

press release

Standard Chartered Bank China Gets Approval as China Bond Market Maker

(19 January 2010, Shanghai) Standard Chartered Bank (China) Limited has received regulatory approval to act as Market Maker in China's National Interbank Bond market, one of the few foreign banks to achieve the status.

Standard Chartered Bank (China) Limited has already obtained the qualification as Ministry of Finance China Government Bond Underwriter, as well as Primary Dealer for PBOC's Open Market Operations. With this new role, the bank can become an even more important market player, and contribute to the development of Capital Markets in China.

Standard Chartered Bank is also proud to be selected as an "Excellent Bond Proprietary Trading Settlement Member in 2009" by the China Government Securities Depository Trust & Clearing Co Ltd, affirming its capabilities and active role in the fast growing China bond market.

John Tan, Head of Global Markets, Standard Chartered Bank (China) Limited, commented,

"China is a key market for Standard Chartered Bank and we are very pleased to be elected as a Bond Market Maker. It demonstrates our strong trading capabilities as well as our commitment to the development of the bond market in China. Leveraging on our international financial markets knowledge and our local product expertise, we are committed to provide world class financial services to our clients. We will work closely with the Chinese government and support its efforts in the development of the financial markets."

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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 in China – with 15 branches, 37 sub-branches, one representative office and a Village Bank. Approvals for the setting up of the Ningbo and Huhhot branches have been granted and preparation is in progress.

In 2009, Standard Chartered China is named by the *Economic Observer* as the "Best Trade Finance Bank in China". It also clinched the *Economic Observer's* "Best Innovation in Cash Management" award, *Global Finance's* "Best SME Lending Bank" and the *China Business New's* "Outstanding Corporate Award of 2008 Corporate Social Responsibility Ranking in China".

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