

press release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STANDARD CHARTERED BANK LAUNCHES NEW SIGHT SAVING PROJECT IN DALIAN, CHINA

Establish a paediatric eye care centre in Dalian He Eye Hospital through Seeing is Believing Phase IV

13 September 2009, Dalian – Standard Chartered Bank (China) Limited (“Standard Chartered China”) today announced the launch of the newest “Seeing is Believing” sight saving project in China – establishing a Paediatric Eye Care Centre in Dalian He Eye Hospital to serve Northeast China.

Seeing is Believing is Standard Chartered Bank’s global initiative to tackle avoidable blindness. The new 3-year project in Dalian, a collaboration between Standard Chartered China, ORBIS International and its partner hospital, He Eye Hospital, aims to increase the availability of quality paediatric eye care and the coverage of quality cataract services in Dalian City and surrounding areas in Northeast China.

Lim Cheng Teck, Executive Vice Chairman, Standard Chartered China, said, “Seeing is Believing is a concrete example of Standard Chartered’s’ long-term commitment to our markets and how we are the right partner to our communities. By helping tackle avoidable blindness, a key health and economic issue in our markets, we are committed to be a force for good and building a sustainable business in China for the past 151 years and many years onward.”

Dr. Wei He, Chairman of He Eye Care System said “We are happy to partner with Standard Chartered and ORBIS again following our successful partnership in the Shen Yang project in 2004. We’ll continue to enhance and contribute our ophthalmic technology, expertise and network to serve the communities in Northeast China.”

Based on estimation, about 300,000 children in Dalian suffer from visual problems with 44% of them are impacted by refractive error. There is still a lot of room to increase the professional eye screening services, prevention and medical intervention.

Paul Forrest, Director, Global Development of ORBIS International commented “We are deeply grateful to Standard Chartered Bank for their commitment to the prevention and treatment of blindness. Through the Seeing is Believing initiative, millions of people are receiving vital eye care and lives are being transformed beyond measure. We are proud to partner with the Bank in developing eye care services in China and are thankful to have had their generous support of our sight saving work since 1992.”

Since 2003, Seeing is Believing has raised over USD 17 million and is on course to impact over 11 million people across 20 countries including China by 2010. Its latest commitment is to half raise and half match a further USD 20 million to develop comprehensive, sustainable eye care services for 20 million people in the underprivileged areas of 20 cities across the world over the next five years. Seeing is Believing works in collaboration with International Agency for Prevention of Blindness (IAPB), the co-founder along with World Health Organisation of ‘VISION 2020: The Right to Sight’ the campaign to eradicate avoidable blindness.

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For further information please contact:

Christy Chan
Corporate Affairs Manager
Tel: 86-21-3896 3646
Email: Christy-Sze.Chan@sc.com

Note to Editors:

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

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.

Standard Chartered aspires to be the best international bank for its customers across its markets. The Group earns around 90 per cent of its income and profits in Asia, Africa and the Middle East, from its Wholesale and Consumer Banking businesses. The Group has over 1600 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 around 70,000 people, nearly half of whom are women. The Group's employees are of 125 nationalities, of which about 70 are represented in the 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 (*Approval for the Huhhot branch has been granted and preparation is in progress*), 37 sub-branches, 1 representative office (*Approval for the Ningbo representative office to upgrade to a branch has been granted and preparation is in progress*) 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

About Seeing is Believing (SiB)

Seeing is Believing (SiB) is a global initiative to help tackle avoidable blindness, and is a collaboration between Standard Chartered and the International Agency for Prevention of Blindness (IAPB) (registered charity, No. 1100559). IAPB is the leading umbrella organisation for NGOs working in the field of eye care. Together with the World Health Organisation, it launched 'Vision 2020: The Right to Sight', a global campaign to eliminate avoidable blindness by 2020.

To date, Seeing is Believing has raised over USD 17 million for blindness initiatives and plans to invest a further USD 20 million by 2014. Seeing is Believing is the single largest contributor to the development of Vision 2020 programmes through IAPB.

For more information, visit www.seeingisbelieving.org.uk

About ORBIS International

ORBIS International is a non-profit global development organization dedicated to saving sight worldwide, to making comprehensive eye care service available to people all over the world and to enabling eye patients to receive treatment in time in order to prevent avoidable blindness. With joint efforts of ORIBS volunteer aviators and eye care professionals, the refurbished DC-10 jet aircraft, ORBIS Flying Eye Hospital give the gift of sight and hope to developing countries around the world.

Since 1982, ORBIS International has implemented over 1,000 sight-saving projects including Flying Eye Hospital projects in 86 countries, to provide ways of preventing, controlling and treating avoidable blindness to people with different culture and background.

In China, ORBIS is the major partner organization of Standard Chartered for Seeing is Believing.

To learn more about ORBIS, please visit www.orbis.org.cn

About Dalian He Eye Hospital

He Eye Hospital Dalian, established in June 2002, is the 2nd ophthalmology specialized hospital launched in Liaoning Province by He Eye Hospital. He Eye Hospital is the largest public-focused eye hospital in northeast area dedicated to delivering comprehensive eye care services to enable every individual have the right to sight. The hospital creates a large-volume, high-quality, low-cost and sustainable eye care system, which suitable to China's conditions, and it offers a feasible model for Chinese blindness prevention. He Eye Hospital is a member of the National Technology Guiding Committee of Blindness Prevention, China, the location of Liaoning Provincial VISION 2020 office and Liaoning Provincial Designated Cataract Barrier-free Hospital. Professor He Wei is the Co-chair of Western Pacific Region, IAPB.

He Eye Hospital Dalian is an initiative project for students returning back China from overseas, supported by the Department of Science of Liaoning. The hospital is based on the He Eye Hospital's philosophy of contributions to society, trusted by patients, progress in unity, southern Liaoning as the foothold, and tries all efforts to provide patients with proper and comprehensive eye care services.