

press release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

23 August 2007

STANDARD CHARTERED BANK CELEBRATES THE OPENING OF ITS CHONGQING BRANCH

*Offering foreign currency banking services to corporate and individual customers
Another significant step forward for the Bank's development in Western China*

(Chongqing, 23 August 2007) Standard Chartered Bank today celebrated the opening of its Chongqing Branch, which represents a significant step forward for the Bank's expansion in Western China. Katherine Tsang, CEO of Standard Chartered Bank (China) Limited, together with Lord Adair Turner, Non Executive Director of Standard Chartered Bank, officiated the opening ceremony.

Standard Chartered Bank's Chongqing branch is approved to provide foreign currency banking services for foreign-invested enterprises (including Hong Kong, Taiwan and Macao-based enterprises) and domestic corporates, as well as foreign nationals and local residents.

The new branch targets to provide corporate clients with effective, market-leading and differentiated financial services, including Cash Management services, Trade & Supply Chain Financing Solutions, Funding Solutions, and Global Markets products. The Bank also has a speciality team to support SMEs (Small & Medium Sized Enterprises) with trade finance and cash management products, as well as providing credit facilities. For individuals, Standard Chartered Bank Chongqing Branch offers a wide suite of foreign currency banking products.

Katherine Tsang, CEO of Standard Chartered Bank (China) Limited, said: “Not only is Chongqing one of the China’s biggest municipalities, it is also one of the largest cities in the world. The current rate of economic growth in the region has attracted more and more companies and individuals to this dynamic western city. With the opening of the Chongqing Branch, Standard Chartered China is set to delight customers in the region with our world-class banking products and services.

On the exciting moment of Chongqing celebrating the 10th anniversary of being a municipality directly under the central government, we are proud to announce the establishment of our Branch in the city. We look forward to contributing to the development of the local community. This move is an important step for Standard Chartered in China, and it is a part of our commitment to the government’s ‘Developing the Western Region’ strategies.”

Chongqing Branch is Standard Chartered’s twelfth branch in China and the second branch in the Western China.

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Note to editors:

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.

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