Dear Colleague,

Welcome to the 2013 edition of PIMRC – IEEE International Symposium on Personal, Indoor and Mobile Radio Communications.

This is the 24th edition of this prestigious conference, coming back to London, where it all started back in 1991. By then, we were really in the beginning of this adventure of mobile and wireless communications, with GSM making its debut in Europe. How things have changed since then. At that time, voice was the "killer application" (these was nothing else!), and data was foreseen at a rate in between 2.8 and 9.6 kbps. Nowadays, we have commercial offers of 150 Mbps in mobile cellular communications, and 300 Mbps in WiFi. Wow! Have you notice that the data rate has grown around 54.%/year? We have contributed to this wonderful success with our research!

I'm sure you're aware that in a conference the acceptance of papers is limited by both absolute and relative thresholds. The former means that papers that are below the technical borderline cannot be accepted; the latter implies that some papers that are above this technical borderline will not be accepted either, because the conference does not have capacity for them. This was definitely the case for this year's edition of PIMRC, where good quality papers could not be accepted. We had a record submission of 1 434 papers, from 62 countries, from which 49.% were accepted. Despite this high submission, we managed to have all papers with, at least, 3 reviews, more than 21% of these even having between 4 and 6. This was possible only due to the dedication of all the colleagues involved in the review process (a total of 1 982 were part of this process!).

Besides the 116 sessions with papers presentation, both oral and interactive, we've put together (I dare to say) an interesting programme for you. We've quite interesting keynote talks, by key people from the mobile and wireless industry, in addition to the tutorials and workshops. Moreover, the panels address future aspects of mobile and wireless communications, from pure technological development to the application of technology. Overall, we intended to bring together a joint perspective ranging exactly from the development of technology to its application at large.

I would like to thank all of those who have contributed to the success of the conference: the authors of the papers, tutorials and workshops submitted to the conference; the invited keynote speakers, panels' members, and sessions' chairpersons, who accepted the invitation to be here, hence, providing an excellent added value to the conference; the members of the Technical Programme Committee, and the Reviewers, who provided the necessary expertise and performed an excellent work in evaluating the papers; the Track Chairs and Co-Chairs, who did all the hard work in managing the tracks, and to whom I'm in debt for all the time and effort they have dedicated to this conference; last, but not the least, all the other people involved in the organisation of the conference.

I hope that you enjoy both the conference and the city. Thank you for coming.

Luis M. Correia
Professor, IST-INOV/INESC – Univ. Lisbon, Portugal
(Technical Programme Committee Co-Chair)