

# press release

## **Inspirational running duo Henry Wanyoike and Joseph Kibunja back at the Standard Chartered Dubai Marathon 2014**

***Standard Chartered has been sponsoring Dubai Marathon for 10 years***

**Dubai, United Arab Emirates, 19 January 2014** – Standard Chartered announced today the return of the legendary road race duo Henry Wanyoike and Joseph Kibunja, who will be running in the 10km event at the Standard Chartered Dubai Marathon 2014 taking place on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January. The 2014 race is Standard Chartered's 10<sup>th</sup> year of sponsoring the Dubai Marathon. Visually impaired Henry, the world record holder of the 5,000m and 10,000m events at the Sydney 2000 and Athens 2004 Paralympics, and his long-time running partner and childhood friend Joseph are taking part as Goodwill Ambassadors for 'Seeing is Believing' (SiB), Standard Chartered Bank's global programme to raise USD 100 million to eliminate avoidable blindness by 2020.

Henry runs in races while being connected by a tether on the wrist to Joseph, who guides him, without breaking stride, through the obstacles, turns or when to accelerate along the route.

As 'Seeing is Believing' ambassadors, the duo will be visiting schools and some of Standard Chartered's clients across Dubai to create awareness about the programme and inspire other people with their experience. Henry and Joseph will also be visiting the Rashid Paediatric Therapy Centre to inspire children with special needs.

**Henry Wanyoike** said: "The Standard Chartered Dubai Marathon has always been a special event for us because of the enthusiasm of the local running community to be part of our advocacy. We are therefore very excited to be back in Dubai to share our stories and experiences with the growing number of supporters of the 'Seeing is Believing' programme and to ultimately enjoy the fellowship with other running enthusiasts from the UAE and all over the world."

Standard Chartered is setting up a 'Seeing is Believing' tent at the Marathon Village to create awareness about the initiative and raise funds. The booth will be manned by Standard Chartered employees who will provide visitors with information about the programme and sell SiB merchandise.

Standard Chartered has been the title sponsor for the Dubai marathon since 2005. The Bank is the title sponsor of nine marathons across four continents. The marathons characterise the five values of the Bank: Courageous, Responsive, International, Creative, Trustworthy; and further positions Standard Chartered in the market as being 'Here for good'.

Last year, a record number of runners registered for the three races at the Marathon, with the number reaching up to 24,000 and the 3km registration for the first time ever closing a week before the race. In addition to this, numerous records were set at the Marathon last year. The Standard Chartered Dubai Marathon is also the world's richest long distance running event and has been awarded Gold Label status from the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF).

More than 550 Standard Chartered employees have registered to run at the Marathon, and 160 more have signed up as volunteers.

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**Note to Editors:**

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This geographic focus and commitment to developing deep relationships with clients and customers has driven the Bank's growth in recent years. Standard Chartered PLC is listed on the London and Hong Kong stock exchanges as well as the Bombay and National Stock Exchanges in India.

With 1,700 offices in 70 markets, the Group offers exciting and challenging international career opportunities to over 88,000 staff. It is committed to building a sustainable business over the long term and upholding high standards of corporate governance, social responsibility, environmental protection and employee diversity. Standard Chartered's heritage and values are expressed in its brand promise, 'Here for good'.

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