

press release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

13 Aug, 2007

Standard Chartered Bank (China) launches Bancassurance business

(Beijing, 13th Aug, 2007) Standard Chartered Bank (China) Limited today announced the launch of Bancassurance (Banca) business. The first batch of Banca products, which are introduced for the Bank's customers in Beijing and Shenzhen, includes Annuity Endowment and Whole Life Investment-Linked insurance plans.

Standard Chartered Bank is dedicated to introduce the advanced concept of Wealth Management into the China market, which is designed as “create—grow—protect”. Protection is the foundation for customers when creating and growing wealth. The launch of Banca not only extends the financial products portfolio, but also complements the “protection” segment of our service framework. Combined with other product offerings, customers of the Bank will be able to access more diversified and integrated one-stop financial investment solutions.

Recently, Standard Chartered jointly conducted a research with Fudan University, on the subject of “Middle Class Retirement Planning in China“. The research findings reflected a lack of awareness of the importance of retirement planning, as well as knowledge of how to build a nest egg. In its commitment to meet customers' needs, the Standard Chartered Bank Wealth Management team has

selectively introduced 2 Banca products, namely – “Fu Xiang Wei Lai” & “Jin Yu Liang Yuan” underwritten by Citic–Prudential.

Christine Ip, Country head of consumer banking, Standard Chartered Bank (China) Limited, said,

“The launch of Bancassurance represents a significant moment for Standard Chartered Bank (China) Limited, as it complements the service philosophy of Wealth management: ‘create—grow—protect’. In addition to the enhanced diversity of products available to our retail customers, Bancassurance will also become an important element for our growth in China. Leveraging on our global expertise in Bancassurance and local market understanding, we believe that we will be able to provide premier financial solutions tailored to our customers.”

With an accumulated 10 years experience, Standard Chartered Bank is leading the way in Banca business by offering Banca products across more than 27 countries, partnering with International Insurance providers such as Prudential & Allianz. According to experience in mature markets (e.g. Hong Kong), Banca business contributes to nearly 20% of income in intermediary services. Standard Chartered Bank is looking forward to capturing the market potential in China by actively developing products and building partnership relationships with related stakeholders in this sector.

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Note 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 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 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 almost 60,000 people, representing over 100 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. Standard Chartered Bank (China) Limited is one of the first banks to incorporate officially in China on 1 April, 2007.

This demonstrates the Bank's commitment to the China market, and its leading position as a foreign bank in the banking industry.

Standard Chartered China has one of the largest foreign bank networks – with 12 branches, 15 sub-branches and 3 representative offices in China. In 2006, Standard Chartered China was named the “Top Ten Most Popular Foreign Banks” by Global Financial Development Forum, the “Best Social Credible Foreign Bank” by China Finance Website and has been granted the “Outstanding Innovative Service Award” by China Business.

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