

press release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Standard Chartered Bank Zhuhai Branch - Received RMB License for Corporates

Standard Chartered is delighted to announce that its Zhuhai Branch has been granted the RMB license for business with corporate clients. This represents a significant step forward in the Bank's expansion plan in the Pearl River Delta region. The Bank now has the capability to provide RMB services in 6 branches in China.

Today's approval will enable the Bank's Zhuhai Branch to offer RMB services to all corporate customers in Zhuhai as well as those in other cities and regions that allow foreign banks to offer RMB services.

The Zhuhai Branch was set up in 1987 and has developed a strong customer base since then. With the newly granted RMB license, Zhuhai Branch could expand its business scope and provide more convenient and efficient banking services locally.

Katherine Tsang, Chief Executive Officer of Standard Chartered Bank China, said: "The Pearl River Delta is one of the most dynamic economic regions in China. It is also one of Standard Chartered's key markets. The approval of the RMB license will not only enable us to provide a full range of services to our

corporate clients, but also enhances our capability in developing RMB products and services.”

Besides Zhuhai, Standard Chartered can provide RMB services in its Shanghai, Shenzhen, Nanjing, Xiamen and Beijing branches.

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Standard Chartered – leading the way in Asia, Africa and the Middle East

Standard Chartered is one of the world’s most international banks, employing over 40,000 people, representing 80 nationalities, across its network. Standard Chartered operates in over 1,200 locations (including subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures) in more than 50 countries in the Asia Pacific Region, South Asia, the Middle East, Africa, the United Kingdom and the Americas.

Standard Chartered PLC is listed on both the London Stock Exchange and the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong and is in the top 25 FTSE-100 companies, by market capitalisation.

It serves both Consumer and Wholesale Banking customers. Consumer Banking provides credit cards, personal loans, mortgages, deposit taking and wealth management services to individuals and small to medium sized enterprises. Wholesale Banking provides corporate and institutional clients with services in trade finance, cash management, lending, securities services, foreign exchange, debt capital markets and corporate finance.

Standard Chartered is well-established in growth markets and aims to be the right partner for its customers. The Bank combines deep local knowledge with global capability.

The Bank is trusted across its network for its standard of governance and corporate responsibility as well as its commitment to making a difference in the communities in which it operates.

Standard Chartered set up its first branch in Shanghai in 1858, remaining throughout the last 150 years. Now it has ten branches (Chengdu to be opened soon), one sub-branch (with 3 more to open before Q1 2006) and four representative offices in China. The Shanghai, Shenzhen, Beijing, Nanjing and Xiamen Branches can provide full banking services (including RMB) for corporate customers and foreign currency services for local citizens. The Nanjing Branch is the only foreign bank in Jiangsu Province to be allowed to conduct RMB business. It was also among the first group of foreign banks to be granted the QFII custodian bank and derivative licence.

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