

press release

For Immediate Release

Standard Chartered Bank Launches 4th Annual “A Legend of the Future- China’s Leading Enterprises of Tomorrow Award”

(10 June 2009, Beijing) – Standard Chartered Bank (China) Limited (“Standard Chartered China”) today announced the launch of the 4th “A Legend of the Future-China’s Leading Enterprises of Tomorrow Award” (“SME Awards”). Against the backdrop of the global financial tsunami, the 4th SME Award aims to help Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) ride out the financial storm and thrive despite the adverse economic environment.

The SME Awards are organized by Standard Chartered China, and specially supported by the SME Department of the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT). This year, the organizers will host a series of SME Forums in Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, Chengdu and Qingdao - awarding five Grand Awards for businesses that best demonstrate each of Standard Chartered Bank's five core values: Creative, Responsive, International, Courageous and Trustworthy. Award winners will be invited to attend a specially-arranged trade and networking mission to Taipei - helping them take full advantage of closer cross-strait economic and trade relations to expand business development.

Madam Di Na, General Director, SME Department, MIIT said, “SMEs in China need support from all sectors in order to face the challenges ahead, including a decline in overseas demand and the pressure to upgrade industrial infrastructure. We are very pleased to see Standard Chartered China's commitment to support the development of the SME sector. The SME Awards, which Standard Chartered has organized for the past four years, is helping to set the benchmark for the sustainable development of SMEs. With this strong show of support from all sectors, I believe SMEs in China will certainly be able to overcome the current challenges and blossom out onto a broader stage.”

Katherine Tsang, CEO and Executive Vice Chairman, Standard Chartered China, said, "As an international bank with a long-term commitment to the China market and rich experience in SME banking, Standard Chartered can fully leverage on our global networks to strengthen SME exchanges between countries and regions - allowing us to explore new opportunities arising from these challenging times. This year, closer trade ties across the Straits have created a new exchange platform, which I believe will become one of the highlights of the SME Awards."

Standard Chartered China launched the SME Awards in 2006 to support China's "SME Growth Project" - promoting the healthy and sustainable development of SMEs in China. Over the past three years, the highly successful SME Awards have attracted thousands of entries, issued over a hundred "Certificates of Excellence", and awarded more than thirty "Leading Enterprises of Tomorrow" with business-building exchange tours to Hong Kong.

--- ENDS ---

For further information please contact:

Eva Chow, Head of Corporate Communications, 86-21-3896 3198

Jessica Liu, Corporate Affairs Manager, 86-21-3851 8670

Note to Editors:

About Standard Chartered

Standard Chartered PLC, listed on both London and Hong Kong stock exchanges, ranks among the top 25 companies in the FTSE-100 by market capitalisation. The London-headquartered Group has operated for over 150 years in some of the world's most dynamic markets, leading the way in Asia, Africa and the Middle East. Its income and profits have more than doubled over the last five years primarily as a result of organic growth and supplemented by acquisitions.

Standard Chartered aspires to be the best international bank for its customers across its markets. The Bank derives more than 90 per cent of its operating income and profits from Asia, Africa and the Middle East, generated from its Wholesale and Consumer Banking businesses. The Group has around 1,600 branches and outlets located in over 70 countries. The extraordinary growth of its markets and businesses creates exciting and challenging international career opportunities.

Leading by example to be the right partner for its stakeholders, the Group 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. It employs 70,000 people, nearly half of whom are women. The Group's employees are of 125 nationalities, of which 70 are represented among senior management.

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 foreign banks to locally incorporate in China in 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 has one of the largest foreign bank networks – with 15 branches, 37 sub-branches, 1 representative office and a Village Bank in China. In 2008, Standard Chartered China clinched the Asian Banker's Best Foreign Retail Bank in China Award, and the "Outstanding Corporate Award of 2008 Corporate Social Responsibility Ranking in China" by China Business Network.

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