

Standard Chartered celebrates Pakistani Women in collaboration with British Deputy High Commission

KARACHI: Standard Chartered under its Diversity & Inclusion platform joined hands with the British Deputy High Commission today, to host a panel discussion titled “Celebrating Pakistani women: the importance of diversity for business growth” at the British Deputy High Commission, Karachi.

The panellists included: Mr. Shazad Dada, CEO Standard Chartered Pakistan, Ms. Gillian Atkinson, Deputy Head of Mission, British Deputy High Commission, Ms. Doris Honold, Business Chief Operating Officer, Standard Chartered Bank Dr. Sadia Rizvi, CEO, South City Hospital and Mr. Aliuddin Ansari, CEO, Engro Corporation. The participants engaged in a discussion which highlighted the contribution of women in Pakistan and aimed to recognise the challenges women face around the world.

The Bank’s diversity, in both its people and the market, is a strength that differentiates it from its competitors. By capitalising on the advantage of the natural diversity and making inclusion an organisational strength, the Bank aims to create sustainable competitive advantage which enables it to deliver superior business results.

As the Bank aspires to be a leader in gender diversity, supporting women in the workplace, as clients and in the community, Standard Chartered remains committed to be ‘Here for good’ in the markets where it operates, and is determined to make a difference not only to help women fulfil their potential as leaders in the Bank, but to also play a critical role with its clients and communities in supporting and furthering the role of women in every society, including Pakistan.

Commenting on the discussion, Mr. Shazad Dada, Chief Executive, Standard Chartered Pakistan said, “Women are an integral part of our organisation. In Pakistan 22 percent of our workforce are women. I am delighted to be part of this session today, which has not only raised awareness of the challenges women face in the workplace and the community, but have also discussed potential solutions to address these challenges. We do not only value the contribution of our female talent, but remain committed to be ‘Here for good’ in the communities where we operate, supporting and furthering the role of women in Pakistan.”

Mr. John A. Tucknott MBE, British Deputy High Commissioner, Karachi said, “The economic empowerment of women is important to the development of every country. Equality of opportunity is necessary not only for women to achieve fully their own potential, but also to be drivers of prosperous economies and inclusive societies. To this end, today’s discussions provided a unique opportunity to understand, first-hand, the challenges women face in business, and how they can be overcome.”

The forum discussed various organisational models for workplace enhancement to construct alternate promotional systems for women; career tracks that will complement work-life balance, mentoring and general development.

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1. NOTES TO EDITORS:

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

Standard Chartered PLC is a leading international banking group. 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. Standard Chartered PLC is listed on the London and Hong Kong stock exchanges as well as the Bombay and National Stock Exchanges in India.

With 1,700 offices in 70 markets, the Group offers exciting and challenging international career opportunities for nearly 87,000 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. Standard Chartered's heritage and values are expressed in its brand promise, 'Here for good'.

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

Standard Chartered Pakistan

Standard Chartered Bank (Pakistan) Ltd. is the oldest and largest international bank in Pakistan. It is also the first international bank to be awarded Islamic banking licence and the first to open an Islamic banking branch.

2013 marked Standard Chartered's 150th anniversary in Pakistan. The Bank, which started as the Chartered Bank opened its first office in Karachi in March 1863.

The Banks serves both Corporate Institutional and Retail Clients. Provides credit cards, personal loans, mortgages, deposit taking and wealth management services to individuals and small to medium sized enterprises, trade finance, cash management, lending, securities services, foreign exchange, debt capital markets and corporate finance to Corporate Institutional Clients. It also offers a complete suite of Islamic banking solutions under its Standard Chartered Saadiq brand.

Standard Chartered was assigned a rating of AAA/ A1+ by PACRA. In 2012 and 2013 it won the award for Best Bank in Pakistan by The Asset Triple A for two consecutive years.

The Bank employs over 3,900 people in Pakistan and has a network of 108 branches of which 10 are dedicated Standard Chartered Saadiq branches as well as 191 ATMs.