

press release

Standard Chartered Bank to hold media briefing on “Vietnam’s economy and the growing importance of the country’s trade relationships with its ASEAN neighbours” in Hanoi

7 March 2013, Hanoi, Vietnam – On the occasion of the ASEAN – EU business summit in Hanoi from 8 to 9 March in Hanoi, Standard Chartered bank has held media briefing today on “Vietnam’s economy and the growing importance of the country’s trade relationships with its ASEAN neighbours” at the Hilton Hanoi Opera Hotel.

Standard Chartered Bank’s Regional Chief Executive Officer, South East Asia (ex-Singapore) Neeraj Swaroop, SCBVL CEO Louis Taylor, Standard Chartered Bank Indonesia CEO Tom Aaker, Standard Chartered Bank Philippines CEO Mahendra Gursahani, Standard Chartered Bank Brunei CEO Lai Pei Si participated in the briefing with the attendance of over 40 local and international reporters.

At the briefing, all speakers presented the growing importance of intra-ASEAN trade to Vietnam and how the country can benefit from the 2015 ASEAN Economic Community initiative.

Louis Taylor, CEO of Standard Chartered Bank (Vietnam) Limited, said: “As a bank that has operated in the ASEAN region for over 150 years, and the only international bank with a presence in all ten ASEAN markets, we believe that we are in the best position to assist ASEAN and EU based companies to access opportunities in both regions more easily.”

Vietnam’s trade with ASEAN and the EU has grown significantly over the last three years. In 2012 Vietnam’s total exports grew by 20 percent, outpacing other South East Asian countries. ASEAN is now one of Vietnam’s top three trading partners. In 2011, Vietnam’s exports to ASEAN reached USD13.6 billion while imports from ASEAN amounted to USD20.7 billion.

Standard Chartered believes that international financial institutions can play a key role in supporting Vietnam and other ASEAN countries in their efforts to strengthen intra-ASEAN and ASEAN-EU trade flows by acting as a catalyst for cross border business.

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Notes to Editors**Standard Chartered Bank (Vietnam) Limited**

In Vietnam, Standard Chartered's history can be traced back to 1904 when the Bank opened its first branch in Saigon (now Ho Chi Minh City).

Following the official approval from the State Bank of Vietnam, effective 1 August 2009, Standard Chartered commenced operations in its locally incorporated entity – Standard Chartered Bank (Vietnam) Limited. Local Incorporation was an important milestone in Standard Chartered's development in Vietnam.

Standard Chartered now has three branches and employs over 850 staff. The Bank provides a full of suite banking products and services for corporates, financial institutions, small and medium enterprises and individuals.

Standard Chartered brings its international expertise and experience in other growing markets to Vietnam, where it actively contributes to the development of the banking and finance sector in the country. The Bank also plays an active role in the Vietnamese community and has demonstrated this through many social and charitable activities.

For more information, please visit: www.sc.com/vn and www.facebook.com/standardcharteredVN

Standard Chartered

We are a leading international banking group, with more than 90,000 employees and a 150-year history in some of the world's most dynamic markets. We bank the people and companies driving investment, trade and the creation of wealth across Asia, Africa and the Middle East, where we earn around 90 per cent of our income and profits. Our heritage and values are expressed in our brand promise, Here for good.

Standard Chartered PLC is listed on the London and Hong Kong Stock Exchanges as well as the Bombay and National Stock Exchanges in India.

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