

press release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

8 September 2006

STANDARD CHARTERED BANK LAUNCHES ITS ZHONG GUAN CUN SUB-BRANCH AS WELL AS EXCEL BANKING FOREX CHAMPIONSHIP

(Beijing: 8 September, 2006) Standard Chartered Bank today celebrated the opening of its Zhong Guan Cun Sub-Branch in Beijing. It further strengthens the Bank's network in the consumer banking market in China. On the same day, the Bank also announced the launch of "Excel Banking Forex Championship".

The new sub-branch is the second sub-branch of Standard Chartered Bank in Beijing. It is located at Zhong Guan Cun-the centre of many up-in-coming industries-with many elites, business executives and young talents working there. The Zhong Guan Cun Sub-branch provides a full range of consumer banking services including foreign currency service to mainland Chinese citizens as well as Yuan and foreign currency services to foreigners. It also provides comprehensive financial services to SME customers.

Priority Banking Centre in Zhong Guan Cun Sub-branch is the sixth of such centres opened this year. It brings to individual customers new wealth management philosophy as well as products and investment proposals tailored to their needs. Our dedicated Customer Relationship Managers have a good

understanding of our customers' needs and are able to provide comprehensive, tailor-made investment proposals. They are most experienced and well-qualified to live up to the mission of Priority Banking - to plan, build and protect the customers' wealth.

On the same day, the Bank is also launching the national "Excel Banking Forex Championship". It provides young professionals and executives with information about overseas education-particularly that related to the top European universities-so that they can plan for their further education and realise their career aspirations. "Excel Banking" was launched by Standard Chartered Bank in Shanghai last month, and is designed to provide young professionals and executives with all-rounded investment products, an efficient service platform, latest information, and exclusive lifestyle privileges. The aim is to help young elites realise their life goals by accelerating their wealth accumulation at a pace that they are comfortable with.

All qualified participants will be entitled to:

- Periodic overseas education snippets delivered via SMS;
- Invitation to "2006 Overseas Education and Banking Services Seminar" jointly presented by Standard Chartered and leading educational agencies in Beijing, Shanghai and Shenzhen; and
- "Overseas Education Guide" compiled by Standard Chartered and leading educational agencies

The "Excel Banking Forex Championship" is tied-in with the Bank's new "Target Deposit" time deposit product. "Target Deposit" offers:

- A higher interest rate: As compared to that for conventional time deposits.
- Unlimited flexibility: Early uplift/withdrawal is allowed at any time.
- Superior uplift/withdrawal interest: After three months, an interest rate in proportion to the age of the deposit, and yet more attractive than the savings rate will be offered.

Standard Chartered Bank has 11 branches (Qingdao to be opened soon), 6 sub-branches and 3 representative offices in 14 cities of China. The Bank now has 11 branches and sub-branches providing consumer banking services with 9 of them offering Priority Banking services. Priority Banking Centre in Zhong Guan Cun Sub-Branch is the ninth one. The other eight are located in Shanghai (two), Beijing (two), Tianjin (one), Shenzhen (two) and Guangzhou (one).

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

Standard Chartered PLC is listed on both the London Stock Exchange and the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong and is consistently ranked in the top 25 among FTSE-100 companies by market capitalisation.

Standard Chartered has a history of over 150 years in banking and is in many of the world's fastest-growing markets with an extensive global network of over 1,200 branches (including subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures) in over 50 countries in the Asia Pacific Region, South Asia, the Middle East, Africa, the United Kingdom and the Americas.

As one of the world's most international banks, Standard Chartered employs almost 50,000 people, representing over 90 nationalities, worldwide. This diversity lies at the heart of the Bank's values and supports the Bank's growth as the world increasingly becomes one market.

With strong organic growth supported by strategic alliances and acquisitions and driven by its strengths in the balance and diversity of its business, products,

geography and people, Standard Chartered is well positioned in the emerging trade corridors of Asia, Africa and the Middle East.

Standard Chartered uniquely derives over 90 per cent of profits from Asia, Africa and the Middle East. Serving both Consumer and Wholesale Banking customers worldwide, the Bank combines deep local knowledge with global capability to offer a wide range of innovative products and services as well as award-winning solutions.

Trusted across its network for its standard of governance and corporate responsibility, Standard Chartered takes a long term view of the consequences of its actions to ensure that the Bank builds a sustainable business through social inclusion, environmental protection and good governance.

Standard Chartered is also committed to all its stakeholders by living its values in its approach towards managing its people, exceeding expectations of its customers, making a difference in communities and working with regulators.

In China, the Bank set up its first branch in Shanghai in 1858, and has remained in operation throughout the past 150 years. Recently, Standard Chartered Bank has been named as “2005 Best Foreign Bank” by Hexun Web. It has one of the largest foreign bank networks – with eleven branches (Qingdao to be opened soon), six sub-branches and three representative offices in China. There are altogether 7 branches in China that can provide full banking services including RMB to corporate clients (namely Shanghai, Shenzhen, Beijing, Nanjing, Xiamen, Zhuhai and Tianjin).

For more information on Standard Chartered, please log on to
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