

press release

Standard Chartered Bank conducts Anti Money Laundering workshop for banking sector and regulators

15 August 2013 - Kampala, Uganda: Standard Chartered Bank Uganda has organized a workshop for the Banking Industry to get together and discuss the implications of having an Anti Money Laundering law. Some of the banks that attended the workshop included; Stanbic Bank, Orient Bank, NC Bank, UBA, ECOBANK, FINA Bank, Post Bank among others.

Standard Chartered Bank invited an international AML practitioner, Mr. Nishanth Nottath who is the Head of Financial Crime Intelligence Operations for Standard Chartered Middle East, Pakistan and Africa to share with the banking industry in Uganda on the best ways to prevent or detect and report money laundering to law enforcement agencies. SCB also invited KPMG to discuss their recently issued money laundering survey for Africa so that participants get to know what is being done in other countries to curb money laundering crime.

While welcoming the guests, the CEO Herman Kasekende thanked the participants for turning up for the workshop. He expressed his gratitude for the passing of the AML bill saying that it was a critical yet a bold move by the government that is welcome. He said that the inaction of the AML Bill shows the government's commitment to tackle the thorny yet global issue of fighting money laundering.

Mr. Kasekende reiterated that with this AML bill coming into effect, there will be clear structures and processes of reporting transactions that are suspicious and a concerted effort for all stakeholders to curb money laundering.

Ms. Justine Bagyenda, the Executive Director Supervision, Bank of Uganda who represented the Governor Bank of Uganda proceeded to open the workshop. Ms. Bagyenda while opening the workshop emphasized the importance of having an AML law and encouraged all stakeholders to embrace the AML law but also expedite

the process of putting in place systems to curb money laundering. One appreciated Standard Chartered Bank for organizing the AML workshop to share best practice and share knowledge with all entities in the banking sector which will enable them better embrace the challenges ahead.

Nishanth Nottath Regional Head of Financial Crime Intelligence Operations – Middle East, Pakistan and Africa proceeded to facilitate the workshop by sharing good practice on money laundering prevention and the uses and benefits of automated transaction surveillance/monitoring systems. He shared an overview of AML Program, Customer Due Diligence (CDD) / Know Your Customer (KYC) – Risk Based approach, sanctions, Risk assessment, governance, assurance and intelligence. He highlighted the different types of risks, behavioral patterns of money launderers and systems that can be used like the Automated Transaction Surveillance to fight AML crime.

Alex Mwangi from KPMG, Risk Consulting (Forensic - Regulatory Compliance) took the participants through AML Survey – Africa. KPMG conducted an AML survey in 11 African countries, namely; South Africa, Angola, Botswana, Mauritius, Zambia, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda, Ghana and Nigeria. A total of 59 banks responded to the survey.

Mr. Mwangi in his presentation advised that it is imperative for policymakers and lawmakers across the globe to ensure that the banking system cannot be used for money laundering and terrorist financing purposes.

He highlighted that the estimated amount of money laundered globally in one year equates between two and five percent of global GDP, or \$800 billion to \$2 trillion in current US dollars¹. More than 10 years after 9/11, regulators themselves have increasing expectations, becoming stricter on the banking industry, specifically as the expectations apply to combating money laundering and terrorist financing. This has resulted in the cost of running Anti-Money Laundering (AML) programmes continuously rising. Banks are looking at ways to ensure greater efficiencies in order to curtail the increasing cost of compliance.

The workshop was wrapped up by Emily Gakiza, Senior Legal Counsel, Standard Chartered Bank who shared about the Implications of having an AML law in Uganda

Ms. Gakiza said the AML law will ensure that Uganda is not used as a conduit for dirty money, help fight against corruption or ill gotten gains. The law will help with recovery of illegally obtained property and funds and improve governance.

About Anti Money Laundering (AML)

AML is the process of hiding the true source of funds generated from criminal or illegal activities and perform various transactions to hide the trail with a view to integrate the funds in the main stream economy and make funds available for normal day to today activities.

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Notes to Editors

About 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 100 years having celebrated its centenary in August last year. As Uganda's first bank, established in 1912, it currently has a network of 12 branches and 30 ATMs spread across the country. The Bank employs over 500 people. Standard Chartered's core businesses in Uganda are in Consumer Banking, Corporate and Institutional Banking and Global Markets 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,

World Vision and Water Aid. The Bank's philanthropic work in Uganda was recognized when we won the awards below;

- *Bank of the Year" 2012 in Uganda - FT-The Banker - Bank of the Year*
- *Euromoney Best Bank in Uganda 2008, 2009 & 2010*
- *EMEA Finance Best Foreign Bank in Uganda 2008, 2009,2010,2011 & 2012*
- *Consumer Insights; Best Bank in customer service 2009*

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