games. For example, when the Olympic Games draws to a close on August 12,

and before the Paralympics start on August 29, Scotland will be in the midst of our internationally famous Edinburgh Festivals. We will be encouraging as many people as possible who are travelling to the Olympic Games to come to Scotland during this time to experience our globally renowned culture and creativity.

- In addition, the Olympic Torch Relay will spend eight days in Scotland, visiting every corner of our country. The Torch Relays present an excellent opportunity to showcase and enhance Scotland's international profile, by highlighting many of Scotland's most iconic landmarks and extraordinary people.

BIOGRAPHY – DANA LINNET, DEAN OF THE CONSULAR CORP AND CONSUL GENERAL FOR U.S.A

Dana M. Linnet – US Consul Principle Officer - Biography

Dana M. Linnet joined the Foreign Service in 2000. Her first posting was as the management chief at the U.S. Consulate in Naples, Italy from 2001-2003; she then served as political-military officer in Tallinn, Estonia from 2003-2005; Foreign Affairs Officer in the European Bureau's Policy and Regional Affairs Office from 2005-2006; Senior Political Officer in the Near East Bureau's Office of Iraq Affairs, 2006-2007, and as Career Development and Assignments Officer in the Bureau of Human Resources, 2007-2009. Ms. Linnet was awarded the Republic of Estonia National Guard Medal of Honour, First Class and holds numerous Superior and Meritorious Honour awards from the Department of State.

Before joining the Foreign Service, Ms. Linnet was the founder and CEO of a Boston-based consulting firm, whose business spanned the U.S., Europe, Eurasia, and the Middle East. Prior to that, she worked in the information technology sector in the U.S. and Europe, 1986-1994, and has also served on the board of directors of several organizations. She holds a B.A. in Politics from the University of California, Santa Cruz and a M.A. in Political Science from Copenhagen University, Denmark. Ms. Linnet is bilingual in English and Danish. She also speaks Italian, Estonian, Swedish, German, Norwegian, Spanish and French.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON BREABACH

Breabach

One of the most celebrated and successful Scottish folk bands of recent times, Breabach command the stage with flare, charisma and a sound that is as expansive as it is distinct. Powered by double bagpipes, flute and fiddle, this uncompromising force is further fuelled by the tight groove of double bass, guitar and step-dance. Their enviable musicianship and adaptability is elegantly displayed through the thoughtful arrangement and delivery of songs. A repertoire that effortlessly fuses the traditional and contemporary underlines their commitment and passion for their musical heritage but also displays a willingness to explore and challenge boundaries.

Recent line up changes have given the band a new edge, energy and focus, and with increasing popularity and fast growing international recognition it is little wonder Breabach received nominations for 'Best Group' at both the 2011 BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards and the Scots Trad Music Awards simultaneously. Dynamic, fun, and extremely talented, Breabach have found yet another gear and continue on their trajectory to the very top of the trad and roots music scene. "...stirring tunes and top notch songs... there will be few who can sit still when listening to these brilliant tunes, brilliantly played." (Debbie Koritsas, Living Tradition)



Breabach

Calum MacCrimmon

Megan Henderson

Ewan Robertson

James Duncan Mackenzie

James Lindsay

The Band Members

Calum MacCrimmon

Pipes, Whistles, Backing Vocals

Much to the concern of the neighbours dog, Calum's piping career began in Edmonton, Canada at the age of 9. In 1991 Calum and his family moved to the east coast of Scotland which only seemed to encourage his passion for Scottish traditional music. In 2004 Calum graduated with honours from the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama and marked the start of his career as both performer and tutor in Scotland, Europe and Canada.

Calum is currently a member of the Unusual Suspects, RTK9000, Seudan and since releasing his debut solo album of cross-genre celtic funk music in early 2010, is now regularly writing/performing with his own band, Man's Ruin.

Calum received two separate commissions to compose music for large ensembles in 2010. 'Perception' was written for The Gordon Duncan Experience and aired in late September. 'Times Change' was written for the internationally renowned Mr McFalls Chamber as part of the Distil Showcase 2010.

Megan Henderson

Fiddle, Step Dance, Vocals

Megan Henderson hails from Fort William in Lochaber. Coming from a musical family, she first began playing violin at the age of four. As a multi-instrumentalist, she plays piano, accordion and is also a vocalist.

From a young age, she has been involved with the Feisean movement, receiving invaluable experience playing with bands on a global scale at festivals including 'Celtic Colours', Canada, 'Celtic Connections', Scotland and 'Blas', Scotland. From this she also received tuition from some of the world's most respected traditional musicians.

Megan moved to Glasgow in 2007 to study at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama to undertake the strings Bmus Hons degree. She currently plays with "Salsa Celtica" and newly formed band "Kristan Harvey and the Sanna". She is the most recent addition to Breabach bringing fiddle, vocals and step-dance.

Ewan Robertson

Guitar, Vocals

Originally a piper and fiddler, Ewan's musical attentions were drawn to the guitar and song whilst studying at Sgoil Chiùil na Gàidhealtachd, based at Plockton High School. Regularly found playing with many of the UK's top folk artists, his consummate stage craft combined with captivating and dynamic playing have singled him out from the crowd and resulted in him being awarded the BBC Radio Scotland Young Traditional Musician of the Year award in 2008. Following a successful UK tour in 2009, Ewan's debut album 'Some Kind of Certainty' (Greentrax) was released in Spring 2010. When not on the road or in the studio, Ewan works as a part-time fire fighter in his home village of Carrbridge.

James Duncan Mackenzie

Pipes, Flute

James is from the village of Back in the Isle of Lewis. He began playing the pipes at the age of 8 and went on to compete successfully in junior solo piping competitions throughout Scotland. After leaving School, James studied traditional music at the University of the Highlands and Islands, Benbecula College. It was there where he took a great interest in playing flute under the guidance of Iain Macdonald (Glenuig). After a year in Benbecula, he made his move from the Hebrides to Glasgow where he has recently completed a BA(Hons) in Scottish Music, specializing in Piping at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama. James played with the Scottish Power pipeband for two years during his studies in Glasgow. He has played and toured with several folk bands over the last few years with performances across Europe, Canada, USA and Australia. He joins Breabach in 2011 taking over the flute playing and piping duties of Donal Brown.

James Lindsay

Double Bass

Bass Player James Lindsay comes from Inverurie in the heart of Aberdeenshire. He began playing music in secondary school and quickly got involved with the local music scene as a Bass guitarist and Double Bassist and at the same time gaining an interest in composing and arranging. In 2007 James went onto further study at Strathclyde University in Glasgow to undertake their BA Applied Music Degree. The move provided him the opportunity to get involved with the burgeoning folk, funk and jazz scenes in the city while at the same time studying classical technique at university. He graduated with Honours in 2011.

Since then James has built up an impressive roster of achievements as a bass player and arranger including trips to Canada, Europe and all over the UK. As well as this he has become known as a versatile session bass player, equally at home with Folk, Jazz, Rock, Funk and Classical styles. When not playing with Breabach, James likes to keep himself busy regularly playing with other musical acts including Man's Ruin, Hamish Napier Quintet, Daniel Thorpe Trio, The Shetland Bus and Skalder. He also works as part of the Live Music Now Organisation with the Bill Flemming Jazz Quartet.

Reviews

"For me Breabach epitomise the best possible taste in Scottish traditional music performed by people with a passion and love for what they do." – Maurice Hope

"Breabach are the most compelling and exciting big stage traditional Scottish band around; the line-up changes haven't altered the dynamics at all with the twin pipes, step dancing, beautiful ballads and effortless charm all still in place." - Neil Pearson, Shrewsbury Folk Festival, 2011

"In a hotly contested field, Breabach have earned their place among today's finest young Celtic acts, matching superb individual and ensemble musicianship with a passionate commitment to upholding and developing their native Scottish traditions.

As disciplined as they're fiery, as tasteful as they're exhilarating, they blend the best of old and new in truly compelling style." – Sue Wilson, The Scotsman

"a richly textured, highly crafted & engaging album & Breabach are magnificent live... There is a dark fire at the heart of great Scottish and Irish traditional music and the ability to capture that dark fire is the measure of the very best bands. Breabach are in this category." – Froots Magazine

"Tempos are often exhilarating, & the ensemble interplay is fiery. The colours & textures are beautifully layered but spaciouly uncluttered lending the Breabach sound a depth & definition that only strengthens its impact." – Songlines magazine

Breabach website – <http://breabach.com/>

BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE ROYAL CONSERVATOIRE OF SCOTLAND

A national centre for excellence in performance arts

The Royal Conservatoire is Scotland's national centre of professional vocational training in performance arts. Our location is the heart of Glasgow; our orientation is the contemporary international scene. We are leading the way as one of Europe's top conservatoires, offering a rare breadth of artistic disciplines.

Everything we do, as in our RSAMD days, is driven by our desire for excellence. Students flourish thanks to the extraordinary blend of intensive tuition, a rigorous performance schedule, working with professional counterparts in industry, and the space to create with others across the disciplines if they wish. Both students and staff are prolific in creating truly innovative new work.

At the Royal Conservatoire, tuition is constantly supported by our partnerships with high profile performance companies in Scotland and beyond, and by our staff's professional expertise.

Highly vocational training

We offer outstanding specialist learning to the highest professional level and undergraduate and postgraduate degrees in dance, drama, music, production, screen and education. Our training is rigorous and inextricably linked to the professions. We also nurture talent at all stages and ages with a wide variety of courses from weekly sessions to specialist summer schools.

Our students

First and foremost, our students train to achieve excellence in every way in their chosen specialism. But they are also exposed to a rich variety of influences, approaches and attitudes, from one another and through the wealth of experiences we ensure they encounter at the Conservatoire. They can form their own unique identity as rounded, reflective artists. Our new artists are being prepared to become a dynamic part of the creative communities they join.

Our facilities - amongst the best in Europe

We have recently invested £8.5M in the development of superb new facilities at Speirs Locks Studios and in the refurbishment of our Renfrew Street Campus. We believe our facilities are now the best in Europe. They include six professional performance venues; a high ratio of practice rooms per student; three recording studios; percussion studios; professional stage technology; four bespoke dance studios; new studios for technical, design, scenic art, set-building and costume design and construction. All these are backed up by the latest IT and digital technologies.

Our aim, vision and values

Our Purpose is to Create the Future for Performance

Our Driver is Excellence

Our Vision is to:

- be the place where young artists from across the world converge to become the artistic leaders of tomorrow
- become the crucible for the development of Scotland's national identity as a leading creative nation
- spearhead the creation of a national infrastructure for performance arts education

Our Aim is:

To exceed expectations through:

- a challenging learning experience with each individual
- the quality and diversity of our students, staff and partnerships
- resourcing and managing a world-class artistic learning, teaching and research community

Within our learning and artistic community we value:

- each other – we respect the uniqueness of each individual and the ability to work and play as a team
- creativity – we are adventurous, imaginative and innovative
- integrity – we are open, honest and self-aware
- generosity and sensitivity – we celebrate equality and diversity
- passion – we bring exceptional depth to our approach to learning and the arts

Facts and figures 2010/11

OUR STUDENTS

Degree programmes

We have 799 students: 642 undergraduate; 145 postgraduate; 12 postgraduate research.

58% of our students are from Scotland, 22% from the rest of the UK and 20% are international from 45 different countries.

We have a high demand for all our places; the highest is BA Acting with an average of 50 students applying for every place.

MUSICWORKS

Musicworks works alongside Local Authorities, schools and community organisations at a grass roots level. It operates 12 centers throughout Scotland providing music education to 800 children and staging 45 concerts a year. 2,000 children benefit from shorter term and workshop programmes.

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Our location in Scotland's artistic heart

Scotland has a dynamic arts heritage and Glasgow is known as a capital of culture. It's home to many of the performance professions - and many are located immediately around us. The city is very 'student friendly' with a large student population of 80,000. Excellent transport links makes it easy to reach most of the European capitals by plane or train.

"One of the things I loved not only about the Royal Conservatoire but Scotland and, specifically Glasgow, was this human grit that I've never found in any other place I've ever been - this real sort of existential beauty in very difficult things to look at... a stark gorgeous aesthetic that I think really challenged my boundaries about what I considered to be palatable".

Alexandra Silber, Actor and Musical Theatre performer

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From 1847 to present day

We started life as the Glasgow Athenaeum in 1847. The Athenaeum was established to 'provide a source of mental cultivation, moral improvement and delightful recreation to all classes' - a mission statement in today's terminology, and one that still holds true today. Charles Dickens delivered the inaugural address: an appropriate choice of celebrity, given the great expectations of the far-sighted founding fathers.

To begin with, the Athenaeum offered music classes and, in 1886, drama was introduced into the curriculum. Music proved to be so successful that, in 1890, a School of Music was formed as a discrete department of the Athenaeum, with its own Principal (Allan Macbeth, a graduate of the Leipzig Conservatorium) and its own prospectus. It was from the Athenaeum's School of Music that the Scottish National Academy of Music was formed in 1929. This grew in prestige and, by 1944, its international standing was recognised by King George VI, who approved that the prefix 'Royal' be added to the Academy's title, making it the 'Royal Scottish Academy of Music'. At that time, the then Queen Elizabeth graciously assumed the role of Patron, a role in which she continued as Queen Mother until her death in 2002.

These exciting developments were not confined to music. In 1950 the Glasgow of the College of Dramatic Art was created with the aim of training actors and directors for the professional theatre. Soon after, the college's curriculum expanded to include technical courses and, in collaboration with the University of Glasgow, diploma courses with a strong academic element. In 1962, the college opened the first television studio to be located within a UK drama school - evidence of the pioneering spirit still apparent in our institution today.

The title of Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama was approved in 1968, which reflected the happy union of music and drama in a single Academy, dedicated to excellence across the spectrum of the performing arts.

Throughout the 1970s and '80s, the Academy continued to develop its course provision and enhance its international reputation. The first degree courses were introduced, validated by the University of Glasgow. Then in 1993/94 the Academy became the only UK conservatoire to be awarded its own degree-awarding powers by the Privy Council, a decision that followed an extensive review of the Academy's approach to the maintenance and promotion of the quality of its courses. We remain justifiably very proud - particularly because this is still the case today. All courses were up-graded to degree level and, over the intervening years, they have been refined to keep pace with the demands of the professions. New undergraduate and postgraduate courses were also added, meeting new and future needs. We recruited our first research students in 2000/1: another key milestone, particularly because of our radical practice-based approach to research.

Our changing built environment has kept pace with artistic and academic development:

* 1987 - moved from our original Victorian building to the current custom-built building, opened by Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother.

* 1997 - Alexander Gibson Opera School is opened by Dame Janet Baker, providing rehearsal and coaching rooms and a stunning performance space used by both music and drama students.

* 2011 - Speirs Locks Studios, our 2nd campus, is opened to accommodate modern ballet and technical and production arts.

Over the decades, we have developed our course provision and our reputation for excellence and innovative new work has grown internationally. Many new undergraduate and postgraduate degree programmes have been added to meet current and future needs – including, since 2001, Scottish traditional music, film and television, musical theatre, jazz and, most recently, modern ballet in collaboration with Scottish Ballet. So much so, we are one of the few Academies in the world to offer such a breadth - and this reality was the catalyst for our name change to the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. We are now a mature, confident and vibrant new-model Conservatoire for the 21st Century. Our doors are wide open to the talented new performers of the world.

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We have a high demand for all our places; the highest is BA Acting with an average of 50 students applying for every place.

Short courses

We provide open access courses to adults and young people throughout the year. In 2010/11 882 adults and young people attended our short courses and summer schools. In 2012 our summer school provision will grow from 14 to 33 courses for adults.

JUNIOR CONSERVATOIRE

Our Junior Conservatoire of Music runs every Saturday during term time and provides specialist music education to 273 talented young musicians aged 7 – 18. As well as individual lessons from Conservatoire teachers, students have the opportunity to play in the Symphony Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra, Wind Orchestra or the Big Band, sing in the Choir or take part in music workshops.

MUSICWORKS

Musicworks works alongside Local Authorities, schools and community organisations at a grass roots level. It operates 12 centres throughout Scotland providing music education to 800 children and staging 45 concerts a year. 2,000 children benefit from shorter term and workshop programmes.

OUR STAFF

We have 873 staff - 22% are full time. Our core staff is each expert in their own field and many are active practitioners. Our part-time staff are all professional artists who provide expert tuition on a one-to-one and group basis. Our students' learning is supplemented through an extensive network of visiting practitioners.

OUR INTERNATIONAL FELLOWS

Our international fellows are some of the most renowned musicians and theatre practitioners in the world. Each Fellow works with our students for around three weeks every year. They are:

Brodsky Quartet	Chamber Music
Jane Eaglen	Vocal Studies
Ian Bousfield	Trombone
Ilya Gringolts	Violin
Chris Lamb	Timpani and Percussion
Lorna McGhee	Flute
Thomas Martin	Double Bass
Malcolm Martineau	Accompaniment
Steven Osborne	Piano
Donald Runnicles	Conducting
Eric Sammut	Marimba
Pavel Steidl	Guitar
Nadine George	Voice
La Famille LeCoq	Physical Theatre
Angela De Castro	Clowning

OUR RESEARCH

The 2008 RAE for Music showed that 85% of our research is classified as world leading or internationally excellent. The mainstays of research are practice -based, artistic research, composition and applied research and consultancy. We are now developing our research profile to include drama.

PERFORMANCES AND ENSEMBLES

We staged around 600 performances by staff, students and visiting artists in our venues at Renfrew Street and issued 48,705 tickets. We staged a further 78 performances in professional external venues. Our ensembles include Chamber Choir, Symphony Orchestra, Strings Orchestra, Wind Orchestra, Academy Brass, Stevenson Winds, Song Studio.

OUR ESTATE

In September 2010, we opened our new premises at Garscube Road at a cost of £6m. The complex - known as Speirs Locks Studios - includes specialist dance rehearsal space, technical construction workshops, props and wardrobe facilities and additional teaching and office accommodation. We have invested a further £2.5m in refurbishing and improving our Renfrew Street campus with the creation of a digital media suite, developing additional recording studio facilities, refurbishing performance spaces and creating additional teaching and social spaces.

Dana M. Linnet – US Consul Principle Officer - Biography

Dana M. Linnet joined the Foreign Service in 2000. Her first posting was as the management chief at the U.S. Consulate in Naples, Italy from 2001-2003; she then served as political-military officer in Tallinn, Estonia from 2003-2005; Foreign Affairs Officer in the European Bureau's Policy and Regional Affairs Office from 2005-2006; Senior Political Officer in the Near East Bureau's Office of Iraq Affairs, 2006-2007, and as Career Development and Assignments Officer in the Bureau of Human Resources, 2007-2009. Ms. Linnet was awarded the Republic of Estonia National Guard Medal of Honour, First Class and holds numerous Superior and Meritorious Honour awards from the Department of State.

Before joining the Foreign Service, Ms. Linnet was the founder and CEO of a Boston-based consulting firm, whose business spanned the U.S., Europe, Eurasia, and the Middle East. Prior to that, she worked in the information technology sector in the U.S. and Europe, 1986-1994, and has also served on the board of directors of several organizations. She holds a B.A. in Politics from the University of California, Santa Cruz and a M.A. in Political Science from Copenhagen University, Denmark. Ms. Linnet is bilingual in English and Danish. She also speaks Italian, Estonian, Swedish, German, Norwegian, Spanish and French.

PS/First Minister

Copied to: PS/Cabinet Secretary for Culture & External Affairs

FIRST MINISTER'S ANNUAL CONSULAR CORPS RECEPTION

Purpose

1. To ask the First Minister to consider arrangements to host his annual reception for the members of the Consular Corps.

Priority

2. **Urgent.** An early reply would help us finalise details for the event.

Background

3. Each year the First Minister hosts a reception for all members of the Consular Corps. The event is an opportunity for the Scottish Government to thank them for the work and support they have given over the previous year. It is also an opportunity to acknowledge the presence of a large and vibrant Consular Corps in Scotland.

4. The last reception was held on Tuesday 22 February 2011 in the Great Hall in Edinburgh Castle. Food and drink producers hosted stands and the band Mànrán played during the reception. The theme was the Year of Food and Drink.

2012 reception – The Year of Creative Scotland

5. The annual reception will be held on Thursday 22 March and this date has been confirmed in both the First Minister and the Cabinet Secretary for Culture & External Affairs's diaries.

6. As with previous years, the reception should have a theme. As we are celebrating the Year of Creative Scotland we would suggest that this is the main theme of the reception. It would be an ideal opportunity to showcase some of Scotland's creative talents to an influential audience. We would also suggest we invite a number of key figures from the Creative industries.

7. We are liaising with the Culture Team regarding entertainment for the event. We would suggest the following:

- Braebach - One of the most celebrated and successful Scottish folk bands of recent times, who received nominations for 'Best Group' at both the 2011 BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards and the Scots Trad Music Awards simultaneously.
- A performance from students of the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland.

8. We have looked again at the possibility of changing the venue for this year's reception and had considered one of the National Galleries i.e. National Portrait Gallery. However, the National Galleries operate late opening on a Thursday until 7pm therefore any reception would have to at 8.30pm. It was felt that this was too late. The venue which is available and suitable on the confirmed date is The Great Hall, Edinburgh Castle.

Conclusion

9. **The First Minister is asked to:**

- **Confirm he is content with the suggested entertainment**
- **Confirm he is content with the suggested venue, and**
- **Would the First Minister like us to consider anything else for the event?**

[REDACTED]

8 February 2012

Consular Corps Reception
Great Hall, Edinburgh Castle, Thursday 22 March 2012
6:30 PM until 8:30 PM

Host First Minister
Guests Nos 150

- 6:15 pm Guests will begin to arrive on the esplanade.
[REDACTED]
- 6:30 pm First Minister arrives and will be escorted to the Green Room
- 6:40 pm VIPs – Dana Linnet, Dean of the Consular Corps to join Ministers in the Green Room.
- 6:45 pm Senior Steward calls the room to order and introduces First Minister who will provide a welcome address from the lectern.
- 6:50 pm Senior Steward calls the room to order and introduces Dana Linnet, Dean of the Consular Corps who will respond.
- 6:55 pm Senior Steward calls the room to order and introduces Braebach who will perform from the stage
- 7:05 pm Reception resumes – Officials tbc will be on hand to facilitate introductions for First Minister. [REDACTED]
- 7:45 pm Senior Steward calls the room to order and introduces Royal Conservatoire who will perform from xxxx
- 8:00 pm Reception resumes – Officials tbc will be on hand to facilitate introductions for First Minister - [REDACTED]
- 8:15 pm Senior Steward calls the room to order and announces the Crown Jewels – Braebach perform while guests depart
- 8:30 pm Event ends

First Minister Alex Salmond
Cabinet Secretary for Culture and External Affairs

Event: Consular Corps Reception

Date: Thursday 22 March 2012

Time: 18:30 – 20:30

Venue: Great Hall, Edinburgh Castle

Venue Contact: [REDACTED]

SG Contacts: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Party: First Minister and Cabinet Secretary

Version: Final

Dress Code: Business attire

Media Opp: Comms to advise

Event Details: First Minister will host and speak at a reception held for the Consular Corps. Cabinet Secretary for Culture and External Affairs has also agreed to attend to meet with guests and will introduce both performances of the evening.

To recognise the Year of Creative Scotland there will be two acts performing for guests throughout the reception:

Braebach a Scottish Folk band who will perform 2 set pieces throughout the evening.

Musical theatre students from the [REDACTED] who will provide background music throughout the evening and perform 4 songs at a set time.

Drop off/Pick up points: Crown Square

Can PS's please call [REDACTED] 5 min in advance of each Minister's arrival.

GCS Driver:

First Minister - [REDACTED]

Cabinet Secretary - TBC

Programme:

18:30

Cabinet Secretary arrives and will be met by [REDACTED], who will escort her to the Green Room [REDACTED] will be on hand for any last minute briefing.

18:35

Cabinet Secretary will be joined in the Green Room by **Dana Linnet, Dean of the Consular Corps**, before they proceed into the Great Hall.

18:40

Senior Steward will call the room to order and introduce **Cabinet Secretary** who will say a few words of welcome from the lectern and go on to introduce **Braebach** who will perform from the stage.

18:55

Reception resumes [REDACTED] **Creative Industries Sector**, will be on hand to introduce **Cabinet Secretary** to key guests.

19:00

First Minister arrives and will be met by [REDACTED], who will escort him to the Green Room. [REDACTED] will be on hand for any last minute briefing.

19:10

First Minister will be joined in the Green Room by the **Cabinet Secretary** and **Dana Linnet, Dean of the Consular Corps – Stephanie** to oversee.

19:15

First Minister and **VIPs** will move to the Great Hall to be positioned beside the lectern and the **Senior Steward** will call the room to order and introduce **First Minister** who will address guests from the lectern – 5 minutes.

19:20

Senior Steward will introduce **Dana Linnet, Dean of the Consular Corps**, who will respond.

19:25

Reception resumes, [REDACTED] will be on hand to introduce **First Minister** to key guests.

[REDACTED] will escort **Cabinet Secretary** separately to meet with guests.

19:45

First Minister departs – [REDACTED] to oversee.

19:45

Senior Steward will call the room to order and introduce **Cabinet Secretary for Culture and External Affairs** who will go on to announce the [REDACTED] who will perform from in front of the fireplace.

20:00

Reception resumes, [REDACTED] will be on hand to introduce **Cabinet Secretary** to key guests.

20:15

Senior Steward calls the room to order and announces the crown jewels – **Braebach** perform as guests exit Great Hall.

20:30

Cabinet Secretary departs – [REDACTED] to oversee.

Event Ends

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: First Minister's Speech - Annual Consular Corps Reception - Thursday
22 March 2012

[REDACTED]

(copies as above to note)

**FIRST MINISTER'S SPEECH - ANNUAL CONSULAR CORPS RECEPTION – THURSDAY
22 MARCH, THE GREAT HALL, EDINBURGH CASTLE**

You will be aware that the First Minister is hosting an annual reception for the Consular Corps at Edinburgh Castle on Thursday 22 March 2012. I now attach information which you may find helpful for the speech.

- The purpose of the event is to thank the Consular Corp in Scotland for their work and assistance throughout the previous year
- Dana Linnet, Dean of The Consular Corp in Edinburgh and Leith & Consulate General of the U.S.A will respond to the First Minister's speech. I attach her biography for information.

- Draft running order for the event

- The theme of this years event is 'The year of Creative Scotland' – below is further background information for reference

- The audience members will be made up from the Consular Corps (professional and Honorary) and key members of the Creative Industries sector
- Background information on the Consular Corps

- Not all countries represented by the Consular Corp have been invited to the Cultural Summit

- The attached document which outlines the International messaging script

- The entertainment for the event will be provided by Braebach, a traditional Scottish band and students from the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. I attached documents which provide background information on both. I await further details from RCS on the students that will be performing and will forward as soon as received.
- Recent Engagement with the Consular Corps:
 - All Consular Corps invited to attend event hosted by Fiona Hyslop to listen to First Ministers announcement of the Referendum – January 2012
 - Fiona Hyslop hosted a dinner for the Professional Group of the Consular Corps (13 members) and discussions covered a number of issues including independence and the referendum – 8 March 2012

I hope you find this information helpful.

I am not back in the office until next Wednesday so please get in touch with [REDACTED] if you require anything further.

[REDACTED] International Policy Officer

The Scottish Government | DIAC: International Division | International Strategy & Reputation Team
3-C North, Victoria Quay | Edinburgh EH6 6QQ | Tel: [REDACTED]

FOI 202000018267 - RE: IMPORTANT: INTERNATIONAL MESSAGING

From: [REDACT]

Subject: IMPORTANT: INTERNATIONAL MESSAGING

Please find attached revised one page (double sided) international messaging script which has been amended by [REDACT] today.

This should be the version used by all Ministers and Cab Secs (along with brand headlines previously issued)

Thanks

[REDACT]

From: [REDACT]

Sent: 13 March 2012 09:24

To: [REDACT]

Subject: IMPORTANT: INTERNATIONAL MESSAGING

All

(copy Private Offices – these have been circulated before)

Ms Hyslop has asked that all briefings for Ministers for both incoming international delegations and outgoing international visits contain the attached international messaging script.

<< File: International messaging - latest - 31 October (2).doc >>

I also re-attach the brand headlines that should also be part of briefing packs

<< File: Brand Headlines (2) (2).doc >>

Thanks

[REDACT]

Breabach

One of the most celebrated and successful Scottish folk bands of recent times, Breabach command the stage with flare, charisma and a sound that is as expansive as it is distinct. Powered by double bagpipes, flute and fiddle, this uncompromising force is further fueled by the tight groove of double bass, guitar and step-dance. Their enviable musicianship and adaptability is elegantly displayed through the thoughtful arrangement and delivery of songs. A repertoire that effortlessly fuses the traditional and contemporary underlines their commitment and passion for their musical heritage but also displays a willingness to explore and challenge boundaries.

Recent line up changes have given the band a new edge, energy and focus, and with increasing popularity and fast growing international recognition it is little wonder Breabach received nominations for 'Best Group' at both the 2011 BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards and the Scots Trad Music Awards simultaneously.

Dynamic, fun, and extremely talented, Breabach have found yet another gear and continue on their trajectory to the very top of the trad and roots music scene. "...stirring tunes and top notch songs... there will be few who can sit still when listening to these brilliant tunes, brilliantly played." (Debbie Koritsas, Living Tradition)



Breabach

Calum MacCrimmon

Megan Henderson

Ewan Robertson

James Duncan Mackenzie

James Lindsay

The Band Members

Calum MacCrimmon

Pipes, Whistles, Backing Vocals

Much to the concern of the neighbours dog, Calum's piping career began in Edmonton, Canada at the age of 9. In 1991 Calum and his family moved to the east coast of Scotland which only seemed to encourage his passion for Scottish traditional music. In 2004 Calum graduated with honours from the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama and marked the start of his career as both performer and tutor in Scotland, Europe and Canada.

Calum is currently a member of the Unusual Suspects, RTK9000, Seudan and since releasing his debut solo album of cross-genre celtic funk music in early 2010, is now regularly writing/performing with his own band, Man's Ruin.

Calum received two separate commissions to compose music for large ensembles in 2010. 'Perception' was written for The Gordon Duncan Experience and aired in late September. 'Times Change' was written for the internationally renowned Mr McFalls Chamber as part of the Distil Showcase 2010.

Megan Henderson

Fiddle, Step Dance, Vocals

Megan Henderson hails from Fort William in Lochaber. Coming from a musical family, she first began playing violin at the age of four. As a multi-instrumentalist, she plays piano, accordion and is also a vocalist.

From a young age, she has been involved with the Feisean movement, receiving invaluable experience playing with bands on a global scale at festivals including 'Celtic Colours', Canada, 'Celtic Connections', Scotland and 'Blas', Scotland. From this she also received tuition from some of the world's most respected traditional musicians.

Megan moved to Glasgow in 2007 to study at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama to undertake the strings Bmus Hons degree. She currently plays with "Salsa Celtica" and newly formed band "Kristan Harvey and the Sanna". She is the most recent addition to Breabach bringing fiddle, vocals and step-dance.

Ewan Robertson

Guitar, Vocals

Originally a piper and fiddler, Ewan's musical attentions were drawn to the guitar and song whilst studying at Sgoil Chiùil na Gàidhealtachd, based at Plockton High School. Regularly found playing with many of the UK's top folk artists, his consummate stage craft combined with captivating and dynamic playing have singled him out from the crowd and resulted in him being awarded the BBC Radio Scotland Young Traditional Musician of the Year award in 2008. Following a successful UK tour in 2009, Ewan's debut album 'Some Kind of Certainty' (Greentrax) was released in Spring 2010. When not on the road or in the studio, Ewan works as a part-time fire fighter in his home village of Carrbridge.

James Duncan Mackenzie

Pipes, Flute

James is from the village of Back in the Isle of Lewis. He began playing the pipes at the age of 8 and went on to compete successfully in junior solo piping competitions throughout Scotland. After leaving School, James studied traditional music at the University of the Highlands and Islands, Benbecula College. It was there where he took a great interest in playing flute under the guidance of Iain Macdonald (Glenug). After a year in Benbecula, he made his move from the Hebrides to Glasgow where he has recently completed a BA(Hons) in Scottish Music, specializing in Piping at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama. James played with the Scottish Power pipeband for two years during his studies in Glasgow. He has played and toured with several folk bands over the last few years with performances across Europe, Canada, USA and Australia. He joins Breabach in 2011 taking over the flute playing and piping duties of Donal Brown.

James Lindsay

Double Bass

Bass Player James Lindsay comes from Inverurie in the heart of Aberdeenshire. He began playing music in secondary school and quickly got involved with the local music scene as a Bass guitarist and Double Bassist and at the same time gaining an interest in composing and arranging. In 2007 James went onto further study at Strathclyde University in Glasgow to undertake their BA Applied Music Degree. The move provided him the opportunity to get involved with the burgeoning folk, funk and jazz scenes in the city while at the same time studying classical technique at university. He graduated with Honours in 2011.

Since then James has built up an impressive roster of achievements as a bass player and arranger including trips to Canada, Europe and all over the UK. As well as this he has become known as a versatile session bass player, equally at home with Folk, Jazz, Rock, Funk and Classical styles. When not playing with Breabach, James likes to keep himself busy regularly playing with other musical acts including Man's Ruin, Hamish Napier Quintet, Daniel Thorpe Trio, The Shetland Bus and Skalder. He also works as part of the Live Music Now Organisation with the Bill Flemming Jazz Quartet.

Reviews

“For me Breabach epitomise the best possible taste in Scottish traditional music performed by people with a passion and love for what they do.” – Maurice Hope

“Breabach are the most compelling and exciting big stage traditional Scottish band around; the line-up changes haven't altered the dynamics at all with the twin pipes, step dancing, beautiful ballads and effortless charm all still in place.” - Neil Pearson, Shrewsbury Folk Festival, 2011

“In a hotly contested field, Breabach have earned their place among today’s finest young Celtic acts, matching superb individual and ensemble musicianship with a passionate commitment to upholding and developing their native Scottish traditions. As disciplined as they’re fiery, as tasteful as they’re exhilarating, they blend the best of old and new in truly compelling style.” – Sue Wilson, The Scotsman

“a richly textured, highly crafted & engaging album & Breabach are magnificent live... There is a dark fire at the heart of great Scottish and Irish traditional music and the ability to capture that dark fire is the measure of the very best bands. Breabach are in this category.” – Froots Magazine

“Tempos are often exhilarating, & the ensemble interplay is fiery. The colours & textures are beautifully layered but spaciouly uncluttered lending the Breabach sound a depth & definition that only strengthens its impact.” – Songlines magazine

Breabach website – <http://breabach.com/>

Welcome speech

Dean of the Consular Corps, Consuls, Consul Generals, ladies and gentlemen.

Welcome to the Scottish Government's Consular Corps reception. This annual event gives us the opportunity to thank you for all the work and support you have given the Scottish Government over the last year. There has been a number of significant events across the world since we last met at this event. I would like to highlight a number of these:

on the third of March we marked the first anniversary of the Japanese tsunami and earthquake;

the beginning of the Arab Spring in which the citizens of a range of countries in North Africa and the Middle East called for and won the right to choose the government they want. There is still a lot to be done but I am sure we will see these countries emerge as true democracies and;

we saw the birth of a new country on 9 July, South Sudan.

I would also like to mention the continuing awful situation in Syria. The Scottish Government condemns the continuing violence by the Assad regime against the people of Syria and we support a political process for Syria, within the framework of the UN, to resolve the crisis. We urge the Assad regime to stop the military action against its own people and let international humanitarian agencies enter Syria to help.

As you will be aware 2014 is the Year of Creative Scotland. This is a chance to spotlight, celebrate and promote Scotland's cultural and creative strengths on a world stage over one year. I hope this year will inspire our people and our visitors to celebrate Scotland's world renowned culture and creativity as we progress towards Homecoming 2014 and beyond. We are using the emphasis on creativity to highlight and promote Scotland's rich and diverse cultural life for the benefit of our communities and visitors alike. The celebrations around the Year of Creative Scotland will reach across Scotland engaging our more remote and rural communities and boosting local businesses.

I welcome the support we have from the our creative industries sector, many of whom are represented here this evening.

I would like to introduce to you the first part of tonight's entertainment programme. Please welcome Breabach, one of the most celebrated and successful Scottish folk bands of recent times. They received nominations for 'Best Group' at both the 2011 BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards and the Scots Trad Music Awards simultaneously.

Title	Forename	Surname	Organisation
HE	Abdulrahman Ghanem	Almutaiwee	Embassy of the UAE
Ms	Karen	Anderson	Architecture and Design Scotland
Professor	Michael	Anderson CBE	National Library of Scotland
Consul General Dr.	Charles A	Aryiku	Consulate General of the Republic of Ghana
Consul Professor	Alan	Barnard	Consulate of Namibia
Mr	Ali	Bowden	Edinburgh UNESCO City of Literature
Ms	Katrina	Brown	Glasgow International Festival of Visual Art
Consul	Cameron R. M.	Buchanan	Consulate of Iceland
Ms	Sorcha	Carey	Edinburgh International Art Festival
Consul General	Mauro	Carfagnini	Consulate General of Italy
Consul	John	Clifford	Consulate of Austria
Consul General	Pierre-Alain	Coffinier	Consulate General of France
Consul General	Susan	Conlon	Consulate General of Ireland
Sir	Sandy	Crombie	Creative Scotland
Minister Counselor Dr.	Mihai	Delcea	Consulate of Romania
Mr	Paul	Docherty	Director UK 2012
Professor	Linda	Drew	Glasgow School of Art
Consul	Brian	Filling	Consulate of the Republic of South Africa
Dr	Simon	Gage	Edinburgh Science Festival
Sir	Angus	Grossart CBE	National Museums of Scotland
Ms	Kristin	Hannesdottir	Cosulate of Iceland
Mr	Ken	Hay	Edinburgh International Film Festival
Dr	Richard	Holloway	Sistema Scotland
Professor	John	Hume	Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland
Mr	Peter	Irvine	Edinburgh's Hogmanay
Consul	Richard	Jeffrey	Consulate of Australia
Consul General	Javier	Jiménez-Ugarte	Consulate General of Spain
Consul General	Shehryar Akbar	Khan	Consulate of Pakistan
Consul General	Sergey K	Krutikov	Consulate General of the Russian Federation
Acting Consul General	I. P.	Lakra	Consulate General of India
Consul	Iain	Lawson	Consulate of Estonia
Consul	Yves	Lemarchand	Consulate of Belgium
Ms	Faith	Liddell	Festivals Edinburgh
Consul General	Dana	Linnet	Consulate General of the United States of America
Consul	Stanley	Lovatt	Consulate of Israel
Mr	Donald	MacDonald CBE	SCO
Mr	George	MacKenzie	National Records of Scotland
Consul	William P C	Macnair	Consulate of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
Ms	Iona	MacPherson	Scottish Government

Consul Professor	Stuart	MacPherson	The Royal Danish Consulate
Ms	Kath	Mainland	Edinburgh Festival Fringe
Ms	Katherine	Manley	Scottish Government
Mr	Robyn	Marsack	Scottish Poetry Library
Mr	Colin	McClatchie	Scottish Opera
Ms	Fiona	McLeod MSP	Scottish Libraries Information Council
Consul General Dr.	Paul	Millar	Consulate General of the Czech Republic
Consul	Eric	Milligan	Consulate of New Zealand
Consul General	Wolfgang	Mössinger	Consulate General of Germany
Consul General	Peter	Müller- McDougall	Consulate General of Switzerland
Consul	Harry	Murray	Consulate of Tunisia
Consul Sir	Timothy	Noble Bt	Consulate of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg
Ms	Joan	Orr	Museums Galleries Scotland
Consul General	Mykhailo	Osnach	Consulate General of the Ukraine
Consul General	Melpo	Papaioannou- Plevris	Consulate General of Greece
Ms	Ruth	Parsons	Historic Scotland
Mr	Chris	Purnell	Edinburgh Mela Festival
Consul	John	Rafferty	Consulate of Canada
Consul General	Li	Ruiyou	Consulate General of the Peoples Republic of China
Consul	John	Scott Moncrieff	Consulate of Monaco
Consul Professor	Gerda	Siann	Consulate of Rwanda
Ms	Clare	Smith	Scottish Government
Mr	Roger	Spence	Edinburgh Jazz and Blues Festival
Consul	Duncan A	Spiers	Consulate of Slovak Republic
Consul	Evridiki	Stakis Christie	Consulate of Cyprus
Consul General	Masataka	Tarahara	Consulate General of Japan
Mr.	James	Temple- Smithson	European Parliament Office
Mr	Ben	Thomson	National Galleries of Scotland
Mr	Bill	Toner	Consulate General Lithuania
Consul General Dr.	Tomasz	Trafas	Consulate General of Poland
Consul Dr.	Wali Tasar	Uddin MBE JP	Consulate of Bangaldesh
Ms	Zoe	Van Zwanenberg	Scottish Ballet
Consul General	Ana	Wersun	Consulate General of Slovenia
Consul Dr.	Peter	West OBE	Consulate of Malawi
Consul General	David	Windmill	Royal Norwegian Consulate General
The Earl of Dundee			Consulate of Croatia

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 27 September 2011 11:20

To: First Minister <FirstMinister@scotland.gsi.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Cc:[REDACTED];[REDACTED];[REDACTED];[REDACTED];[REDACTED];[REDACTED];[REDACTED];[REDACTED];[REDACTED]

Subject: Scottish Low Carbon Investment Conference - Dinner - FM Speech

PS/FM

Further to a telephone conversation with [REDACTED], I attach a revised version of the speech, with a little more about relevant National Museum of Scotland exhibits at the beginning.

[REDACTED]

KEY POINTS FROM MEETING WITH SSE: 1 MARCH 2012

Attendees: First Minister
Ian Marchant
[REDACTED]
David Wilson

- Ian Marchant outlined the background to the decision by SSE to publish a definitive statement on constitutional issues to respond to questions raised by Investors. **Action:** *Ian Marchant to send in the list of questions on constitutional matters, and for David Wilson to prepare the Scottish Government's response.*
- There was a brief discussion of the SSE Statement's coverage of Scotland's membership of the EU post-Independence. **Action:** *David Wilson to send a copy of the recent comments made by the Spanish Foreign Minister*
- There was a discussion of the Scottish Government's position on the currency, consideration of entry to the Euro, and the taxation regime. Mr Alexander encouraged Mr Swinney to accept the invitation to me and discuss these issues with Scotland's top Finance Directors. **Action:** *David Wilson to liaise with Mr Swinney's Private office.*
- First Minister outlined his recent speeches on the Constitutional question. **Action:** *David Wilson to send SSE a copy of the FM's recent speeches at the LSE etc*
- The risks to SSE of the UK Government's Electricity Market Reform (EMR) process were discussed, and Ian Marchant repeated his view, as expressed at the Scottish Energy Advisory Board, that the plans were flawed. **Action:** *SSE to share a recent letter to the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change setting out the flaws in the EMR*
- First Minister summarised the discussion, and confirmed his view that any risks for SSE, as identified in the SSE Statement, were manageable and the Scottish Government's approach was to moderate these risks as far as possible. Further discussion of the detail would provide reassurance to the company and investors. First Minister asked whether SSE would be willing to make a further statement following discussions on the key issues identified, and Mr Marchant agreed. **Action:** *Ian Marchant to consider a further statement following discussion of issues raised.*
- Ian Marchant provided an update on some key SSE projects. He indicated their strong support for the development of hydrogen storage technologies, including the North East Hydrogen Bus proposal. **Action:** *David Wilson to ensure Ministers receive a further update on the project*
- Ian Marchant outlined the follow-up to the discussion of the last Scottish Energy Advisory Board on Street lighting. A pilot project is being developed by SSE, Consumer Focus Scotland and East Renfrewshire Council, which may be suitable for EIB funding and which could make a considerable contribution to

reductions in CO2 emissions and in tackling youth unemployment. **Action:** *Scottish Government to support the development of the East Renfrewshire pilot*

- There was a brief follow-up discussion on Youth Unemployment more generally, and Ian Marchant suggested further discussions with Scotland's major corporates to consider whether they could make a contribution to the challenge. **Action:** *David Wilson to ensure Ms Constance's officials are aware of this discussion.*
- Ian Marchant outlined his concerns on the UK Government's CCS competition proposals. [

REDACTED

]

- There was a brief discussion of SSE's approach to Nursery provision. **Action:** *SSE to provide a summary of SSE's corporate approach*
- First Minister and Ian Marchant discussed the legacy of Tom Johnston, the war time Secretary of State and Chairman of the North of Scotland Hydro Electric Board, and the painting in the Bute House Drawing Room. <http://www.nationalgalleries.org/collection/artists-a-z/G/3495/artistName/Sir%20Herbert%20James%20Gunn/recordId/2893> **Action:** *Private Office to enquire whether a copy of the painting could be made available to SSE to hang in their Perth offices.*

David Wilson

5 March 2012

[REDACTED] dddd

From: Wilson D (David) (Energy)
Sent: 06 March 2012 13:36
To: Wilson D (David) (Energy); First Minister; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED] [REDACTED];
Cc: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; Minister for Energy, Enterprise and Tourism; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; Communications First Minister; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; DG Enterprise, Environment & Digital; DG Strategy and External Affairs; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; Permanent Secretary; Cabinet Secretary For Finance, Employment and Sustainable Growth; Minister for Youth Employment; [REDACTED];
Subject: RE: FM Meeting with Ian Marchant
Attachments: KEY POINTS FROM MEETING WITH SSE 1 March.doc

[REDACTED]

I attach a note of FMs meeting with Ian Marchant on Thursday 1 March. I will share this separately with SSE.

[REDACTED] and I are following up the various actions with SSE.

Would [REDACTED] note the reference to a possible meeting between Mr Swinney and Scottish Finance Directors. [REDACTED], SSE's Finance Director, gave the impression that Mr. Swinney had already been invited to speak to a group of senior FDs.

Would [REDACTED], in the Minister for Youth Employment's office, note the reference to the role major Corporate companies could play in tackling Youth Unemployment, and the Street lighting initiative, and the suggestions these were areas where Ms Constance would have an interest. I will ensure you receive further advice via [REDACTED].

David

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From: Wilson D (David) (Energy)

Sent: 01 March 2012 15:39

To: First Minister; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED];

Cc: [REDACTED];; [REDACTED];; Minister for Energy, Enterprise and Tourism; [REDACTED]; (Energy); [REDACTED];; Communications First Minister; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED];; [REDACTED]; DG Enterprise, Environment & Digital; DG Strategy and External Affairs; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]

Subject: FM Meeting with Ian Marchant tonight

[REDACTED]

Please find some light briefing for the First Ministers meeting with Ian Marchant and [REDACTED], SSE's Finance Director, tonight at 7.30. I will attend, and be available beforehand if the First Minister wants a pre-meeting.

The briefing is mainly background on facts and figures, which the First Minister may wish to turn to. It includes

- An updated one pager on the issues around SSE's statement
- The FMQ we provided today on Weir and SSE
- A list of SSE's major Investment projects in Scotland, including the applications for planning consent
- A brief on the **Hydrogen Bus project**, which SSE have indicated may be raised
- A copy of the SSE Statement, for completeness

David

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From: [REDACTED] **On Behalf Of** First Minister

Sent: 27 February 2012 14:30

To: [REDACTED]; First Minister; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED] (Energy); [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; Minister for Energy, Enterprise and Tourism; [REDACTED] (Energy);

[REDACTED]; Communications First Minister; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: URGENT - Things for policy (plus comms/spads) - FM call re energy issues this morning

Updating copy list again to include [REDACTED] who will be with FM tomorrow, [REDACTED] who is drafting key points for FM's media address and [REDACTED] who is v&e.

Please reply-all to this.

From: [REDACTED] On Behalf Of First Minister

Sent: 27 February 2012 14:01

To: First Minister; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED] (Energy); [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; Minister for Energy, Enterprise and Tourism; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED] (Energy)

Subject: URGENT - Things for policy (plus comms/spads) - FM call re energy issues this morning

David / [REDACTED]

[Meeting with Ian Marchant Thursday pos 19:30](#)

- David it would be good if you could come to this. [REDACTED] SSE finance dir will also come to this.
- Grateful for a note on what FM – FM gave a steer on this during call, should also inc CCS material
- Grateful for a note by 15:00 Wednesday please.

If I've missed anything please shout, also happy to discuss the above.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

DPS/FM

42016

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of First Minister
Sent: 26 September 2011 23:23
To: [REDACTED]; First Minister
Cc: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Scottish Low Carbon Investment Conference - FM keynote address
Attachments: slcic2011rev (4).doc

OK thanks [REDACTED] for your input on this. I have left FM with this final version (attached) the only amendment from Peter's most recent version is removal of Scottish Renewables electricity stats.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 September 2011 23:01
To: [REDACTED]; First Minister
Cc: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Scottish Low Carbon Investment Conference - FM keynote address
Importance: High

[REDACTED]

We spoke and agreed that I should give you as developed a text as possible in light of these comments.

Here it is.

Briefly – new summary page, various typos corrected, Adrian's track changes reflected. Of [REDACTED] comments below, those on NRIF and POWERS reflected. Haven't separated out offshore wind from wave and tidal.

[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 September 2011 22:17
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: ; [REDACTED] [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Scottish Low Carbon Investment Conference - FM keynote address

[REDACTED], I've tracked some suggested changes on some of the details.

However following FM's comments, structurally it would benefit from

- Separating offshore wind from wave & tidal in the progress since last year - highlighting their importance to achieving our new targets
- in offshore wind, highlighting the investments made by Doosan, Mitsubishi and Gamesa in R&D (in the case of Doosan and Gamesa, with SG support)
- then moving on to NRIF and manufacturing (as you have)
- announcing POWERS as a means of supporting the gap between the R&D and manufacturing and therefore completing an internationally competitive and integrated package of support from research to manufacturing

In marine, highlighting the need to support new technologies and attracting more private sector investment, and then announcing Aquamarine

regards

[REDACTED]

From: **[REDACTED]**

Sent: 26 September 2011 21:35

To: **[REDACTED]**

Cc: **[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]**
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Subject: Scottish Low Carbon Investment Conference - FM keynote address

Revised speech text – I think at point where can usefully be shared – length pretty much the same but hopefully closer to FM's vision

[REDACTED]

<<slcic2011rev.doc>>

Rt Hon Alex Salmond MSP

First Minister

Scottish Low Carbon Investment Conference:

Opening Address

**Edinburgh International Conference Centre, The Exchange,
Edinburgh EH3 8EE**

Speech

(25 minutes)

Tuesday 27 September 2011

Summary

Newsline: First Minister announces new £35 million Prototype Offshore Wind Energy Renewables Support fund – ‘**POWERS**’ – to provide financial support for capital and operational costs associated with the production of full scale prototypes of next generation offshore wind turbines.

Audience: Some 500 delegates to Scottish Low Carbon Investment Conference.

Venue: Edinburgh International Conference Centre.

This speech:

- *Welcomes delegates and thanks the Scottish Government’s partners in staging the Conference;*
- *Reminds the audience of the once in human history nature of the shift to the low carbon economy;*
- *Says that the need for that shift, and the exceptional role Scotland can play in it can be taken for granted in speaking to this audience;*
- *Reviews developments since last year’s Conference, including substantial new investment (announcing the new shareholder investment in Aquamarine Power);*
- *Sets out how we have built on last year’s Conference, including through developments in linking oil & gas and offshore renewables (announcing the new Offshore Guide), through providing support from R&D to manufacturing; and through providing certainty through e.g. the new 2020 target;*
- *Notes UK Government policy instability through e.g. ROCs review;*
- *Stresses that the trend is for increasing reliance on renewables;*
- *Notes our increasing importance as Northern Europe’s green powerhouse as countries such as Germany and companies such as Siemens and SSE renounce nuclear energy;*
- *Sets out the economic benefits of the Renewable Revolution, leading to the reindustrialisation of Scotland;*
- *Announces the POWERS fund;*
- *Emphasises the importance of taking the public with us; and*
- *Calls for a Conference as productive and successful as last year’s.*

Introduction

- Thank you [REDACTED], *Chief Editor, Bloomberg New Energy Finance*] for that kind introduction and welcome, everyone, to this, our second Scottish Low Carbon Investment Conference.
- That you are here in such numbers reflects the importance of moving towards the low carbon economy.
- It also reflects the impressive array of speakers and panel members that have gathered for this event.
- Far too many for me to name all of them individually but we are very grateful to all of them for their input.
- And I am particularly grateful to those who have come from other countries and, indeed, other continents.
- I would also like to thank very warmly, the Scottish Government's partners in staging this conference, Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce, Scottish Enterprise and Highlands & Islands Enterprise, and Scottish Futures Trust.

The Renewable Revolution

- When I addressed our first Scottish Low Carbon Investment Conference at this time last year, I described the shift to the low carbon economy, as the kind of step change that occurs not once in a generation, or a lifetime, or a century, or even a millennium, but as a fundamental, one-off quantum leap in human history.
- And if I may be allowed to repeat a couple of sentences that I spoke then: ***“Once we make that paradigm shift, there will be no going back. It is a pivotal turning-point, like the discovery of the New World or the move from hunter-gathering to agriculture.”***
- So the challenge before the world, the unique challenge for this generation, and a challenge in which Scotland, by virtue of its geographic endowment of wave, wind and tidal power, has an exceptional role to play, is to accomplish that great leap for mankind.

The Journey

- I am sure that this audience is fully seized of the need to make that move, to tackle climate change, and if any of you are not, I am sure that by the end of tomorrow morning's keynote address from Nobel Laureate Al Gore, you will be.
- So I am really pleased that our 2010 conference took the initiative and got to work with impressive determination on the key issues that we know as being the major challenges to growth in the low carbon sector.

- As a direct consequence of that conference we left much clearer on what those challenges are:
 - the financial challenges of accessing the substantial capital investment required, in what continues to be a difficult economic environment;
 - the need to develop a supply chain that meets the demands of a technologically complex sector that is meeting new challenges in an industry that by definition operates in the most challenging natural environments, where the winds are strongest, the waves highest, and the tidal flows deepest; and
 - the need to get buy-in not just from the finance and energy sectors but from the wider public as a whole.
- So our Conference last year made great progress, but it was a milestone, not a finishing post.
- The journey carries on and the work keeps going.
- And we have kept going and now we are gathered again, one year on, to take stock, to recharge our batteries and to set sights higher for the future.

Setting our Sights High

- And our sights ***should*** be high.
- I mentioned a moment ago, our exceptional environmental endowment.
- In brief we have as much as a quarter of Europe's offshore wind and tidal energy potential and an estimated tenth of its wave power capacity.
- And our capacity to store carbon emissions offshore, is the largest in the European Union and greater than that of the Netherlands, Germany and Denmark combined.
- But the point of last year's Conference, as of this year's, was not to celebrate our potential but to move us forward to realising that potential.
- So what has happened since last year's Conference?

Renewables Investment

- First, we have seen continued, substantial investment in Scotland's renewables sector.
- Companies from overseas, our international partners, are investing heavily.
- In December, Mitsubishi announced plans to invest up to £100 million to create a Centre for Advanced Offshore Wind Turbine Technology in Edinburgh.
- In March, Gaia-Wind from Denmark opened a new manufacturing, design and distribution Hub in Glasgow, aiming to manufacture 350 small wind turbines in its first year alone.
- Also in March, Doosan Power Systems announced its intention to locate its renewables R&D base in Scotland, creating hundreds of new jobs with investments worth up to £170 million over the next ten years.
- In June, Iberdrola opened two onshore wind-farms in South Ayrshire.

- And tomorrow evening, right after this Conference, I will be travelling to Bellshill near Glasgow, to open Gamesa's new offshore wind turbine Centre of Excellence, a £12.5 million pound investment set to create 130 high value added jobs.
- And I am glad that the Scottish Government, through our economic development agency, Scottish Enterprise, has been able to contribute £1.5 million pounds towards the cost of that, in regional selective assistance grant.
- And I could give many more examples of overseas investment but let me also just touch on the home team.
- Wood Group is moving increasingly into renewable energy, taking a substantial equity stake in the leading renewable energy consultancy firm, Sgurr Energy.

- SSE is set to invest over £3 billion pounds in renewables and related infrastructure in Scotland in the five years between 2008 and 2013, and in the last two years has increased its number of employees in Scotland by 1,500.
- And again I could give more examples but let me just say finally, on this point, that I'm delighted to announce that Aquamarine Power, one of Scotland's great green energy success stories, is today celebrating a further investment in the company of £7 million pounds,.
- And, moreover, shareholders are working together to develop a further funding package of £18 million pounds to take the company to commercialisation of its Oyster wave energy technology in 2014.

- This is great news for the company and a clear signal to the wider energy and investment community of how close we are to the commercial-scale deployment of clean green ocean power generation.
- This additional funding demonstrates that there is real investor confidence out there in Scotland's low carbon generation innovations and the business strategies that aim to develop these technologies into strong marketable products.

Building on the Conference

- And, second, let me say something about how we have built on last year's conference because I believe that that has been one factor attracting all that investment.
- Last year, you told us that we should make better links between the oil & gas and offshore renewable sectors, so that experience gained over decades in the North sea, of attracting investment into, and successfully implementing major offshore projects, could be put to use in offshore renewables.
- So straight after the Conference, we secured the commitment of leaders in both sectors to attend a summit on the matter, which we held in Aberdeen, last December – I addressed the summit and saw for myself some of the perceived barriers between the sectors start to come down and some great ideas for collaboration emerge.

- And that seminar suggested that we need to both sell the opportunity in offshore renewable to the oil & gas sector, and clearly show the benefits that oil & gas experience could bring to renewables.
- So I can announce that Scottish Enterprise is publishing today a ***Guide to Offshore Wind and Oil and Gas Capability***.
- This shows that the knowledge and expertise of Scotland's oil & gas supply chain could help reduce costs of offshore wind operations by at least 20 per cent.
- And let me add that Sir Ian Wood will leading a breakout session on this during the Conference.
- And you also told us that a sector as innovative as renewables needed encouragement and support all the way from research to commercialisation.
- And that as the sector moved from testing prototypes to full scale manufacturing, that kind of support became increasingly important.

- We listened to that.
- And Scotland is, I believe, the only country that provides support all the way from research and development, to prototype development, then testing devices, and on to commercialisation and manufacturing.
- And, in particular, through the £70 million pounds National Renewables Infrastructure Fund that we launched after last year's conference, we are working with a range of industrialists – many of them in this room, and others – to understand their requirements for manufacturing and work towards meeting them.

Prototype Offshore Wind Energy Renewables

Support

- And to further strengthen that continuum of support, from the most basic research to full scale manufacturing and commercialisation, it is with great pleasure that today I can announce Scottish Government backing for the Prototype Offshore Wind Energy Renewables Support fund, or “**POWERS**”.
- This £35 million pounds fund will provide financial support for capital and operational costs associated with the production of full scale prototypes of next generation offshore wind turbines.
- We envisage making awards, which will operate over a minimum of 4 years, to between 5 and 7 companies at a level of around £5 million to £7 million pounds.
- And, crucially, that will support the gap between R&D and manufacturing and therefore complete our integrated package of support from research to manufacturing that is internationally competitive and world leading.

Stability

- And more broadly, besides that stable, continuous access to financial support right from R&D to manufacture, you stressed the need to provide as much stability as possible across the board, for a sector that is new and innovative and often operating in difficult natural environments offshore.
- So we have sought to manage out any potential risk to the sector through political instability, by ensuring that we have taken other parties with us as we have developed policy.

- So our climate change legislation, setting the toughest targets in the world – although major economies like Germany are now coming up close behind – was passed unanimously.
- But if the fundamental policy is shared across parties, I do think that the industry can take some comfort from the fact that, following May's election, the policy will be run by a tried and tested team.
- We hit the ground again running, and during the election campaign itself, we committed ourselves to a still more ambitious renewables target for 2020.
- So by 2020 we will generate the equivalent of 100 per cent of gross annual electricity demand from renewables.
- Let me stress that this is an entirely achievable target.

- And just after the election, in June, we published our Renewables Routemap and that, taken alongside the draft Electricity Generation Statement, which is currently being updated, sets the course for a rapid expansion in renewables capacity, complemented by greater energy efficiency, advances in energy storage, and the development of carbon capture and storage technologies.
- And it is worth reflecting on the history of our 2020 target, as it shows how far we have come, in just a few years.
- Since 2007 we have moved from a target of 40 – to 50 – then to 80 – and now to 100 per cent of domestic demand.
- And increased targets reflect increased actual generation.
- We have consistently under-promised and over-delivered on renewables.
- Let me illustrate that.

- When I made my first major speech as First Minister, setting out on the new Government's priorities, back in May 2007 I said – quote: **“As of today, the renewables installed capacity, comprising hydro, wind, biomass and landfill gas installed capacity, is 2,452 MegaWatts. In two years' time, that figure will be a minimum of 3,086 MegaWatts.”**
- Well in fact by two years later we were producing 3,820 MegaWatts – and those are UK Government figures rather than ours – thereby exceeding our target by almost 25 per cent (23.78%).
- And that meant that by 2009 we were producing more than 25 per cent of our electricity demand from renewable energy.
- Now we know that in 2010 there were temporary difficulties over hydro power. But we know that overall we are making significant progress with renewables and we are confident that we will reach or exceed our targets in 2011.

- So, just as we have seen increased investment, and just as we have seen still further efforts by the Scottish Government to create the right background of support and stability, so too, in consequence, we are seeing increasing production.

Instability

- Now having talked of what has happened after last year's conference let me say something about what hasn't happened.
- And despite the efforts of the Scottish Government to provide stability, there remain elements of uncertainty over UK Government policy.
- So, for example, one of Scotland's greatest attractions is the way in which we offer some of the strongest incentives in the world for wave and tidal energy, particularly through our Renewables Obligation Certificates – ROCs – where we offer five for wave power and three for tidal, compared to two elsewhere in the UK.
- So we have been very concerned at the UK Government review of ROCs and have urged, and will continue to urge, caution.

- And managing the risk caused by the actions of **other** Governments, is naturally less under our control, within current constitutional arrangements, than our own actions, but we will certainly bring as much influence as we can to bear, across the range of issues of crucial importance to the renewables sector, on issues like transmissions charges.
- I was struck by the analysis of Andrew Buglass of RBS – who is on our speakers' list for tomorrow – in a recent article in ***The Scotsman***, where he highlighted the complexity of electricity market an, the way in which uncertainty can lead to a slowdown of projects in the short term.
- But he also stressed that this uncertainty should soon be resolved.
- And if we get the reforms right we can increase levels of investment and build-out, and make us the destination of choice for renewable energy finance.
- And amidst the fog of uncertainty, one fact stands out like the beam from a light house.

- That is that the tide of history is flows ever more strongly towards renewable energy.
- The demand for electricity is growing ever greater.
- Energy gaps are beginning to emerge south of the Border and on the continent.
- Countries across the world are moving towards ever more ambitious targets for reducing carbon emissions and increasing use of renewable energy.
- We have seen countries such as Germany, Switzerland, Italy and Japan moving away from nuclear energy, towards clean green energy.
- And that public policy shift has been accompanied by recent announcements by companies of the stature of SSE and Siemens, that they are withdrawing from the nuclear sector for hard-headed commercial reasons.
- So the global political and commercial trend towards reliance on renewable energy is clear – and, particularly for Northern Europe, that will rely upon Scotland's potential as a green energy powerhouse.

The New Strategic Priority – the Transition to a Low Carbon Economy

- And although the Scottish Government and Parliament have been world leaders in their approach to renewable energy and the low carbon economy, we want to do more still.
- That's why, in our revised Government Economic Strategy, which we published earlier this month, we established a new Strategic Priority – the Transition to a Low Carbon Economy.
- When we entered government in 2007 we set a central Purpose, which we have reaffirmed on re-entering government, ***to focus government and public services on creating a more successful country, with opportunities for all of Scotland to flourish, through increasing sustainable economic growth.***
- We have not let transient economic difficulties deter us from that Purpose and if anything, they make it all the more important.

- Economic conditions have changed markedly since 2007, following the deepest global recession in over 50 years, and the Government Economic Strategy gives clear priority to accelerating economic recovery.
- And it is returned growth in the private sector that is key to unlocking Scotland's potential.
- And Scotland's relative comparative advantage in the low carbon economy is key to unlocking that investment.
- And all the evidence is that it is possible to grow the Scottish economy while simultaneously moving to a low carbon economy and that, indeed, the Scottish economy will grow faster by moving to a low carbon basis.
- Renewable energy is set to be worth £3.2 billion pounds in Scotland by 2013 – 14.

- And by 2020, the Low Carbon Economic Strategy shows that there could be 130,000 jobs in low carbon – close to doubling the current number – taking it to over 5 per cent of the Scottish workforce.
- So there are significant economic gains to be realised and investment opportunities to be seized.
- So, as we undertook during the election campaign, we will seize the opportunity offered by the Renewable Revolution to achieve a reindustrialisation of Scotland.
- Not by desecrating our environmental heritage in our mountains and glens.
- But by rebuilding where our industrial strength was before, creating, for example, an industry on the Clyde to match shipbuilding in the nineteenth century, as we move to turbine building in the twenty-first.

- And as, gradually and over decades, the energy sector in Scotland moves away from oil & gas, we have the opportunity to convert our substantial industry making and servicing the offshore installations to an industry serving the new renewable energy opportunities in the North Sea and the Moray Firth and the Pentland Firth.
- And, across Scotland, we will see that native ingenuity and engineering ability that has delivered so many benefits to mankind, turned to providing the benefit of clean, green energy for these islands and northern Europe.

Energy Efficiency and Consumer Interests

- So the Scottish Government wants to play to the full, its role in reindustrialising Scotland through the Renewable Revolution.
- And part of the purpose of this Conference is to give you the chance to tell us if there ways in which we can play our role better still – just as you did last year and just as we picked up on during the course of the last twelve months.
- But then we all have our role to play, and to achieve the goals that we have set ourselves will take partnership and cooperation.
- But I do believe that it is important, not just that we work among ourselves, but that we reach out to the wider public.
- For me, that was one of the clearest messages to come out of last year's conference.

- And perhaps an unexpected message to come out of a Conference that, then as today, was mainly composed of generators, producers and investors rather than consumers.
- And although I touched on consumer interests last year, I was very encouraged and impressed by the way in which it was industry leaders like Ian Marchant of SSE who really led the argument on that.
- And I think they're absolutely right.
- The Scottish Government has sought to manage out political risk by working with other parties to achieve climate change targets that are agreed unanimously.
- But in a democracy, managing out political risk means not just taking the parties with you, but the people.
- I believe that the people of Scotland are responsive to that engagement.
- They know that climate isn't the same as weather but still, they are concerned at increased incidence of flooding, consistent with global warming.

- At the petrol pump and on their electricity bills, they notice the generally upward trend in prices.
- So they see the need to use energy more efficiently and shortly after last year's Conference, we issued our Energy Efficiency Action Plan, setting Scotland's first target for energy use reduction: 12 % by 2020.
- And in last week's Scottish budget we took further steps to ensure that target is met, with a Programme worth a third of a billion pounds [*£327 million*] to tackle fuel poverty and increase home energy efficiency.
- And the public see the sense in moving to being more self-sufficient in energy supply and ensuring greater security of supply by better grid connections, sensibly charged, within the UK and across the Irish and North Seas.
- And above all, at the last election we got a tremendous response to the message that we gave the electorate, the same message that I have just given you, that developing renewable energy gives us the chance to reindustrialise Scotland.

Conclusion

- So I believe that our shift to the low carbon economy offers benefits to everyone, but also calls on all of us – private sector and public sector – companies and consumers – those sitting in offices and those fitting out offshore installations alike – to play our part.
- That is why it is so important that all of us gathered here, work with each other, and join all of our skills and ideas together, to map out the way forward.
- So I am looking forward to playing an active part in today's proceedings and to meeting with as many of you as possible.
- I hope that all of you, too, will play an active part in our deliberations and in networking outside the formal sessions.
- And let us all resolve to make this as productive and successful a conference as last year's.
- Thank you. [3,600 words]

Rt Hon Alex Salmond MSP

First Minister

Scottish Low Carbon Investment Conference Dinner:

Welcoming Remarks

National Museum of Scotland, Chambers Street, Edinburgh

EH1 1JF

Speech

(5 minutes)

Tuesday 27 September 2011

Summary

Newsline: Non-media occasion, although there will be news releases for other aspects of the Conference.

Venue: National Museum of Scotland, Chambers Street, Edinburgh EH1 1JF. Newly reopened following a £47.4 million refurbishment. 120,000 visitors in the first week after re-opening.

Background: The dinner marks the second Scottish Low Carbon Investment Conference. The First Minister will be introduced by Robert Carr, President, Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce. After the First Minister has spoken, Mr Carr will then introduce [REDACTED] Secretary of State for the Romanian Government's Ministry of Economy, to speak for 5 minutes.

This speech:

- *Welcomes guests to the dinner and venue, mentioning some notable exhibits (Boulton & Watt steam engine, oldest locomotive, Dolly the Sheep) and linking them to the theme of the occasion, and setting out the green retrofit aspects of the Museum's refurbishment;*
- *Draws attention to the statute by Sir Francis Chantrey of James Watt, paid for by a public subscription started by King George the Fourth and the Earl of Liverpool (then Prime Minister);*
- *Suggests that the pioneers of green energy are as worthy of respect as those of steam energy, pointing to the interest and engagement of the current monarch and her heir, and support from the Scottish Government, moral as well as financial;*
- *Urges guests to enjoy the evening and return renewed and refreshed for the following day's second day of the Conference; and*
- *Leads into the remarks from [REDACTED], Secretary of State for the Romanian Government's Ministry of Economy.*

Introduction

- Thank you [REDACTED], *President, Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce* for that kind introduction and good evening, ladies and gentlemen.
- May I, too, welcome you all to this Dinner to mark our second Scottish Low Carbon Investment Conference.
- And may I welcome you, as well, to the National Museum of Scotland, which houses many remarkable artefacts and exhibits, including:
 - an original Watt and Boulton steam engine, in working condition – and I believe that in the near future we will see Museums such as this begin to display some of the prototypes on which so many of are working right now – as heralding a revolution in energy no less, indeed even more, significant than the move to steam power; and there is also

- the oldest surviving locomotive in the world – and I look forward to the renewable energy that you produce, paving the way to new, greener forms of transport as revolutionary for the twenty-first century as the steam train for the nineteenth; and, finally let me just mention
 - the stuffed body of the first cloned mammal, Dolly the Sheep – and just to reassure you, on the menu tonight we have beef rather than mutton!
- The National Museum just reopened at the end of July, following an almost £50 million pounds refurbishment [*£47.4 million*], which I trust you will agree was money well spent.
 - And not just because it has given us this magnificent venue, or because it has increased the usable exhibition space by 50 per cent, but because it shows what can be achieved in green retrofit, even in a building subject to the highest restrictions.

- So although the original cast iron radiators had to be retained, the opportunity was taken to fit them with unobtrusive heating circuits that could be individually monitored and adjusted.
- The lighting of the buildings and exhibits makes use of the latest low energy technology.
- The heating and air conditioning system captures and recycles heat that would otherwise be lost to the atmosphere.
- And exhibits and artefacts are carefully housed so that very sensitive items that are vulnerable to changes in temperature and humidity are kept in the Environmentally Controlled Store and exhibited in a Special Exhibition Gallery.
- And, conversely, more robust and resilient exhibits, such as statues, are shown in the traditional open colonnaded galleries, that you see around and above you.

James Watt

- And speaking of statues, let me mention one in particular, this splendid tribute to James Watt, because as well as his steam engine, we have the man himself, at least in effigy.
- And there has been much talk of KiloWatts and MegaWatts and GigaWatts today, but he was the original and the greatest Watt.
- Because it was James Watt, from Greenock on the West coast of Scotland, who first discovered the way to harness the steam-power that became the locomotive force of the Industrial Revolution.
- After his death, King George the Fourth and the Prime Minister of the day, the Earl of Liverpool, jointly initiated a public subscription to commemorate the great man with a suitably imposing statue.
- And so the greatest sculptor of the day, Sir Francis Chantrey, was commissioned to chisel out this magnificent marble monument.

Recognising the Renewable Revolution

- And I am convinced that the pioneers of the Renewable Revolution – you, and people like you – will become just as recognised as achieving an advance on the scale of the Industrial Revolution.
- And that green energy is as worthy of being memorialised as steam energy.
- And just as King George the Fourth started that subscription back in 1824, so the Royal Family today is a strong supporter.
- Just earlier this month, Her Majesty the Queen took delivery at Romney Weir on the Thames of two hydroelectric turbines, which will soon power the Windsor Castle estate.
- And Prince Charles, the Duke of Rothesay, to use his title in Scotland, ranks alongside Al Gore, whom we will hear tomorrow, as an advocate of renewable energy, and as many of you will recall, spoke to us by video at our first Conference.

- ***[I met the Prince on Sunday at the National Police Memorial Day service and he was pleased to learn of this year's Conference.]***
- And as for the Scottish Government, we take the view that the pioneers of green energy should be supported not just with statues, in the hereafter, but with practical help, encouragement and incentives, in the here and now.
- So that's why we have the financial support that I talked about this morning.
- But that's also why we have sought to foster a sense of energy, enthusiasm and excitement.
- For example, through our £10 million Saltire Prize for technological advances in wave and tidal energy, one of the biggest international innovation prizes in history.
- And the annual Saltire medal that we are awarding for significant achievement in the sector, first awarded in March of this year to Professor Stephen Salter, the founding father of wave power technology.

Conclusion

- So I see part of the role of any Minister with energy responsibilities as being to celebrate the green energy sector and to help to build that background of favourable public opinion that it deserves.
- And as First Minister of Scotland I have a particular role to celebrate the sector in Scotland but it is important to remember that our national effort is being paralleled by so many countries across the world, which is why I am glad that this Conference has such international participation.
- And I am pleased that we will hear shortly from Karóly Borbély [KAH-**RAW**-LI BOR-**BAY**-LI], Secretary of State for the Romanian Ministry of Economy, on how his country is meeting the climate change challenge.
- But for my part, may I wish you all an enjoyable evening, where you can recharge your batteries – with renewable energy, of course – for tomorrow.
- Thank you. [983 words]

