

# press release

## **Get into the swing of golf at the Standard Chartered Golf Zone**

*Bank opens mobile golf coaching on Abu Dhabi Corniche and at selected schools*

**6 January, 2009, Abu Dhabi** – Standard Chartered Bank further reinforced its commitment to initiate the Abu Dhabi community into the sport of golf by offering free golf lessons with PGA golf instructors at the Standard Chartered Golf Zone on the Abu Dhabi Corniche starting today until next Tuesday as part of the Standard Chartered Golf Coaching week. Open to all ages and abilities, the Standard Chartered Golf Zone aims to elevate the Abu Dhabi public's interest in the game in the lead up to the 2009 Abu Dhabi Golf Championship.

In addition, the Bank has offered select primary schools in Abu Dhabi the opportunity to take part in its Golf Coaching week by hosting the Golf Zone on their premises. The mobile Standard Chartered Golf Zone will visit a total of four Abu Dhabi schools in the morning, teaching golf to up to 30 students per school, then relocate on the Corniche in the afternoon from 2pm to 9pm on weekdays, and 11am to 9pm on Friday and Saturday. Schools participating in the Coaching week include Al Khubairat British School, American Community School, Al Yasat Private School, and Abu Dhabi Indian School.

“The Standard Chartered Golf Coaching Week aims to knock down the widely held perception that golf is for the privileged few and also gives everyone an opportunity to have some fun. It is a great way to involve the community, and to encourage youngster to take up golf,” said Jeremy Parrish, CEO Standard Chartered, Abu Dhabi & Al Ain. “We want to give kids a chance to try out a different kind of sport.”

Free 10-minute lessons are available to anyone aged six and above. All any parent or adult needs to do to book a session is to come by the Standard Chartered Golf Zone on the Corniche and register with one of the three golf instructors on the day. In total, the

coaching sessions will cater to over 1800 youngsters and adults, which makes it the biggest golf activity of its kind in Abu Dhabi.

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**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.

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