

press release

Standard Chartered Diversity & Inclusion focus on Disability

Kampala, Wednesday 14th September 2011 - Standard Chartered Bank today organized a Diversity & Inclusion roundtable forum to raise awareness on the need for disability adoption by companies. This was at a breakfast session at Kampala Serena Hotel. The event attracted the Bank's corporate customers, development actors, and the representatives of the disability fraternity and government in Uganda. Diversity & Inclusion spells out how we all differ and yet we all have a contribution to make which should be valued.

Speaking at the breakfast meeting, the Standard Chartered Bank's Managing Director, Mr. Lamin Manjang, stated that organisations that effectively harness Diversity and Inclusion yield many benefits, all of which contribute to a stronger business performance.

He further stated that Standard Chartered Diversity & Inclusion agenda focuses on 3 pillars i.e. within the workplace, customers and the community.

"Within the workplace, our commitment to Diversity & Inclusion is about getting the best of the broadest spectrum of people. recruiting and retaining a diverse talent enables us leverage a workforce rich in unique strengths, backgrounds and ideas" Manjang said.

Commenting on why organisations should adopt a broader approach for people with disability, Mr. Lamin stated that the current statistics of the world's population of over 1 billion people (about 15% according to the World Health Organization Disability report 2011) are truly a big challenge that requires intervention by various market players.

The Guest of Honour, Hon Sulaiman Madada, Minister of State for Elderly and Disability Affairs commended Standard Chartered Bank for the various initiatives run by the Bank to reach out to different strands of diversity and inclusion.

"Standard Chartered has clearly led the way among the corporate in terms of helping for the creation of opportunities for people with disabilities. I wish to thank the Bank for this gesture which is in line with supporting the government as it reaches out to this category of people who are largely marginalized and yet they have the qualifications which should make them compete favourably with others. I call upon the disabled to make use of this opportunity, and for organizations to be welcoming and accommodative of the disabled so that we can all work

towards building a strong Uganda, which country belongs to all of us". Hon Madada said.

At the same event, the Chairman National Union of Disabled Persons of Uganda, Mr. Francis Kinubi applauded Standard Chartered for its continued commitment to improving the welfare of persons with disabilities in Uganda and the world at large. He stated that persons with disabilities continue to face discrimination in all walks of life due to the negative attitude and unfriendly policies among others. With companies like Standard Chartered helping to appeal to customers for disability adoption approach, Kinubi is hopeful that the situation faced by people with disabilities would soon change. He called upon everyone to emulate the Bank's example saying that adopting a broader approach for persons with disabilities by organisations will help to integrate the disability needs/concerns into the organizational overall plans and consequently lead to quality living standards by persons with disabilities in all aspects of life.

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Note to Editors

Standard Chartered Bank in Uganda

Standard Chartered Bank Uganda is a member of the Standard Chartered Group. The Bank has been operating in Uganda for over 99 years. As Uganda's first bank, established in 1912, it currently has a network of 11 branches and two Excel Centres and one priority centre at the Lugogo Mall in Kampala, 29 ATMs spread across the country. The Bank employs over 600 people. Standard Chartered's core businesses in Uganda are in Consumer Banking and Wholesale Banking products and services.

Standard Chartered is committed to the community in Uganda through various community relations programs, working closely with the Ministry of Health, Uganda Red Cross, Sight Savers International and Water Aid. The Bank's philanthropic work in Uganda was recognised when it won two awards from the Federation of Uganda Employers.

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

Standard Chartered 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 around 85,000 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'.

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