

press release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

27 Oct 2006

Standard Chartered Bank Received Approval for QDII Quota of USD 500 Million

(27 Oct 2006, Shanghai) Standard Chartered Bank today received the approved quota of USD 500 Million from State Administration for Foreign Exchange (SAFE) for its QDII (Qualified Domestic Institutional Investor) services.

Katherine Tsang, Chief Executive Officer of Standard Chartered Bank China said," We are pleased to receive the approved quota. Standard Chartered Bank is one of the top players of custodian services in many markets, and we have strong expertise in a wide range of Asian fixed-income products. With our global network and dedicated product team, we are confident that we will be able to offer Chinese investors (both corporates and individuals) their preferred choices of overseas investment products. In sum, our capabilities in offering QDII services is a most valuable business opportunities for us and our partners."

Standard Chartered Bank will announce the details of its product launch plans very soon.

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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 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.

In China, the Bank set up its first branch in Shanghai in 1858, and has remained in operation throughout the past 150 years. Recently, Standard Chartered Bank has been named as "2005 Best Foreign Bank" by Hexun Web. It has one of the largest foreign bank networks – with eleven branches (Qingdao to be opened

soon), six sub-branches and three representative offices in China. There are altogether 7 branches in China that can provide full banking services including RMB to corporate clients (namely Shanghai, Shenzhen, Beijing, Nanjing, Xiamen, Zhuhai and Tianjin).

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