

press release

Standard Chartered continues expansion drive in the UAE

04 June, 2008, Dubai, United Arab Emirates- Standard Chartered Bank continues its expansion journey with the opening of its new, highly spacious Branch which also incorporates a dedicated SME team, located on Maktoum Road in the Sheikha Mariam Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Building. The new branch is part of a dynamic expansion plan the Bank has embarked on to increase its distribution footprint and to be located in close proximity to its increasing customer base.

“We have been working on executing our expansion plan for the UAE and have been targeting areas and services which are more tailored to our customers needs,” said Shayne Nelson, Regional CEO of Standard Chartered Bank, MENA. “This latest branch opening follows on from the launch of our Emaar Business Park Branch with a fully dedicated mortgage centre, our dedicated SME Banking Centres in both Abu Dhabi and Dubai and more recently, the launch of the regions largest dealer trading room in our DIFC building.”

The closure of the relatively smaller Deira branch and the opening of the spacious new branch marks the Bank’s eleventh UAE branch, since it opened 50 years ago, making it the largest international operator of branches and ATMs – which has now increased to 128 - in the UAE.

Chris de Bruin, Head of Consumer Banking for Standard Chartered Bank, UAE said, “This new branch provides customers with a full range of services including increased service counters for Teller services, Account and Credit Card services; opening of current, saving and investment accounts; a fully dedicated SME team centre with 14 meeting rooms to provide business related services to one of the fastest growing business areas of the Bank, a Priority Banking Centre and a 24 hour auto lobby for ATM and CDM withdrawals and

deposits.”

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For more information, contact:

Sam Gad

Media Relations and Communications

Standard Chartered MENA

T: +971 4 508 5916

M: +971 50 900 7141

Sam.Gad@standardchartered.com

Lilian Yong-Babani

Regional Head Corporate Affairs Middle East and North Africa

Tel : +971502401273

Email : Lilian.Yong-Babani@standardchartered.com

About Standard Chartered

Standard Chartered PLC, listed on both London and Hong Kong stock exchanges, 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 profits 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 for its customers across its markets. The Bank derives more than 90 per cent of its operating income and profits from Asia, Africa and the Middle East, generated from its Wholesale and Consumer Banking businesses. The Group has over 1600 branches and outlets located in over 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 more than 70,000 people, nearly half of whom are women. The Group's employees are of 125 nationalities, of which 68 are represented among senior management.

For more information, please visit: www.standardchartered.com