

# press release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Standard Chartered Forum 2012 held in Dubai

### *Bank's economists provide outlook and insight on global and regional economy*

UAE, 15 May, 2012 - Standard Chartered today hosted its annual Forum in Dubai. The event was held at Madinat Jumeirah and attended by more than 400 of the Bank's clients and senior management. This year, the Forum was held under the title, "**The New Normal: Markets Emerging in the Super-Cycle**". The annual event is held exclusively for Standard Chartered's clients, with a cohesive programme that provides valuable insight, outlook and commentary.

On the sidelines of the forum, the Bank held an economist briefing for the media on the global, regional and local economies. The media briefing was hosted by Standard Chartered's Economists, Philippe Dauba-Pantanacce, Senior Economist for the Middle East and North Africa, David Mann, Regional Head of Research for the Americas and Sarah Hewin, Regional Head of Research for the UK and Europe.

V. Shankar, Group Executive Director and CEO for Europe, Middle East, Africa and Americas at Standard Chartered Bank delivered the opening speech at the forum and highlighted the emerging opportunities and challenges for the region in the aftermath of the Arab Spring.

**Dan Azzi, Co-Head of Wholesale Banking, Middle East, North Africa and Pakistan, Standard Chartered, added:**

"As an international bank, we always strive to provide our clients with insights and outlook that assist them in making informed decisions when managing their local or cross border business. Given our deep knowledge of the emerging markets, this forum is an ideal

platform to discuss the latest trends, developments and current affairs that are giving emerging economies the edge over the developed markets. ”

Niall Ferguson, the renowned historian, author and professor at Harvard University and Harvard Business School participated in a debate alongside Dr. Gerard Lyons, Global Head of Research at Standard Chartered, in which they discussed the current socio-economic and political climate.

Standard Chartered has operated in the Middle East for over 90 years. Out of its regional head office which is based in the Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC), the Bank runs the largest trading floor in the Middle East region with 200 seats and is an active player in developing an Arab talent pool capable of leading the bank and the industry in general.

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**Note to editors:**

#### **Standard Chartered – leading the way in Asia, Africa and the Middle East**

Standard Chartered PLC is a leading international bank, listed on the London, Hong Kong and Mumbai stock exchanges. It has operated for over 150 years in some of the world's most dynamic markets and earns around 90 per cent of its income and profits in Asia, Africa and the Middle East. This geographic focus and commitment to developing deep relationships with clients and customers has driven the Bank's growth in recent years.

With 1,700 offices in 70 markets, Standard Chartered offers exciting and challenging international career opportunities for more than 87,000 staff. It 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. The Bank's heritage and values are expressed in its brand promise, 'Here for good'.

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