

press release

For immediate release

Standard Chartered Completes the First Transaction in RMB Non Deliverable Interest Rate Swap

(Hong Kong – 16 August 2006) Standard Chartered Bank announces today that it has completed the first renminbi non-deliverable interest rate swap transaction in the market.

The RMB100 million transaction is jointly completed by Standard Chartered and another bank for a tenor of three years. SCB pays a fixed rate at 3.09 per cent. The broker is Nittan Capital Asia.

Michael Bass, Global Head of Rates and Foreign Exchange of Standard Chartered Bank, said, “RMB non deliverable interest rate swap has been developed by the Treasury Markets Association to match the needs of the market, since various investors and corporates have interest exposure in China but may not have the required entity to access the onshore market. This demand is expected to be very strong and present huge opportunities for Standard Chartered Bank.”

Hong Kong, as an international financial centre and with its unique role as the springboard for China financial markets, has a huge potential to be an offshore renminbi trading centre, Mr Bass added.

Interest rate swaps are important and effective hedging tools for coporates and investors to manage interest rate exposure. Interest rate swaps and other interest rate derivatives are crucial to the development of the financial markets of Mainland China.

Standard Chartered Bank has a proven track record and has been a market leader in interest rate derivatives market. We have been awarded the 2005 Interest Rate Derivatives House of the Year by AsiaRisk. We are among the top players and leading the way in our major markets of the Middle East, Asia and Africa. We have strong presence and being one of the leading foreign banks in China. We have excellent capabilities and product platform to provide competitive pricing in renminbi interest rate market.

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Notes to Editors

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 consistently 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 with an extensive global network of over 1,200 branches (including subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures) in over 50 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 almost 50,000 people, representing over 90 nationalities, worldwide. This diversity lies at the heart of the Bank's values and supports the Bank's growth as the world increasingly becomes one market.

With strong organic growth supported by strategic alliances and acquisitions and driven by its strengths in the balance and diversity of its business, products, geography and people, Standard Chartered is well positioned in the emerging trade corridors of Asia, Africa and the Middle East.

Standard Chartered uniquely derives over 90 per cent of profits from Asia, Africa and the Middle East. Serving both Consumer and Wholesale Banking customers worldwide, 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.

Trusted across its network for its standard of governance and corporate responsibility, Standard Chartered takes a long term view of the consequences of its actions to ensure that the Bank builds a sustainable business through social inclusion, environmental protection and good governance.

Standard Chartered is also committed to all its stakeholders by living its values in its approach towards managing its people, exceeding expectations of its customers, making a difference in communities and working with regulators.

For more information on Standard Chartered, please log on to www.standardchartered.com

