

press release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

14 December 2006

Standard Chartered Bank Branches in Several Cities Provides RMB Fixed Deposit Services to Local Residents

(14 Dec 2006, Beijing) Standard Chartered Bank announces today the launching of its fixed deposit service to local residents in Beijing, Tianjin and Shenzhen for amounts of no less than RMB 1 million. At the same time, the Bank has already received deposit money from various customers of all three cities.

Katherine Tsang, China CEO, Standard Chartered Bank, said, "We are very pleased to be able to provide RMB fixed deposit service to local residents in Beijing, Tianjin and Shenzhen. Standard Chartered Bank's business is entering into an important arena. This is also a significant move towards the liberalisation and development of the local financial market and consumers are the first to benefit. We very much hope that our application for local incorporation will be viewed favourably by the regulator. Once the application is approved, we can provide our customers in China with a wider product suite and a broader network that is tailored to their financial needs."

In the afternoon, Mr Zhang completed the procedure of opening a RMB fixed deposit account in Standard Chartered's Beijing branch. He said, "Being a long time customer of the Bank, I am very pleased with their services and have been longing to deposit my money in a reputable international bank with excellent services like Standard Chartered."

The Bank's Shenzhen branch also welcomed the first RMB deposit customer. Mr Liu, the local customer, said, "Standard Chartered is a Bank that I trust. That is why I

contacted my Relationship manager immediately after I learned that Standard Chartered could accept RMB deposit. This Bank provides good services. The procedure of setting up the fixed deposit account is very smooth. I am very pleased."

The tenures of the RMB 1 million deposit service at Standard Chartered Bank including 3 months, 6 months, 1 year, 2 years, 3 years and 5 years at the interest rates set by the People's Bank of China.

Standard Chartered Bank will offer RMB deposit service in others cities including Shanghai, Nanjing, Xiamen and Zhuhai in the near future.

- End -

For further information please contact:

Eva Chow, Head of Corporate Communications, China

Tel: 021 3896 3198

Notes to the Editor:

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 Hong Kong Stock Exchange 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 operates in many of the world's fastest-growing markets with an extensive global network of over 1,400 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 60,000 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 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, and 2006 “Outstanding Innovative Service Award” by China Business. It has one of the largest foreign bank networks – with eleven branches, 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