

press release

'ALL EYES ON ZAMBIA,' SAYS STANCHART CEO

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Lusaka, Zambia: 'All eyes are on Zambia' because of the great business opportunities the country presents, Andrew Okai, CEO of Standard Chartered Bank Zambia has said. Mr. Okai was speaking at a cocktail reception on Friday, which the bank hosted for its key clients at the Taj Pamodzi Hotel.

Mr. Okai indicated that Standard Chartered is the leading bank in the market and that Zambia is one of the bank's fastest-growing markets in Africa. "Standard Chartered has been operating in Zambia for 107 years now and we have continued to lead the way in financial performance, service leadership, innovation and our acclaimed community initiatives. The several accolades won by the bank, including Best Bank in Zambia by Euromoney and Best Internet Bank by Global Finance for the last 3 consecutive years, testifies to our market leadership. We aim to keep it that way in line with our brand promise to be Here for Good" he said.

Speaking at the same function, Deputy Minister of Finance, Keith Mukata, said the government is pleased that the banking sector recognises and appreciates Zambia's huge investment potential. "The Government of Zambia is committed to promote sound economic policies and invest in infrastructure to attract foreign investment into key sectors of our economy. The presence of well-established banks in the market – such as Standard Chartered – serves to enhance our competitiveness and position as one of the most attractive investment destinations in Africa."

Area General Manager for Standard Chartered Southern Africa Region, Mr. Ebenezer Essoka, said, "The global economy, in spite of recent volatility, remains in a period of sustained growth, driven by increased investment in emerging economies across Asia and Africa, including Zambia. We are seeing a rise in south-south cooperation, with increased trade and investment flows across the Asia-Africa corridors. Standard Chartered has a long history in both regions and is uniquely placed to leverage these new business opportunities."

Going forward, Standard Chartered will enhance its digital banking capabilities. The bank already leads the market in digital banking with several products on offer – the Straight to Bank platform, on-line banking and mobile banking facilities, amongst others. Their digital campaign, dubbed 'Fingers not feet' highlights these services.

Chairman of the Board of Standard Chartered Bank Zambia, Michael Mundashi S.C., reiterated that the bank remains fully committed to the Zambian market, and prides itself as a financial service provider of very high compliance standards.

Ends.

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NOTES TO EDITORS:

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 around 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 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'.

For further information please visit <u>www.standardchartered.com</u>. Follow Standard Chartered on <u>www.facebook.com/standardchartered</u> and on Twitter <u>@StanChart</u>.

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.