

press release

Standard Chartered China Celebrates the Opening of its Ningbo Branch

(Ningbo, 12 Apr 2010) - Standard Chartered Bank (China) Limited (“Standard Chartered China”) today celebrated the opening of its Ningbo Branch, a major step forward in the Bank’s business plans for Zhejiang province. The Ningbo branch is Standard Chartered’s first new branch in China this year, and illustrates the Bank’s commitment to grow its roots in China as well as its plans for continued ongoing investment. In 2010, Standard Chartered plans to increase employee numbers in China by approximately 20%, and, subject to regulatory approval, to expand its retail network by approximately 30%.

Lim Cheng Teck, Executive Vice Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Standard Chartered China, as well as other senior Standard Bank China executives were present to host the opening ceremony.

The new branch aims to provide corporate clients with effective, market-leading and differentiated financial services, including Cash Management services, Trade & Supply Chain Financing Solutions, Funding Solutions, and Global Markets Products. The Bank also has a special team dedicated to supporting SMEs (Small & Medium Sized Enterprises) with trade finance and cash management products, as well as providing credit facilities. For individuals, Standard Chartered Bank Ningbo Branch offers a wide suite of RMB and foreign currency banking products.

Speaking at the Ningbo Branch opening ceremony, Lim Cheng Teck, Executive Vice Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Standard Chartered China remarked, “Last month, Standard Chartered Bank announced record income and profit for the seventh consecutive year, despite ongoing volatility in the global economy. This is because we have focused on a strategy targeting fast-growing, emerging markets. Our commitment to Asia, including China, remains consistently strong. China is becoming an increasingly significant business for Standard Chartered Bank worldwide. As an international bank that has been operating in China for more than 150 years, we aim to continue to invest in China, and deepen our client

relationships. With the opening of our Ningbo Branch, we can better serve the vibrant Small and Medium Enterprise sector while helping to establish and develop trade flows. We can also provide a comprehensive range of financial products and services to our customers in Ningbo.”

Ningbo Branch is Standard Chartered’s sixteenth branch in China, and its second branch in the Zhejiang region. The Bank opened its Hangzhou Branch in March 2008.

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For further information please contact:

Eva Chow, Head of Corporate Communications, Standard Chartered China
Tel: 86 (21) 3896 3198

Note to Editors:

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

Standard Chartered PLC, listed on both London and Hong Kong stock exchanges, ranks among the top 20 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. We have produced seven years of record income and profit, primarily as a result of organic growth.

Standard Chartered aspires to be the best international bank for its customers across its markets. The Group earns around 90 per cent of its income and profits in Asia, Africa and the Middle East, from its Wholesale and Consumer Banking businesses. The Group has 1700 branches and outlets located in 70 countries. The extraordinary growth of its markets and businesses creates exciting and challenging international career opportunities.

Leading by example to be the right partner for its stakeholders, 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. It employs around 75,000 people, nearly half of whom are women. The Group's employees are of 125 nationalities, of which about 70 are represented in the senior management.

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 foreign banks to locally incorporate 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 has one of the largest foreign bank networks in China – with 16 branches, 38 sub-branches and a Village Bank. Approval for the setting up of the Huhhot branch has been granted and preparation is in progress.

In 2009, Standard Chartered China is named by the *Economic Observer* as the “Best Trade Finance Bank in China”. It also clinched the *Economic Observer's* “Best Innovation in Cash Management” award, *Global Finance's* “Best SME Lending Bank” and the *China Business New's* “Outstanding Corporate Award of 2008 Corporate Social Responsibility Ranking in China”.

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

About Ethisphere Institute

The research-based Ethisphere Institute is a leading international think tank dedicated to the creation, advancement and sharing of best practices in business ethics, corporate social responsibility, anti corruption and sustainability. The Institute's associated membership group, the Ethisphere Council, is a forum for business ethics that includes over 200 leading corporations, universities and institutions. The Ethisphere Council is dedicated to the development and advancement of individuals on its membership council through increased efficiency, innovation, tools, mentoring, advice, and unique career opportunities. Ethisphere magazine, which publishes the globally recognized World's Most Ethical Companies Ranking™, is the quarterly publication of the Institute. More information on the Ethisphere Institute, including ranking projects and membership, can be found at www.ethisphere.com.