

**For Immediate Release**

**Standard Chartered to hold its Board of Directors Meeting in Beijing**

*The Bank is well positioned to tap China's huge opportunities  
Continues to expand franchise- New Xian Branch receives approval*

**01NOV2010, Beijing, China** - Standard Chartered PLC, the leading international bank in Asia, Africa and Middle East, announced that the Bank will host its Board of Directors Meeting in Beijing on 02-03NOV2010. Led by John Peace, Chairman of Standard Chartered Group, more than 20 Board members along with group management committee members will gather in Beijing.

The Board is holding one of its two overseas board meeting in Beijing, China, reflecting the strategic importance of China to the Group. Moreover, holding the Board of Directors Meeting in China's capital showcases the centrality of China to Standard Chartered China's business, its long term growth strategy and ambitions. After the meeting, the Board members will visit different cities across China where Standard Chartered operates to see the Bank's vision in action.

John Peace, Chairman of Standard Chartered said: "China is a strategically important market for the Group. We believe China's economic powerhouse will continue to drive the economic growth of Greater China and the rest of Asia in the next decade and beyond. Our continued investment in building our network franchise here has already generated robust earnings and we are well positioned to sustain that growth by further developing our domestic Chinese business and enhancing the external linkages throughout the region and across our broader network."

Lim Cheng Teck, Executive Vice Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Standard Chartered China commented: "We are very pleased to have our Board of Directors meet in China this year. Our business in China is growing well and we will continue to invest in our franchise here. We have just received the approval to set up a new branch in Xian, Shanxi Province, which will be our 62<sup>nd</sup> outlet in China."

One important programme of the Board meeting is a bilateral meeting between senior executives from Agricultural Bank of China and the Standard Chartered. Early this year, Standard Chartered formed a strategic partnership with the Agricultural Bank of China and became a cornerstone investor in their initial public offering in Hong Kong, demonstrating its continued commitment in China. Two banks have further solidified their partnership by forming specific task forces to drive joint co-operations in many business areas such as trade corridors, village banking, and SME financing.

Standard Chartered is the oldest foreign bank in China. The Bank established its first branch in Shanghai in 1858, and has maintained continuous operations in China ever since. In 2007, Standard Chartered China was amongst the first foreign banks to incorporate locally. The Bank currently employs approximately 5,000 staff and operates 60 outlets in China. In addition to the announcing the approval of the new Xian branch, the Bank is preparing the establishment of a branch in Wuhan, the capital of Hubei Province.

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**Note to Editors:**

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

Standard Chartered PLC is a leading international bank, listed on the London, Hong Kong and Mumbai stock exchanges. It has operated for over 150 years in some of the world's most dynamic markets and earns around 90 per cent of its income and profits in Asia, Africa and the Middle East. This geographic focus and commitment to developing deep relationships with clients and customers has driven the Bank's growth in recent years.

With 1,700 offices in 70 markets, Standard Chartered offers exciting and challenging international career opportunities for its 80,000 staff. It 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. The Bank's heritage and values are expressed in its brand promise, 'Here for good'.

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 17 branches, 42 sub-branches and 1 Village Bank. Approval for the setting up of the Wuhan branch and Xian branch has 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 News'* "Outstanding Corporate Award of 2008 Corporate Social Responsibility Ranking in China".

For more information on Standard Chartered, please log on [www.standardchartered.com](http://www.standardchartered.com)