

MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER OF THE UNITED KINGDOM TO GOVERNOR GEORGE W BUSH PRESIDENT-ELECT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

My warmest congratulations on your victory in the Presidential election. It was a long and agonising wait for you. I'm very glad it is finally settled.

I know that together we will strengthen still further the special friendship between Britain and the United States. Our nations enjoy not just common interests but shared values, and I much look forward to working with you as partners for security, prosperity and freedom throughout the world.

Cherie joins me in wishing you and Laura all possible strength and success throughout your time as President and First Lady of the United States.

TONY BLAIR