

press release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STANDARD CHARTERED TOWER MAKES ITS DEBUT IN SHANGHAI

The Bank begins a new chapter in its development in China

9 July 2008, Shanghai - Standard Chartered Bank (China) Limited ("Standard Chartered China") today celebrated the opening of Standard Chartered Tower in the Shanghai Lujiazui Finance and Trade Zone. The new building will house the Headquarters of Standard Chartered China as well as part of its Shanghai Branch operations. Both are expected to move into the building this September.

Peter Sands, Group Chief Executive of Standard Chartered PLC; the Bank's senior management, and Board Members of Standard Chartered China attended the ceremony. VIP guests including Yan Qingmin, Director General of the Shanghai Bureau of the China Banking Regulatory Commission, and Yang Xiaomin, General Manager of Shanghai Lujiazui Finance and Trade Zone Development Co. Ltd, officiated the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new building.

Peter Sands said, "As we celebrate our 150th anniversary, we are proud to open a new chapter in our Bank's history with the official work completion of Standard Chartered Tower. We are standing at the edge of a brand new horizon in the financial services industry. With our new flagship building in Shanghai, we look forward to continue to excel ourselves in providing innovative financial products and services to consumers and businesses throughout China."

Katherine Tsang, CEO and Executive Vice Chairman of Standard Chartered China, added, "Today is a very special day for all of us at Standard Chartered Bank China. With the opening of Standard Chartered Tower, we now have a home of our own. This is a milestone for Standard Chartered in China – and just one of many more to come."

Standard Chartered Tower is conveniently located in the heart of Shanghai's financial centre with easy access to numerous transportation channels. The building has adopted the personalised design and sustainable, environmentally friendly concepts utilised by Standard Chartered's office buildings worldwide. For example, the building only uses low volatility organic compounds, which are friendlier to the environment; and energy saving lighting and ventilation systems have been installed, which lower energy

consumption by 15-20% compared to traditional office buildings. The building's office system furniture also meets the Leader in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) criteria.

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Notes for editors:

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

Standard Chartered PLC, listed on both the London Stock Exchange and the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, ranks among the top 25 companies in the FTSE-100 by market capitalisation. The London-headquartered group has operated for over 150 years in some of the world's most dynamic markets, leading the way in Asia, Africa and the Middle East. Its income and the number of employees have more than doubled over the last five years primarily as a result of organic growth and supplemented by acquisitions.

Standard Chartered aspires to be the best international bank in its markets through leading by example to be the right partner for its stakeholders. The group now employs over 73,000 people, representing 115 nationalities, in more than 1,700 branches and outlets located in over 70 countries. The bank derives more than 90 per cent of its operating income and profits from Asia, Africa and the Middle East, with balanced income derived from both Wholesale and Consumer Banking.

The group is committed to building a sustainable business over the long term and is trusted worldwide for upholding high standards of corporate governance, social responsibility, environmental protection and employee diversity.

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 in 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 14 branches (*Nanchang branch to be opened*), 27 sub-branches and 2 representative offices in China. In 2008, Standard Chartered China was crowned as the Best Foreign Retail Bank in China by the Asian Banker. In 2007, Standard Chartered China was granted the "Top 10 Financial Institution Award" and the "Best SME Services Award" by China CFO World, and has been named the "China's Best Corporate Citizenship" by 21st Century Business Herald.

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