

# press release

**For immediate Release**

## **STATEMENT BY STANDARD CHARTERED BANK ON THE DELAYED 2015 NAIROBI MARATHON RESULTS**

Standard Chartered is proud to be associated with the Nairobi Marathon since its inception in 2003. In partnership with major stakeholders notably the Ministry of Sports, Athletics Kenya, the Nairobi County Government and other co-sponsors, we have endeavoured to raise the standards of the event to international level.

Indeed, in recognition of this, the Standard Chartered Nairobi Marathon is the only road-race recognized by IAAF in this region. This is largely as a result of the hard work and adherence to the strict international standards prescribed world athletics body.

The Standard Chartered Nairobi Marathon is one of a series of international races the Bank sponsors alongside Dubai Marathon, Mumbai Marathon and Hong Kong Marathon. We are happy that the event has largely met the goals we set out to achieve...to raise Kenya's profile and provide a platform for unearthing raw talent. In the process we have paid out more than KShs 100 million in prize money and more than Kshs 500 million has been invested by the Bank in sponsoring the event.

As the title sponsor, we restrict ourselves to managing and overseeing the logistical aspects of the event while the technical side is handled by Athletics Kenya. To this end, matters pertaining to route design and measurement, handling of elite runners, marshalling and certification of results are managed by AK.

Consequently, in line with IAAF regulations, AK is mandated to provide the final results to the sponsor only after thorough scrutiny. Part of the scrutiny involves analysis of the winners' samples to ensure that no athlete is involved in doping. This process has been in place since the inception of the marathon.

It is unfortunate that whereas the process has been seamless in the past, there has been an inordinate delay in the release of the 2015 results. We have been in constant communication with AK expressing our concern over the said delay. By last week, AK promised us that a lot of progress has been made with partial results having been received from the laboratory in South Africa. The delay has caused a lot of concern among the prize winners and the athletics fraternity in general. Unfortunately, this has led to the emergence of erroneous claims that the prize money has been disbursed.

We would like to inform all athletes who won prize money in the 42KM and 21KM races during the 2015 Standard Chartered Nairobi Marathon that we have not disbursed the money. In line with IAAF regulations, the prize money will only be paid out after doping results are released by AK. We would like to assure the affected athletes that upon receipt of the official results, we shall release the money to them directly.

Standard Chartered is committed to the highest standards of ethical conduct and we shall uphold the same in our engagement with ALL stakeholders. We are optimistic that AK will expedite the release of the doping results before the planned May launch of the 2016 Standard Chartered Nairobi Marathon. We also call upon AK to ensure that the issues that led to the delay in the release of the

2015 results are addressed in good time in 2016 in order to avoid the prolonged wait in paying out the prize money.

Our vision for the event is clear; to ensure that the Standard Chartered Nairobi Marathon is the most distinguished marathon in Africa and an all encompassing national event that Kenyans feel proud of. We will continue to grow the level of investment in the Standard Chartered Nairobi Marathon to enhance its profile. In partnership with the government, Athletics Kenya and other partners, we shall continue to enhance the status of the event to rival other big marathons including London, Chicago New York, Boston and Berlin.

Thank you.

**Lamin Manjang**

**CEO Standard Chartered Kenya & East Africa.**

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**Note to Editors:**

**Standard Chartered**

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