

STANDARD CHARTERED PLC RESULTS FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED 30 JUNE 2007 HIGHLIGHTS

Reported Results

- Operating income up 28 per cent to \$5,263 million from \$4,112 million in H1 2006 (H2 2006: \$4,508 million)
- Profit before taxation up 30 per cent to \$1,980 million, compared with \$1,527 million in H1 2006 (H2 2006: \$1,651 million)
- Profit attributable to ordinary shareholders* up 26 per cent to \$1,370 million, compared to \$1,088 million in H1 2006 (H2 2006: \$1,165 million)
- Total assets up 25 per cent to \$297 billion from \$238 billion at H1 2006 (H2 2006: \$266 billion)

Performance Metrics**

- Normalised earnings per share up 19.7 per cent at 100.7 cents from 84.1 cents in H1 2006 (H2 2006: 87.3 cents)
- Normalised return on ordinary shareholders' equity of 16.7 per cent (H1 2006: 17.9 per cent, H2 2006: 16.2 per cent)
- Interim dividend per share increased 11 per cent to 23.12 cents
- Normalised cost income ratio of 54.7 per cent (H1 2006: 53.6 per cent, H2 2006: 56.6 per cent)
- Total capital ratio at 15.6 per cent (H1 2006: 14.2 per cent, H2 2006: 14.3 per cent)

Significant achievements

- Record Profit before taxation of \$1,980 million, an increase of 30 per cent on H1 2006
- Two powerful engines of growth: Consumer Banking and Wholesale Banking each contributed over \$570 million incremental income in the first half
- Undertaken substantial investments for future growth while delivering excellent earnings per share growth of 19.7 per cent
- Incorporated our business in China
- Launched The Standard Chartered Private Bank in six new markets
- Integrated our new acquisitions in Taiwan and Pakistan ahead of schedule, providing substantial new engines of growth

Commenting on these results, the Chairman of Standard Chartered PLC, Mervyn Davies, said:

“Over the last few years we have consistently produced record results while building a strong foundation for growth. Today we are seeing the rewards of a balanced and diverse business, leading the way in the dynamic markets of Asia, Africa and the Middle East. We have had an excellent first half performance and are keeping up the pace.”

With reference to the Bank's performance in China, Peter Sands, Group Chief Executive, Standard Chartered Bank, said at the press conference today:

“Income and profits are growing rapidly. In the first half of 2007, our China business more than doubled income. We are on track with our branch expansion, with 30 locations in 15 cities, and still plan to have about 40 locations by year end, subject to the regulatory approvals.

“To support such growth we are investing in people and infrastructure. We began the year with about 2,100 staff in China, and expect to end the year with more than 3,500. Recently, we opened our operations hub in Tianjin. We want to ensure that right from the start we build a scaleable, efficient systems and operations infrastructure to support our business as it grows.

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“We are also making the most of our international network. Helping China’s leading corporates as they seek to expand internationally – for example, in Africa – and working with companies from other parts of Asia – such as Korea and Taiwan – as they build their businesses in China.

“Standard Chartered is now distinctively placed across Greater China, being strongly positioned in Hong Kong and Taiwan as well as China itself. We are superbly positioned to take advantage of the trade and investment dynamics across the region such as the accelerating convergence of Hong Kong with the rest of the Pearl River Delta and the massive investment flows between Taiwan and the mainland.”

- * Profit attributable to ordinary shareholders is after the deduction of dividends payable to the holders of the non-cumulative redeemable preference shares (see note 6 on page 46).
- ** Results on a normalised basis reflect the results of Standard Chartered PLC and its subsidiaries (the “Group”) excluding items presented in note 7 on page 47.

Standard Chartered PLC – Stock Code: 2888

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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 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 56 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 60,000 people, representing over 100 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.

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In China, the Bank set up its first branch in Shanghai in 1858, and has remained in operation throughout the past 150 years. Standard Chartered Bank (China) Limited is one of the first banks to incorporate officially in China on 1 April, 2007. This demonstrates the Bank's commitment to the China market, and its leading position as a foreign bank in the banking industry.

Standard Chartered China has one of the largest foreign bank networks – with 12 branches, 15 sub-branches and 3 representative offices in China. In 2006, Standard Chartered China was named the “Top Ten Most Popular Foreign Banks” by Global Financial Development Forum, the “Best Social Credible Foreign Bank” by China Finance Website and has been granted the “Outstanding Innovative Service Award” by China Business.

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