

press release

PRESS RELEASE – STANDARD CHARTERED COMMEMORATES ‘WORLD SIGHT DAY’

10th October 2013 – Lusaka, Zambia: Standard Chartered Bank Zambia today commemorated ‘World Sight Day’ by offering free eye screening to the public at Levy Mall in Lusaka. Other free services include dispensation of free spectacles. Standard Chartered Bank also held free eye-screening services outside their Main Branch on Cairo Road and at City Centre Market.

‘Seeing is Believing’ is a Standard Chartered Bank initiative, which aims to tackle preventative blindness. It has been implemented in Zambia since 2009 and is one of the key initiatives under the bank’s Sustainability agenda. The bank has since invested over US\$1m into the programme in Zambia.

Standard Chartered has partnered with Sightsavers and ORBIS to implement the programme in 4 provinces - Lusaka, Copperbelt, Southern and North-Western. ‘Seeing is Believing’ provides free eye screening, cataract surgery and dispenses spectacles at the University of Zambia (UNZA) clinic, Lusaka Eye Hospital, Kitwe General Hospital and Solwezi General Hospital, amongst others.

Mr. Andrew Okai, CEO of Standard Chartered Bank Zambia, said, *“Every year, people succumb to un-necessary blindness, which could have been avoided through proper eye screening and cataract surgery, amongst others. Blindness prevention strategies are among the most cost-effective interventions and that is why Standard Chartered is implementing ‘Seeing is Believing’ to help to reduce the incidence of preventative blindness in Zambia.”*

Mr Okai further stated that, *“Seeing is Believing is a key priority under the bank’s Sustainability agenda. As a key financial service provider, this initiative demonstrates that Standard Chartered Bank is a responsible company, one that is committed to invest in the communities in which we operate, one that is Here for Good.”*

In 2012 alone, *Seeing is Believing* saw 65,000 adults and children have their eyes screened; 2,000 cataracts and trichiasis operations performed; 7,000 spectacles dispensed; and 400,000 trachoma drugs disbursed.

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NOTES TO EDITORS:

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

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With 1,700 offices in 68 markets, the Group offers exciting and challenging international career opportunities to over 89,000 staff. It is committed to building a sustainable business over the long term and 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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Standard Chartered Bank in Zambia

- Zambia is a core part of the Standard Chartered Bank's Africa strategic footprint and has consistently been among the top five revenue contributors for the region.
- In Zambia, the Bank was established in 1906 and has since grown to be one of the most profitable banks in the country primarily as a result of organic growth.
- The Bank services both wholesale and retail banking customers
- Standard Chartered Bank Zambia (SCBZ) accounts for 19% of the market share.
- The Bank is consistently among the top 3 banks in profitability and balance sheet size.
- The Bank is a leader in providing access to finance for the mining, agriculture, telecommunications and SME sectors.