

press release

Standard Chartered takes home an unprecedented haul at The Banker Awards

London, 1 December 2006 – Standard Chartered has won an unprecedented total of 10 awards at the Banker Awards 2006 – including the top award for Global Bank of the Year.

The Global Bank of the Year award recognises Standard Chartered's performance in its regions of Asia, Africa and the Middle East and the Bank's "prudent acquisition strategy". Standard Chartered's acquisitions include SC First Bank in Korea (2005) and Union Bank in Pakistan and Hsinchu International Bank in Taiwan (2006).

Standard Chartered also won two key regional awards (Asia Pacific and Africa), six country awards and the award for Best CSR (Corporate and Social Responsibility) Bank. The country awards were for best bank in Afghanistan, Botswana, Cote d'Ivoire, Gambia, Kenya and Sierra Leone.

Quote from Standard Chartered's Chief Executive, Peter Sands:

"I would like to thank our employees for their hard work and our customers for allowing us to serve them. The awards presented to us by The Banker recognise the progress we have made towards our strategic intent to be the world's best international bank, leading the way in Asia, Africa and the Middle East."

Quotes from Standard Chartered's Chairman, Mervyn Davies:

Global Bank of the Year

"Standard Chartered's strategic intent is to be the world's best international bank, leading the way in Asia, Africa and the Middle East.

Through strong organic growth and disciplined acquisitions, the scale of Standard Chartered has been transformed in recent years. We are proud that The Banker has recognised our progress by making us Global Bank of the Year.

The Bank has kept a clear focus on its key regions while increasing its diversity to deliver consistent performance. We have built a more balanced spread of geographies and a broader range of services in Consumer and Wholesale Banking.

An additional source of diversity for us is the range of nationalities and talents among our employees. We believe leading businesses will distinguish themselves through their international understanding and their talented workforces.

In receiving this award, I would like to thank our employees for their hard work and our customers for allowing us to serve them.”

Best Regional Bank in Asia Pacific

“Standard Chartered’s roots are in Asia and we so we are delighted to have won Asia Pacific Bank of the Year as the region helps to power the world economy.

Asia’s fast-growing economies present huge opportunities and we have strengthened our position in key markets through acquisitions in the past year.

We bought Hsinchu International Bank in Taiwan in 2006 to tap into growing North East Asian trade flows. The transaction followed our acquisition of SC First Bank in Korea in 2005, and we are now one of the biggest international banks in North East Asia.

We also acquired Union Bank in Pakistan and increased our stake in PT Bank Permata in Indonesia.

We achieved strong organic growth in Asia's emerging powerhouses of China and India, and we are excited by opportunities in economies such as Malaysia and Thailand as trade increases within Asia and between Asia and our other markets. It is an exciting time to be a leading bank in Asia."

Best Regional Bank in Africa

"Africa is an important part of Standard Chartered's history and future and is a diverse continent. Many of its economies, such as Nigeria and Botswana, are experiencing strong economic growth and are being transformed by high commodity and energy prices.

The strengthening trade links between Asia, particularly China, and Africa have received much attention in 2006. As the only international bank with strong presences in both Asia and Africa, we are helping to fund this growing trade activity, and so it is particularly pleasing that we have won these awards at this time.

Africa still faces huge challenges, and being a leading bank in Africa means more than running a successful business. We are supporting communities through our global campaigns to combat avoidable blindness, HIV/AIDS and Malaria as well as deploying our people and expertise to encourage sustainable development."

The full list of awards won by Standard Chartered:

1. Global Bank of the Year Award
2. Best Regional Bank in Africa
3. Best Regional Bank in Asia Pacific
4. Best CSR Bank Award
5. Best Bank in Afghanistan
6. Best Bank in Botswana
7. Best Bank in Kenya
8. Best Bank in Sierra Leone
9. Best Bank in Gambia
10. Best Bank in Cote d'Ivoire

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For more information or interview opportunities, please contact:

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About 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 Hong Kong Stock Exchange 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 operates in many of the world's fastest-growing markets with an extensive global network of over 1,400 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 60,000 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 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.

For more information on Standard Chartered, please log on to www.standardchartered.com

About the Banker

The Banker was established in 1926 and has become the premier magazine and acknowledged journal of record for the world's investment, retail and commercial banking sectors. Published on a monthly basis, the title offers an unrivalled combination of authoritative news, features, surveys and heavyweight interviews.

The Banker is a vociferous advocate of best practice within the banking sector and actively promotes innovation through industry awards. The Bank of the Year Awards is the most respected in the global banking community.