

press release

Standard Chartered partners with Ministry of Education in run up to the Dubai Marathon

Bank drives vision of sport in schools

30 December, 2008, United Arab Emirates – The Ministry of Education and the UAE Athletics Federation have partnered with Standard Chartered in the run up to the Standard Chartered Dubai Marathon 2009. The move comes as both the Ministry of Education and the UAE Athletics Federation are increasing their drive to create a healthier UAE.

The Ministry of Education have sent out official letters to all schools in the UAE encouraging students to become more involved with the Standard Chartered Dubai Marathon and activities the Bank has planned in the lead up to the Dubai Marathon on Friday 16 January.

“Already a globally recognised event, our primary focus is to establish the Standard Chartered Dubai Marathon as the most sought after marathon in the world,” said Shayne Nelson Regional CEO of Standard Chartered Bank for the Middle East and North Africa. “It is our aim to create a truly family-oriented event, the first of its kind in the New Year. We have been working with the Ministry of Education and the UAE Athletics Federation to help promote sport in the UAE, help raise fitness consciousness and encourage the community to lead more healthy lifestyles.”

As part of its pre marathon schools programme, Standard Chartered, in conjunction with Stabilo, launched its annual Arts Competition encouraging students from schools across the UAE to draw their ‘Vision of Sport’ as part of the build up to the event’s 3km Charity Fun Run. All registration fees from the 3km run will be donated to ‘Seeing is Believing’, the

official charity of the Dubai Marathon and Standard Chartered's global initiative to help tackle avoidable blindness.

Congratulating the twenty winners selected from over 2000 entries, renowned local artist, Dr Najat Makki, said that she was proud to be leading the prize giving on 16 January at the Standard Chartered Dubai Marathon, "It gives me great pleasure to be part of this unique event helping young children of all abilities to express an interest in art," she said.

The twenty winners will be awarded art supplies totalling over AED10, 000 at the Standard Chartered Dubai Marathon carnival area near the start/finish line. The winning pictures will be on exhibition for two weeks at the Westin Hotel 17-31 January, 2009.

-- ends --

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