



press release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 20, 2006

Standard Chartered Chairman presides at official opening of China Bohai Bank Headquarters in Tianjin

Bryan Sanderson, Chairman of Standard Chartered PLC, visited Tianjin on February 18, 2006 to witness the official opening of China Bohai Bank.

During his trip, Mr. Sanderson visited the newly established China Bohai Bank's headquarters, attended meetings with Bohai senior management, shareholders and staff, paid a visit to Tianjin Mayor Dai Xiang-long and participated in the celebratory events hosted by China Bohai Bank.

The newly opened China Bohai Bank is the first national joint stock commercial bank to be set up in China since 1996, and the first national joint stock commercial bank headquartered in Tianjin. Standard Chartered Bank, as the sole strategic investor in Bohai, has advised and supported Bohai during the preparation phase.

Standard Chartered has a 19.99% interest in China Bohai Bank. The Bank has nominated Ms. Elizabeth Chua as Vice-Chairman, Mr. Simon Page as the Chief Risk Officer and Mr. Rolf Berweger as the Executive Director of Wholesale Banking. Another senior officer from Standard Chartered Bank, Mr. Phang Yew Kiat is appointed as the Deputy CEO and Head, Consumer Bank.

Bryan Sanderson said: "We are very enthusiastic about the opportunities presented by China Bohai Bank. We will leverage our global network, international expertise and strong risk management skills to provide support to the new Bank.

The Chinese government is strongly promoting the development of the Tianjin/Binhai region as the next economic hub in China and the opening of China Bohai Bank coincides with increased economic expansion in the Tianjin area. I am confident that with the combined knowledge and deep commitment of Standard Chartered and the other Chinese shareholders, China Bohai Bank will achieve sizable market share not only in Tianjin, but nationwide."

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

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

Standard Chartered has a history of over 150 years in banking and is in many of the world's fastest growing markets. It has an extensive global network of over 1,200 branches (including subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures) in 56 countries in the Asia Pacific Region, South Asia, the Middle East, Africa, the United Kingdom and the Americas. As one of the world's most international banks, Standard Chartered employs over 40,000 people, representing 80 nationalities, worldwide.

Serving both Consumer and Wholesale Banking customers, the Bank combines deep local knowledge with global capability to offer a wide range of innovative products and services as well as award winning solutions.

Standard Chartered is committed to be the Right Partner to all our stakeholders by living its values in its approach to managing its people, exceeding expectations of its customers, making a difference in the communities that we operate in and working with its regulators. The Bank is trusted across its network for its standard of governance and corporate responsibility.

Standard Chartered sets up its first branch in Shanghai in 1858, and has remained in operation throughout the past 150 years. Now it has ten branches, four sub-branches and four representative offices in China. There are altogether 5 branches in China that have been granted the license for providing RMB banking services to Corporate clients (namely Shanghai, Shenzhen, Beijing, Nanjing and Xiamen) and Zhuhai and Tianjin now in preparation for the offering of such services.

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