

press release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Standard Chartered Bank Holds Cataract Surgery for Bandung Community

The Bank has performed more than 3,400 free cataract surgeries since 2008

BANDUNG, 28 May 2011 - Standard Chartered Bank Indonesia, Bandung branch today performed free cataract surgeries for a number of patients from Bandung and Tasik in Eye Hospital Cicendo. The cataract surgery has previously been conducted in Garut on May 19, 2011 for 86 patients. In this activity, Standard Chartered involved Bandung branch staffs to volunteer in the preparation phase to help the patients getting ready for the surgery.

The free cataract surgery for the underprivileged people was part of Standard Chartered Bank sustainability programme in eye health named 'Seeing is Believing' (SiB) with the mission to prevent avoidable blindness. Standard Chartered has collaborated with PERDAMI (Indonesian Ophthalmologist Association) since 2008 for the cataract surgery activity. For the period 2011-2012, Standard Chartered would sponsor 1,000 free cataract surgeries in eight cities where the Bank operated, namely Jakarta, Bandung, Semarang, Surabaya, Denpasar, Palembang, Medan and Makassar.

Tom Aaker, CEO of Standard Chartered Bank Indonesia said, "The cataract surgery is part of the Bank's sustainability programme that always involves our staffs to actively participate in the eye health programme implementation. Through Seeing is Believing programme, we have a long term commitment to prevent avoidable blindness and help to reduce cataract patients in Indonesia."

Standard Chartered Bank has conducted Seeing is Believing programme globally since 2003 and helped more than 2.5 million people worldwide to restore their eye sights through cataract surgeries. In Indonesia alone, Standard Chartered and PERDAMI have performed the free cataract surgeries to more than 3,400 people from the less fortunate background. The implementation of cataract surgery for this year has started in Jakarta and would be conducted monthly in other cities.

According to the data from the World Health Organization (WHO), Indonesia is one of many countries with the highest number of people who suffered blindness. Today, there are around 3.5 million people or roughly 1.47 percent of Indonesian population experiencing blindness in both eyes whereas around 50-60 percent of those numbers are due to cataract. The annual increase in the number of new cataract patient is reaching around 210,000 people per year. Thus, the major causes of blindness in

Indonesia are cataract, glaucoma and refractive errors. From those numbers, around 80 percent are in the category of avoidable blindness.

Aside from performing cataract surgery, the SiB programme also covers eye checking and free eyeglasses distribution for students and teachers in junior high schools (SMP) in various cities, eye checking for diabetic retinopathy as well as establishing pediatric ophthalmology with its services.

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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 more than 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 more than 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'.

As one of the oldest banks in Indonesia, Standard Chartered Bank has 148 years of operations dating back to 1863. With 26 branch offices in eight major cities in Indonesia including Jakarta, Bandung, Semarang, Surabaya, Denpasar, Medan, Palembang and Makassar and a network of over 23,000 shared ATMs, making the Bank as one of the international bank with widest geographical footprints in Indonesia. Standard Chartered also invested some shares in Permata Bank.

For more information on Standard Chartered, please visit www.standardchartered.co.id.

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 USD17 million for blindness initiatives and plans to invest a further USD20 million by 2014. Seeing is Believing is the single largest contributor to the development of VISION 2020 programmes through IAPB.

Seeing is Believing funds leading eye-care NGOs to provide marginalised populations access to complete services from cataract surgery, to preventative treatment and specialised medical interventions. Projects are selected according to strict criteria to ensure they address need and have a sustainable impact, beyond the life-span of project funding.