

press release

Standard Chartered hosts ‘Women in Leadership’ programmes in the UAE

Leading the way in gender diversity

28 July 2009, Dubai, United Arab – Standard Chartered Bank hosted two leadership programmes this month for talented female employees from the Middle East and Africa. Following feedback from the Bank’s 2007 Global Women’s Forum in Dubai, the Women in Leadership programme for high-performing women at middle management level was piloted in 2008 in London. The three day workshops were designed to support women’s advancement to leadership roles by providing participants with the tools and support to help them realise their potential. The programme comprised of several topics, including gender differences in the workplace, work-life balance and personal effectiveness.

The Women in Leadership programmes are co-sponsored by the Bank’s Group Women’s Council and the respective regional Chief Executives. Shayne Nelson, Regional Chief Executive, Standard Chartered MENA commented, “Standard Chartered’s ambition is to lead the way through Diversity and Inclusion. Diversity is critical to the success of our business as we strive to attract, develop and retain the very best talent. With over 70,000 employees representing 125 nationalities, diversity is a natural strength for us.”

Joanna Fielding, CFO, Standard Chartered Bank China and Chair, Group Women’s Council, added, “The Bank currently has over 20% women at senior management level. To continue to increase female representation, we have

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launched a number of initiatives, including the Women in Leadership programmes as well as women's networks, mentoring and flexible working arrangements. These programmes are an opportunity to inspire our female talent to take their careers to new heights."

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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.

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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